

Top of the Week: 10,000 Hear the Good News at Franklin Graham's 'God Loves You' Tour

Following are snippets of the top stories posted this week on . We encourage you to visit the links to read the stories in full.

10,000 Hear the Good News at Franklin Graham's 'God Loves You' Tour

They came by the busload from all over England and Wales to hear a gospel message. Approximately 130 coaches carried 5,000 people to the outreach from as far away as Liverpool.

People streamed out of buses and trains into ExCeL London, eager to hear powerful music from Christian artists—CeCe Winans, Newsboys and Michael W. Smith—and a message of hope from Franklin Graham, president and CEO of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

The evangelist returned to London, England, after last summer's outreach, and more than 10,000 heard him preach the Good News on Saturday evening. The crowd exceeded last year's attendance by several thousand.

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LIVE With Greg Locke: 7 Bible Proofs of Demonic Warfare

The critics of deliverance ministry most often point to this argument: They claim it is impossible for a born again Christian to suffer demonic oppression, and in their estimation, they believe the Bible itself says so.

The first verse these critics will point to is 1 Corinthians 6:19, which says believers are the “temple of the Holy Spirit,” which we absolutely are. But in the context of the passage, we see that Paul is explicitly talking about sexual immorality and is reminding us that we should never desecrate our bodies (our temples) with perversity like fornication. Moreover, verse 19 never states that such perverse contact is not possible for one who is indwelt with the Holy Spirit, just that it must never happen.

In verses 15–18, he is talking about the way we treat our bodies through idolatry and the perversity of the culture. Not one time in either of these passages does the Word of God say that a Christian cannot be under the influence of a demonic spirit. In fact, since we know that idolatry and perversity are an example of how “we wrestle” against spiritual wickedness (Eph. 6:12), we can see that such struggles are evidence that evil spirits can without question attack our minds and our bodies. In his letter to the Romans, the apostle Paul states it plainly:

John Ramirez Exposes the Price of Temptation

In one of his latest messages, Evangelist John Ramirez exposed the price behind temptation as he asks one of the most important questions about the enemy’s tactics: “What is he tempting you with?”

“Temptation comes with a price,” Ramirez said. “What is the price of your temptation? Temptation comes with a price because the biggest weapon the devil [has] against the body of Christ is temptation.”

Ramirez warns that just as in the biblical stories we see about angels falling from heaven after Satan’s temptation, Adam’s fall into sin and Peter’s denial of Jesus three times, we too are tempted by the devil to fall for his schemes that lead to destruction.

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How Can a Christian Be Cursed?

Something so many Christians and non-Christians alike overlook is the legality involved with sin. Mankind legally gave up our earthly authority to Satan during the fall, legally allowing him to become the prince of this world and unleash the sin upon the world. That's the whole point of the Law of the Old Testament. There are legal repercussions that occur when one hands over their authority to someone else.

It's the whole reason why Jesus was the propitiation of our sins. What happened on the cross was as much of a legal exchange as it was an offering of grace and mercy.

Because there are legal exchanges in the spiritual world just as there are in the physical world, there are times that we either knowingly or unknowingly allow the enemy to have access into our lives.

LIVE With Greg Locke: 3 Foundational Parts of Deliverance Ministry

Deliverance ministry encompasses three distinct aspects of spiritual warfare: casting out demons, dismantling strongholds and breaking curses. Generational curses, demons and strongholds are three very different things, and we have to approach them as three distinct facets of the enemy's arsenal against us.

To put it briefly, demons are expelled through deliverance, strongholds are brought down through discipline and curses are broken by decree. When we learn how to take down each of these facets, we can experience personal and community-wide revival.

In all three facets of deliverance ministry, that authority is given by Jesus through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. While a person afflicted by demons or evil spirits requires

deliverance—casting them out in Jesus' name—those dealing with strongholds must apply greater discipline to dismantle them.

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The Mystery of the Broken Altar

Is God Giving America Another Chance?

In light of all that has happened in recent years, what does the future hold? Is America and the world heading for calamity?

Or have we been given a last chance? Is it possible to change history? And have we been given a blueprint for what we need to know for the days ahead—even the end-times?


These questions and more are asked and answered by best-selling author Jonathan Cahn in his latest blockbuster book *The Josiah Manifesto*, released by Charisma Media.

Cahn's new book takes the reader on a prophetic journey to reveal such mysteries as the ancient calendar that determines what is taking place right now, and much more. It takes some of the mysteries that Cahn has revealed in the past and goes farther than he's ever gone before. Then it opens up the template and guide that every Christian needs to prevail in the end times.

