



“FEAR NOT, YOUR KING IS COMING”

John 12:9-19

April 5, 2020

Please me join me in John Chapter 12 for a message that I have titled *Fear Not, Your King is Coming*.

This morning as we celebrate Palm Sunday, I want to remind you that as followers of Christ, we are part of an everlasting kingdom. We have been brought into the eternal reign of Jesus Christ. We are part of His rule. His kingdom is unshakable. It will never ever, ever, ever end. It is eternal.

We are a part of such a kingdom as followers of Jesus by the grace of God. As such, repeatedly in the pages of Scripture, is the call of God upon our lives to **do not fear**. Don't be afraid. Be of good courage. Take heart. The same command comes to us from the heart of God in so many different ways and so frequently in Scripture, because we need to hear it. We need to have the help of the Lord to live it out. We need the perspective of the Word of God that we would be men and women, boys and girls, of the Kingdom—people of good courage in Christ, even in the midst of anxious times like the ones that are living in now.

I think that we are going to be encouraged in that as we dig into this story about Jesus in the Bible this morning. Once again, we are celebrating Palm Sunday. The triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem at the beginning of His final week of His earthly life here on this earth.

This story of the triumphal entry on Palm Sunday is told in each of the fourth gospel accounts. It is in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and it is here in the Gospel of John. This morning we are going to take a look at John's more abbreviated account of that event.

Let me remind you that John, he was writing much later than the other gospel writers. Many biblical historians would estimate that the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke were written about AD40 or after. The Gospel of John was written later in the apostle's life, probably sometime after AD70, after numerous decades had passed.

While John did not include all the same details that we see written in the previous gospels, John did give us some new information about the circumstances that surrounded Palm Sunday and the Triumphal Entry.

We know from what we studied recently in the Gospel of Luke that there were people praising Jesus as He was entering into Jerusalem riding on the donkey. They were praising Him for all of the mighty works that they had seen.

However, here in the Gospel of John we come to understand that there was one miracle in particular, something that happened probably just weeks before. I might contend that this miracle was the greatest of the miracles that Jesus performed during His incarnation in His earthly ministry. This is the miracle of the raising of His friend Lazarus from the dead.

In the pages of the New Testament we read that Jesus raised three people from physical death. Jesus had the tendency not to attend funerals, but to break them up instead. There were three accounts of Him raising people who had died back to life.

We remember that Jesus raised the young twelve-year-old daughter of a man named Jairus, first. Also, we remember that He raised the son of a widow from the village of Nain, second. Then third, in the Gospel of John we read how Jesus raised His friend Lazarus from the dead.

But even that work of revivification, is what I will call it, there is a sense in which it stands out from the others, even though they were all awesome. Don't get me wrong, all of them were amazing. However, the other two accounts of Jesus raising those two from death, they happened probably happened several hours after they had died. The raising of Lazarus occurred four days after his death, after he had been laid in the tomb.

The story is laid out for us in detail in John Chapter 11. Lazarus' sister, Mary and Martha. they called for Jesus to come because their brother, whom Jesus loved, was sick. He was not getting better. Rather, Lazarus was getting worse and worse. Amazingly, we see that Jesus tarried, because He had plans for Lazarus' death and restoration to life.

So Lazarus died. There was much grief. We read that they treated his body. They would have anointed him with oils and different spices. Then they wrapped him up in grave cloths, and they placed him in the tomb. There in the tomb he remained for several days.

On the fourth day, Jesus arrived. Jesus came. He approached the family. He provided them with consolation. He provided them with encouragement. He declared to them, *I am the resurrection and the life*. Jesus challenged their faith, because He was about to do something spectacular. Jesus asked them if they believed this. They were seeking to gather faith as they were trying to understand what Jesus was talking about.

Jesus went to the tomb of Lazarus, and He said, *Remove the stone*. They protested. People said, *He has been in there for days. The smell is going to come out*. Jesus said, *Remove the stone*. They removed the stone. Then Jesus issued forth a command unparalleled. Nobody else can say these kinds of things. Jesus said, Lazarus, come forth. What happened next? Up from the grave Lazarus arose, still in his grave clothes.

By the resurrection power of the Messiah—the author of life Jesus—Lazarus came out of the grave. Minds were blown! Hearts were stunned! Souls were stirred! Hair was raised! Stomachs dropped! Shock waves were sent through the land of Israel, there in Judea, near Jerusalem.

These shock waves proceeded even to the religious leaders of Jerusalem. They came in with stunning force. We have been talking about how evil had been at work in Jerusalem. The religious leaders of Israel, they had Jesus marked. He was a marked Man. They were plotting His death.

Now Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, and then all the people were stunned. People flocked with their interest in Jesus. With all this attention on Him, Jesus came into Jerusalem riding on a donkey with a king's entry. And these religious leaders were irate about the whole thing.

This is what John brings us into. He wants us to know that these were some of the things that were surrounding that Palm Sunday event. Even with opposition and murderous threats coming against Jesus, and murderous threats coming against the followers of Jesus after that, at the center of this story we have the Word of the Lord to fear not. These words are wonderfully placed here.

I have just tried to prepare us for what is next. Let's read the account and see how all these things came together in John Chapter 12 and Verses 9 through 19. We pick up in the village of Bethany just outside of Jerusalem, where Jesus had been lodging with His friends, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.

Then it was time to go into Jerusalem. John Chapter 12, starting in Verse 9:

⁹When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹because, on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

¹²The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" ¹⁴And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

**¹⁵ "Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"**

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. ¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

What a story in John's account of Palm Sunday and the Triumphal Entry! Once again, I want for us to notice that John's telling of the story is relatively short. It is compact. I just read eleven verses. Four of those verses tell us about the Triumphal Entry, one of them even being language of Old Testament prophecy and prediction.

Four of the verses give us the account of the Triumphal Entry, but then seven verses tell us about the surrounding circumstances; about the story of Lazarus; about the disciples response to these things; about the Pharisees response to these things. So this is a very interesting story.

Brothers and sisters, there are so many details here that can and should be followed and searched out. But this cannot be a two-hour sermon. So we won't be able to exhaust all of the details and the rich theological understanding of this story.

This has been powerful on my heart for the time that we are living in, and I want for us to begin by zeroing in on the word of prophecy that John brought into the story. The prophecy is smackdab in the middle of the account that we just read.

Look again at what it says in Verse 15:

**¹⁵“Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!”**

That is something of a quote from Zechariah Chapter 9 and Verse 9. I'm not going to call it a quote, it is more of a recollection of Old Testament Scripture than an exact quote.

What really interested me as I was digging into this, having just studied this in the Gospel of Luke several weeks ago, is that the language that John quoted is a little bit different from the actual prophecy of Zechariah Chapter 9 and Verse 9. Listen to how the Zechariah prophecy goes.

Listen carefully. Zechariah 9:9

**⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

It is a more extended prophecy. John abbreviated it, and he started it off differently. He did not say, *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Jerusalem*. He said, *Fear not*. So, it is different from what is in Zechariah Chapter 9 and Verse 9.

What I understand, along with others that I have read who study Scripture and write about these things, is that John did not even intend this necessarily to be a quote of Zechariah Chapter 9 and Verse 9.

John did not say, *As is prophesized in Zechariah*. He did not even name Zechariah. What we have here is an abbreviated compilation of relevant Old Testament passages. What we understand is that John took the two passages that we read earlier and he brought the sense of them into his narration of this event.

So what we read earlier in Zephaniah Chapter 3 and Verses 14 through 17, is similar passage about the presentation of the King of Israel. That has the language, not only of rejoice, but fear not, fear not, fear not, with the presentation of the Lord. Then in Zechariah it says rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, He is coming on a donkey.