"I've never written a book like this," says Cahn. "These mysteries converge together to present a key that's going to open up the ultimate mystery, which is actually the guide to

the end times. I believe this is from God, that it's for now, and it's for what is yet ahead—how we're going to live. How do we survive? How do we prevail? I believe God has given us a key, an answer—which comes from the Bible.”

THE DAY HISTORY CHANGED

One of the most stunning, powerful parts of The Josiah  Manifesto is Cahn's revelation of the broken altar. There's no altar in America that is so brazen as that of abortion. More than 60 million children have been killed. But Cahn points to one day—a day of supernatural convergence—when the history of America began to change in that regard. The day that abortion was overturned was a biblical manifestation, an ancient sign—the day of the broken altar.

“When I heard the news that Roe vs. Wade was overturned, I was in an airport,” says Cahn, “and I looked at my cell phone and a Scripture popped up that I did not ask for. It just popped up. It was from Psalm 106:29, which talks about when Israel turned away from God, they offered up their children. It talks about a plague that came on them until one man named Phineas took a righteous action and the plague subsided. So I wondered: if the Supreme Court did that, could there be something like that today?”

Cahn points out that Judge Alito was writing that history-making decision to overturn Roe vs. Wade in January of 2022, and he released it to the court in the beginning of February that year. At that same exact time, COVID was at its peak—it was three times higher than it ever been.

“But when Judge Alito was finished,” Cahn says, “the rate of the plague plunged. Within a few weeks the infection rate was 1/8th of what it had been in January, and it never came back. That happened the week that the Supreme Court judge began rolling back abortion, the sin.” Another interesting note: Judge Alito's name is Samuel, which in the Bible means ‘God

has heard.'

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A SIGN OF REVIVAL

The picture on the cover of Cahn's book, *The Josiah Manifesto*, is a broken altar. There's a reason for that. "What happened on the day that abortion was overturned is that God began to crack that altar open," says Cahn. "He cracked it open. And what is that a sign of? In the Bible that's a sign of Revival. In ancient times when there was Revival, it wasn't a tent meeting—they broke the altars of the gods.

"When I was working on my last book, *The Return of the Gods*, one of my associates came to me and said, 'I was woken up in the middle of the night and I had a vision and a word. Jonathan, I saw you bringing forth a word to these altars of the gods, and all of a sudden when you did, the altars cracked open and the spirits went out and revived the nation.'

"The day that I finished *The Return of the Gods* was the day that the Supreme Court overturned abortion. That day the altar was cracked open. God is saying, 'This is a broken altar.'"

Cahn emphasizes how crucial this moment in time is. "I want everybody to hear this," he urges. "I believe this is all coming together. This is the moment we're in. The broken altar is about a nation that has fallen from God. It could head to judgment, or it could head to Revival. Or there could be both. That's where we are right now. God is giving us a chance and this is ultimately about Revival and that's what we have to prepare for.

THE KEY

☒ The Bible character most closely linked to a broken altar

is King Josiah (2 Kings 22–23; 2 Chronicles 34–35), thus the name of the book. Josiah was born when the nation of Israel was heading to judgment. “But that one person, with the Spirit of God, actually turned the nation back to God,” Cahn notes. “And that’s what opens the door to the revelation of The Josiah Manifesto, what God did at that moment through one man. It’s actually the key for us—what we need to do now, in the end times, in order to prevail and overcome.”

Cahn points out that as Josiah lived in the last days of Israel with judgment coming, we are living in the last days. “We are also living at a time when we’re watching apostasy and it’s crazy. What’s the answer? The answer is here. We can prevail. Josiah lived in dark times, but he was radical for God. And God is calling us to be radical.”

Cahn says the last 100 pages of The Josiah Manifesto outline the keys and the secrets we need to know – the guide for this hour and this day. “One of the sections is called Against the Flow. Another one is called Separation and Resistance. Another one is called the *Powers*, because it’s about the secrets of the powers God’s given us. Another one is called the Agents of Heaven on Earth.”

The book reinforces that God has called us to be on the offensive in these last days, not the defensive. “This is our hour,” Cahn says. “This is a biblical hour. Many people have been praying, ‘I wish I lived in Bible times.’ Well, congratulations—you’re in Bible times now! This is what it’s about.”

THE GREATEST HOUR

“So we have the key and the secret to live radically for God,” says Cahn. “I asked God, ‘Give me the answer for the people.’ And that’s what this is all leading to. The same God who did all these things is saying, ‘There is an answer, there is a way, and there is a way to overcome.’”