John blended these passages together as he recalled Old Testament Scripture of how it applied to this situation. You have this encouragement and this language from Zechariah and you have this language of encouragement from Zephaniah and they come together to bring some top notch exhortation and encouragement to the people. So, what else can I think about? It is like ZZ Top!

Now I seriously doubt that the members of the rock band ZZ Top had Zephaniah and Zechariah providing top notch encouragement when they decided upon their name. But that is what came to my mind, and that is just how my mind thinks. I like ZZ Top. They have some pretty cool guitar rips, I will say that!

But Z and Z are providing some top notch encouragement for us there. John was providing this language from their prophecies. And what you will find throughout the New Testament is that so many of the authors, they carried a very conversational tone when they brought and imported Old Testament truths and their relevance into their writings.

The New Testament writers did not always use the principles and the guidelines of scholarly discourse, where everything needed to be exact. I like how the author of Hebrews repeatedly called from the Old Testament by saying, *You know how it says somewhere back in the Old Testament*.

John was just recalling these passages and kind of bringing them together, conflating them for our encouragement. At the heart is the command to fear not, as your King is approaching. God dispelled fear in the hearts of His people. Fear not is a command that we need to hear over and over and over again.

I read this and was contemplating these things and I was thinking about the historical context of the Gospel of John, how this was a book that was written later in the First Century around 70AD or afterwards.

What we understand is that waves of persecution against the early church were occurring. By the time that John wrote, we would understand that the savage persecutions of Nero had passed. The church went through an easier time with the emperor Vespasian but when John wrote, the church was once again going under persecution under the savage Diocletian.

Difficult things were happening. They were either in the midst of it, or about to enter into it. And here we have John, carried by the Holy Spirit, presenting this picture of Jesus the King entering Jerusalem, and what was impressed upon his heart was to include this language of fear not. People of God, do not be afraid. Don't let fear fill your hearts and your lives. This is a repeated command in Scripture. It is something that we need to hear over and over again.

Getting back into this story, here in this setting there was all these people that were giving accolades to Jesus. We would understand that His disciples were accompanying Him, which was a band of up to seventy from Bethany. All these people from Jerusalem had heard about what Jesus did with Lazarus. They heard Jesus was coming so they came out.

Then there was a convergence there on the path into Jerusalem. The crowds erupted with praise. It was very likely that there was a large percentage of them that totally misunderstood the Lord's intentions and just how He would apply His power.

They came out shouting hosanna, which is much more significant than saying hooray. Hosanna meant save now. They were waving their palm branches, expressions of nationalist hope and zeal. The great majority of them we could understand were hoping and desiring and even praying that Jesus would come and use His unique and stunning power to conquer Rome.

But that is not what Jesus came to do. He was signaling it by His means of entry. He did not come in on a warhorse. He came in on a donkey. He came in with humility but understand, He came in as warrior. He came in intending to defeat foes far greater than Rome.

Jesus came in intending to defeat sin, Satan, and death by His atonement on the cross and by His resurrection from the grave. Understand, this is King Jesus. This is Warrior-King Jesus. But it was a different kind of battle that He was about to wage, and here is your King coming in as a Sacrificial Lamb to take care of the worst problems we will ever have and that is our own sin before the holiness of God.

Jesus was going to the cross to take our sin away. He even gathered this event, even timing it in such a way so that He would die on the very day of Passover. He would be the final Sacrificial Lamb, the One sacrifice to cover and cleanse all of the sins of His people.

Jesus came to take care of our greatest problem, our sin before the Lord and our death and separation from God eternally in judgement because of our sin. Jesus went in to pay the price for us that we might live forever by His grace through faith in Him in that kingdom we have been talking about his entire time.

That being the case, looking at the storyline that is emphasized in this text, I want to give us a few points of application as to why we ought not fear and why we should be people of good courage as part of Jesus' Kingdom.