“This could be the greatest hour! We talk about glory and about revival—this could be that. There’s darkness, but there’s also light. People think the end times is just darkness. It’s *not* just darkness. It’s darkness, but the darkness brings out the lights of God. Those who stand for God are going to be the brightest they have ever been.

“This is an hour to be radical. Josiah was radical for God. He broke the altars of man and Josiah was led by the Spirit of God. And God has this plan for us, for this hour, for such a time as this.” {eoa}

Jonathan Cahn is known as a prophetic voice to our times. He leads Hope of the World ministry and Beth Israel/the Jerusalem Center, his ministry base and worship center in Wayne, New Jersey. He is a much-sought-after speaker and appears throughout America and the world. For more information go to

Excerpted from The Josiah Manifesto.

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Does Jonathan Cahn’s Newest Book Reveal Shocking Final Mystery?

“The Josiah Manifesto” Reveals the Stunning Secret Behind What Is Happening to America

Could a 3,000-year-old calendar of appointed days provide the secret to the most dramatic year of our lives, even ordaining a plague and a national lockdown, days of fire and the

changing of the Supreme Court?

What does the future hold? Is America heading for calamity? Is there hope? Have we been given a last chance? Is it possible to change history? And is there a blueprint that tells us what we need to know to survive and stand in the face of what is yet to come?

New York Times best-selling author Jonathan Cahn answers these questions and more in his explosive new book, *The Josiah Manifesto*, published by Charisma Media.

“This book is, I believe, one of the biggest and most important things I could have ever, ever written,” says Cahn. “It is a prophetic symphony, a puzzle, a journey. The reality of the God of the Bible *in our time*—not generally speaking, but exact. Moving events that we didn’t even realize. The book reveals mysteries upon mysteries that all come together that are going to open up a final mystery: what we need to know for the future—a guide for the end times.”

✘ *The Josiah Manifesto* reveals stunning mysteries that go all the way back to ancient times – to the biblical feasts in ancient Israel, to a broken altar, to the destruction of a pagan temple, to the reign of King Josiah. It takes you on a prophetic journey from a Caribbean island, to Washington DC, to the ancient Valley of Hinnom, to the Supreme Court, to a desert mountain, to an ancient Middle East temple—all the way to the gates of America to uncover an ancient puzzle that lies behind the events that have altered our lives.

THE FIRST PUZZLE PIECE

The book opens with a startling story about how Cahn himself visited Cuba in 2008 and actually had a face-to-face meeting with dictator Fidel Castro. During the meeting he gave Castro a prophetic object and message. That object and that message pinpointed the exact year, exact day, and exact *hour* that Castro’s reign would come to an end. And it happened just that

way.

“It’s the first puzzle piece that affects *us*,” Cahn says of that event. “Basically, I gave him an object and a message that had to do with God’s ancient Jubilee. The Jubilee is that 50th year when God reverses everything, undoes everything. It could be a blessing or it could be a judgment.

“The object I gave Castro was linked to that, and the prophecy said that his reign would come to an end in his 50th year. Not just the 50th year of his rising (to power), *but the 50th day of the 50th year—at the exact hour.*”

Cahn notes that it all pointed to the Jubilee, and actually came straight from the Book of Leviticus in the Bible. “Leviticus actually determined the rise and fall of Fidel Castro. And now this mystery has to do with America.”

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THE JUBILEE CONNECTION

“The Bible says that if you harm children, it’s going to come back on you. And in the year of the Jubilee, remember, if you took somebody’s land, it gets taken from you. That’s the other side of it—that’s the Judgment side of it. So America began abortion on demand in the year 1970. The Jubilee of that year is 2020, the year of the plague. We took life and then a plague came upon us, and it took life.”

But Cahn says it goes even deeper—down to the *exact day*. “Abortion came to America through New York, and the day that the [abortion] bill was introduced in that state was January 20, 1970. Go 50 years forward and you’ll find that January 20, 2020 is the day that the plague entered America. Fifty years to the *exact date*.

“God says it comes back. That’s a law. Remember when COVID basically shut down America? It was the middle of March—we were quarantined, everything went into lockdown—it was called the day that changed everything. It was March 11, 2020. Well, if you go back 50 years, March 11, 1970 was *the exact day* that abortion on demand began on American soil, in Hawaii. It was 50 years to the day again when the plague fell on America.”

Cahn also points out that the plague was most severe in the city where it all started.