I want to give three points of encouragement, three truths to help us to overcome any fear that we might have inside of us. The first drawn from this story is this: We won't fear because:

1. **Our King Reigns Over Life and Death (John 11; 12:9)**

Jesus gives life, and Jesus is victorious over death. We see it here in the circumstances surrounding Palm Sunday with the great miracle of Lazarus.

The story is told in an extended way in John Chapter 11, but just look again at what is there in Verse 9 of John Chapter 12:

⁹When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead.

Lazarus was dead! How dead? There is a scene from the movie *The Princess Bride*, when they were down in the dungeon in the tree asking, *How dead is he? Kind of dead or like totally dead?* Lazarus was dead. How dead? Doornail dead! Four days dead!

Everybody knew he was dead. He was sealed in the tomb. His sisters had said not to open the tomb, because he would stink. And there he was alive. Understand that this is an historical account. We believe this is history. These things are true. There was this man who was in his tomb, wrapped in death cloths, and then he was reclining at a table, alive!

I think about the story of Lazarus. I look at how the entire account in John Chapter 11 and how it depicts the loss of a man that was most likely very premature and tragic. We don't know exactly how old Lazarus was. I picture him as man probably somewhere in midlife.

Several weeks before this, Lazarus was sicker than he had ever been. He was approaching death. Now we see Lazarus, by the power of the Messiah, healthier than he had ever been. Just alive! Just restored to vigor, and people needed to come and see it.

Brothers and sisters, this is a display of the power of Jesus over life and death. Our lives are in His hands. The extent of our lives are in His hands. All the days ordained for us were written in His Book before one of them came into being. That is in Psalm 139. God is sovereign over the span of our days. But we don't fear death because Jesus is going to raise us from death. This is here in the Gospel of John to encourage us.

Not only did Jesus rise from the grave, but His power was applied to a man like Lazarus. So the encouragement that comes to us is that we ought not fear death. Oh, yes, easier said than done right? This requires the power of the Holy Spirit applying truth to our lives in a supernatural way to raise up our faith. Jesus does that. We don't need to fear death.

These things being said, I do not wish at all to minimize the pain that we experience at the loss of loved ones at death. It is not without reason that in the book of First Corinthians Chapter 15 and Verse 26 that death is called an enemy.

Death is painful. Death is unnatural. My voice is not among those who say that death is just part of the great cycle of life. Baloney! Death is an intrusion. It inflicts pain as an enemy. I have experienced bereavement in my heart and I have cried like a baby at the loss of people that I love.

I don't wish to minimize the pain of death on this side of things, but when the truth of God is filling the heart of the child of God, and when faith is rising up, we understand that when this body dies, the soul springs up to a place called Paradise. It is real. We are going be with the Lord in the splendor and the glory of His Kingdom. It is Paradise. How bad could Paradise possibly be?

When these truths fill our hearts the fear is going to fade away. Jesus is sovereignly reigning over our lives. They are in His hands, and He has power over life and death, whether your life lasts decades or not. Whatever comes, in the end it is going to seem like a vapor and a mist.

Brothers and sisters, we don't really die. We go into the presence of the Lord and on that Great Day of Resurrection, He is going to raise us up in new and imperishable bodies, and we will dwell in His glory forever.

I'm just about to go back to that happy dance theme yet again, because that is our eternal lot in Christ, for the church, for the believers who will confess their sin and look to Jesus for forgiveness as the one sacrifice God has provided. There is everlasting life.

There are three truths to help us overcome fear. First, our King reigns over life and death. Second,

2. Our King Provides Increased Understanding (John 12:16)

Our King gives us perspective. He gives His truth and His truth is a certain kind of truth that is spiritually alive. When it is taken in, we have this perspective that fills the heart and soul, and changes the lives.

Our King gives increased understanding. After the account of the entry into Jerusalem, after the quotation of prophecy, after John had been reflecting on these things, did you catch the humble and encouraging word given to us from John in Verse 16?

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him.

I think what John was saying here is, *Look, in the frenzy of all that was happening on that great Triumphal Entry Day, we totally forgot about Zechariah 9:9. We weren't even thinking about Zephaniah Chapter 3 and Verses 14 through 17. It was not on our minds. We were caught up in the frenzy of it all.*

I think that there were very likely some there who recognized the significance of Jesus riding in on that colt, but John was saying, *This was not on our minds. We were not thinking about. We were all excited and whipped up into what was happening. We were rejoicing, but we were not thinking about the fulfillment of prophecy.*

That would be the plain understanding of what John wrote in Verse 16. But then he said, But later—after Jesus was glorified, after He died, after He was raised from the grave, after the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out, after Jesus was on the Emmaus Road helping the disciples to understand how the Old Testament was fulfilled in the Son—lights just starting going on within the disciples.

They began understanding divine truth, and these divine truths were filling them with boldness of heart and newness of life, and they were just being ignited in the ways of the Lord as their understanding was being increased.

In the midst of all the hard things that we face in this fallen world, we can be encouraged that God has given us truth that is supernatural in its properties; that it comes inside of us and when it is received by faith, and when the Holy Spirit is igniting it, our hearts and souls get lit up with the truth of God. So God gives us truth to buoy us up and to move us along.

One of my favorite verses is Colossians Chapter 3 and Verse 16.

¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. What is the difference between a dwelling place a tomb? A tomb contains dead things. A dwelling place contains living things. The Word of the Lord is to let the word of Christ, let the teaching of Jesus—His words and the words about Him—let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

As you do, you are going to be able to encourage others and it is going to put a song in your heart to the Lord, even in the midst of hard times. We can rejoice that Jesus gives us increased understanding through the things that we face in this life.

How are you doing? Is the Word of Christ dwelling in you? Is it dwelling in you richly? Brothers and sisters, I don't want to come up here and be a legalist or a hypocrite, because I watch TV, I play sports, I ride waves, and I do things that I enjoy. I am sure others do so as well.

However, how we need to ration our time with those things and not let contemplation and meditation of Scripture be nudged out by profane things that don't affect eternity. We need the Word of Christ living in us.

Are you taking the time to truly listen to the Word, to read it, to contemplate it, to read it taught, to hear it taught? This has to be a daily discipline through the day if the Word of Christ is to be dwelling in us richly. We need to be people of the Book, not because we just want it to fill up our heads, but because we want it to enlarge our hearts and cause our spirits to glow.

John testified to how the Lord does that. Continuing in the three truths to help us overcome fear. The third one is this:

3. Our King's Rule Continues to Expand (John 12:17-19)

Our King's reign on this earth expands as people come to live in submission to His truth and live in the light of His love. Our King's rule and reign continues to expand as more and more people have their eyes turning to Jesus in faith.

Did you see at the end of this passage how the knowledge of Jesus kept spreading and spreading and there was nothing that the Pharisees and the Sadducees could not do about it? John Chapter 12, Verses 17 through 19:

¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

This is just classic. They were trying to suppress the knowledge of Jesus; trying to keep people from Him and the more that they tried to suppress the knowledge of Him, it kept spreading more and more and more. For the Pharisees and Sadducees it was worse than a contagious disease.

They did not want Jesus or people looking to Him in faith. But it just kept spreading more and more, and this was no disease. Jesus, He is the life-giving balm and vaccine and medicine for the sinful state of the soul. And the word about Jesus kept spreading and spreading and spreading. It could not be stopped.

I was thinking about this in terms of what is happening in our day. Right now at this time, we are experiencing the Covid-19 Lockdown, aren't we? These are unprecedented times. I'm hearing different voices of commentary giving their response to the measures that are being taken by governing officials all the way down the line to us here in California. Like people say, it feels like it is being shut down.

There are different reactions that I am hearing, even from people that I appreciate and love. Some people are saying that this is legit. This is serious, and the measures that are being taken are necessary and we need to comply with them.