“What is the capital of abortion in America? New York. Where did the plague center when it came on? It centered on New York. And there was one milestone day during the plague when New York surpassed every other nation in the world for the plague. The date was April 10—which was 50 years *to the day* when New York legalized abortion.”

A SUPERNATURAL CONVERGENCE

In *The Josiah Manifesto*, Cahn explains how several ancient Hebrew holy days were behind the plague and other events that changed America forever.

“The first was linked to the plague, in the Spring,” he says. “The second Hebrew holy day was behind the riots and the fires and the rage happening. And then one of the other holy days, in order, is the Feast of Trumpets. That’s when you turn back to God—a day of repentance. That was the exact day that the Supreme Court was altered and a Supreme Court Justice passed from the earth, which opened the door for the overturning of abortion. It was *on the day of the Feast of Trumpets.*”

Cahn points to a supernatural convergence that is connected to the changing of American history.

“In the midst of that year, I was led—with another great man of God—to come together and call for a national day of prayer and repentance on the National Mall in Washington D.C. It was

a sacred assembly called *The Return*. We met there and prayed with a huge crowd.

“We had no idea until we were just about there, that there’s a day on the Hebrew calendar called Shabbat Shuva which means “the day of the return.” It’s in the Book of Joel, about a nation praying for revival, for repentance, for the ending of sin. It actually could be translated as “the day of turning”—to turn a nation.

“That *same day*, President Trump chose to nominate the last Supreme Court Justice, Amy Barrett, who would be the vote that would overturn abortion. That was the day that set in motion the overturning of abortion.”

“I’LL BRING REVIVAL”

“There were tens of thousands of people there praying together on the National Mall, and I was led at the end to say, ‘We’re all going to join together and seal it all with the sound of God’s power—the sound of the shofar. When the shofar sounds, shout! Let the power of God go forth. Say, ‘Go!’”

“That moment was five o’clock, four minutes and 33 seconds. In the same instant that we shouted, on the White House lawn, President Trump opened his mouth and made the announcement about Amy Barrett—the beginning of the overturning of abortion. At that *exact same second*, the history of America pivoted—on God’s day called ‘the day of turning.’”

“That’s how precise God is. The God of the Bible is real. Our history has literally been altered by His hand, with His fingerprints. On that day, He declared, ‘I’ll bring blessing, I’ll bring revival.’”

All these mysteries and more are explained in detail in Cahn’s book *The Josiah Manifesto*. “King Josiah lived dark times, but he was radical for God,” Cahn says. “God is calling us to be radical. The last 100 pages of the book are the keys and the

secrets and what we need to know—the guide for this hour and this day.”

It’s a must-read for every Christian alive today. {eoa}

Jonathan Cahn is known as a prophetic voice to our times. He leads Hope of the World ministry and Beth Israel/the Jerusalem Center, his ministry base and worship center in Wayne, New Jersey. He is a much-sought-after speaker and appears throughout America and the world. For more information go to

Excerpted from The Josiah Manifesto.

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Vlad Savchuk: 6 Safeguards for Receiving Personal Prophecy

From personal experience as a youth pastor and now evangelist, Vlad Savchuk knows that the prophetic can be an often misused—and abused—“gift” in the church. He says he has seen it used to manipulate others, and it comes with consequences.

The leader of the HungryGen movement and pastor of a multicultural church, Savchuk recalls a time as a youth pastor where the above scenario played out.

“The first time that I’ve seen this happen was when I was a youth pastor,” he says. “A young man who was about 16 years of age felt like he was a prophet. So, he comes up to a girl and tells her that he is her husband. They’re 16! The poor girl

freaks out, and she starts crying. So I'm dropping this kid off home, and he tells me he knows who his wife is going to be.

"At the time, I was about 22 years or 23 years of age," Savchuk continues. "So, I'm like, 'Wow, 16 years of age and you're already hearing God who your wife is going to be? You're not even ready for marriage.'" And then he says, 'Well, my other prophets, my friends, confirmed that.' And I said, 'Wow, that's interesting.'"

A few days later, Savchuk noticed at a church service that the girl was crying. After apologizing for intruding, Savchuk asked the girl what the issue was.

"She said, 'This guy is a stalker, and he's giving me words that I am his wife,'" Savchuk says. "I asked her, 'Do you like him?' and she said, 'No, this guy is a creep.' So, of course I talked to him and I said, 'Listen, if you ever do that again, you're gonna suffer very, very bad consequences. Bad stuff's going to happen to you.'"

"I was very angry, extremely upset, because that was my first time seeing how people claim to have prophetic words and actually were abusing other people," Savchuk explains. "This is nothing new; it's happening today, especially with the rise of prophetic ministries online and everywhere.