Others are saying that this whole thing is overblown and we are ruining the economy for nothing. Others are saying that there might be darker things at work. There might be those who are using this whole unfortunate situation as an opportunity to bend these United States toward socialism and suppress the freedom of religion.

I am hearing this from a whole span of people who are serious about this and who are deeply concerned, expressing their heats in these different ways. That is okay. As for me, I am doing my best to take everything from the President to the Governor's Office to the Mayor's Office in good faith.

There are people who are in power who have sinful hearts and they would love to bend this issue against the Kingdom of God. There are some who would love to be able to silence preachers. There are some who want to do that.

Let's just say that they succeeded in this ploy to silence the church, do you think that that is going to stop the spread of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ? I think that it would probably cause it to spread all the more.

I think of Paul there in Philippi. They put him in jail and with him in jail, people were more encouraged to spread the Word even more. Paul was in the dungeon in Rome when he wrote 2 Timothy. He said, *I might be here in this dungeon, but God's Word is not chained.* The Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed that was planted in the First Century. We are seeing it spread across this earth, and it is not going to stop spreading until King Jesus comes back.

When times of persecution and difficulty comes, it maybe that the church is purified. We may be seeing those who are there because their hearts have been truly born again, made distinct from those who have just been following the crowd the whole time. Truth from the false might be separated.

But the Kingdom of God is going to be just fine. His reign is going to spread. Jesus is going to be glorified whatever comes. And we are going to be delivered safely into His Kingdom. We are going to be those who continue to bear testimony to the saving grace of Jesus Christ whatever comes.

That being the case, I don't know what's going to come. I don't have that scenario in my heart. I am just presenting that situation for the sake of argument from Scripture. Even if the church gets locked down, Jesus reigns and His reign will spread. We need to take that to heart and ask the Lord to give us the courage to be a part of His reign.

How did these Pharisees respond? Verse 19 is just so classic:

¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

That word *world* has significance in the writings of John. Sometimes that word *world* is used just to speak of all the nations of the earth, the global population including every tribe and tongue and nation, Jews and Gentiles—all the people of the earth.

The world is going after Him, they said. What is interesting is that in the next story you have the Greeks there for the Passover, saying that they wanted to see Jesus. That is one way in which that word *world* is used.

Second, the word *world* is also used to speak of humanity and its fallenness. Humanity in its sin. Humanity in its influence under Satan, being influenced by Satan. And even people of their own accord rebelling against the Word and the will of the Lord. The world.

So how is the word *world* being used here? I think that it is neither. We have these Pharisees expressing their exasperation and I can tell you right now, that they did not have the Johannine use of the word *world* in their minds when they thought about this.

What we have here is some men who wanted to suppress the knowledge of Christ and the more that they suppressed it, the more it spread. Throwing up their hands, they just said, *The world is just going after Him*. That is how it is going to be until the Kingdom comes. And we get to be a part of that spread.

So we see in Verse 17 that the crowd that had been with Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, they continued to bear witness. I think that in that crowd there were some genuine believers that were rocked by the miracles that Jesus did.

They said that they had never seen anything like it, and it was absolutely life-changing. They began spreading the knowledge of what they saw and what they heard. That is what witnesses do. Brothers and sisters in Christ, family at Bethel Grace, we are called to be witnesses to what we have seen God do in our lives and what we have seen Him do in the lives of others.

We are to bear the testimony that Jesus Christ changes lives; that Jesus Christ forgives sinners; that Jesus Christ makes us new; that Jesus Christ raises us up; that Jesus Christ causes us to be born again; that Jesus Christ is the King of kings and the lord of Lords, and the One whom we worship.

When we bear testimony and share the Gospel, the Kingdom spreads. Let's keep these things in mind in these crazy days that we are living in. Let's ask the Lord to empower us, to help us to be bold, to strengthen our hearts, and that we might live without fear whatever comes because we are a part of a Kingdom that is greater.

Let's close in a word of prayer.