"I can't tell you how many people I know fell for scammers who promised them prophetic words and then gave thousands of dollars away," he says. "I can't tell you how many people I know who prophesy under mushrooms who actually go and take some other stuff and then they give prophetic words."

Savchuk received the gift of discernment at an early age, and it has helped him to weed out the false prophecies from his own life and for others. In his own experience, Savchuk says personal prophecy should always be welcome, but there must be discernment, or you can get hurt by it.

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Here are six ways Savchuk says you can discern a prophetic word:

1. The word is not new to the receiver; it confirms what God has been saying. (Paul felt compelled by the Holy Spirit to go to Jerusalem; he knew what faced him there and went ahead with the mission).
2. The character of the person bringing the word must be considered.
3. Prophecies should not dictate the decisions or manipulate the will of a godly person.
4. Prophecy can be in part; you have to get a complete picture from God.
5. We should not have a hasty response but prayerfully consider the prophetic word.
6. Some prophetic words are conditional; they require your participation.

And, of course, a prophecy must be confirmed by Scripture.

“Remember, according to 2 Peter 1:16-19, the Bible is the surest prophetic word,” Savchuk says. “Remember to study the Word of God, stay in the local church, test prophecies. Don’t just receive every single thing, surrender to it and maybe get manipulated by it. Have discernment and wisdom in your life.”
{eoa}

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Shawn A. Akers is the online editor at Charisma Media.

Unmasking False Prophets with Mario Murillo

One of the gifts of the Spirit is the gift of prophecy. The new testament is full of stories about prophecy. Paul foretold his own arrest, and he teaches the early church that they must test prophecy.

With the modern Pentecostal/charismatic renewal came the resurgence of the gifts, and in the past few decades a prophetic movement has developed. Men like Bishop Bill Hamon and the late Peter Wagner were well known for teaching on the prophetic and the importance in the life of the church.

In my new book *Spirit-Led Living in an Upside-Down World* I have an entire chapter about this and give examples of how modern-day prophets have made a huge difference. I also tell some stories of where I've been prophesied to or have seen prophecies come true, one of which was the prophecy by Kim Clement that someone like Donald Trump would be elected president for two terms. My book *God and Donald Trump* was my effort to document those prophecies that came true with Trump's election in 2016.

However, mixed with the accurate prophecies are the false prophecies, or shall I say false prophets. These false prophets have always have always been with us. Jesus even warned of wolves in sheep's clothing. Paul warned the early church against false prophets. But who warns Christians today?

In our day, and especially in the charismatic movement, few leaders are willing to speak up. They rationalize that the false prophecies are outside their own circles and outside their area of authority. Or they have a "live and let live"

attitude, which is a very American way of seeing things, but it's hardly biblical when it comes to false prophecies.

My long-time friend Mario Murillo is one of the few who have spoken up to say enough is enough. He's lost friends and has been criticized for calling out prophets he says are false.

This is especially true about Trump and prophecies saying that he would be re-elected. I believe he won the election and that those like Kim Clement, who more than a decade ago said he'd win a second term, probably heard from the Lord. But the fact is our system put Joe Biden in the White House. Yet there are some sincere, but misguided, Trump zealots who will not face up to reality.

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Then there is another type of prophecy that isn't by a "false prophet," but it's wrong. It's difficult to know if some prophecies come true because the prophecy is not specific or there is a timing issue. Other times it's clear—for whatever reason, the prophet just missed it. One young prophet named Jeremiah Johnson rose to prominence because of his dreams and prophesies, some of them about Trump. Before the election he had a dream that three things would happen and two did. First the Los Angeles Dodgers won the World Series. Second, Amy Coney Barrett was named to the U.S. Supreme Court and finally, Donald Trump would be re-elected in 2020.

When Trump was not re-elected, Johnson felt the Lord told him to publicly apologize for his wrong prophecy. He shut down his Jeremiah Johnson Ministries and moved to another state and started over. I recently interviewed him on my Strang Report podcast and he told me about all the hate mail and attacks he got when he did it. Believe it or not, it wasn't the secular people who don't believe in Christian prophecy, nor was it the

radical Left who were his harshest critics. It was mostly Christians who were rabid Trump supporters who desperately wanted those prophecies Trump would be re-elected to come true! Their attacks weren't so much that his prophecies were wrong, but that Johnson had turned his back on Trump.

As I said in my podcast with Johnson, I admire the humility he showed by apologizing. He is now experiencing great blessing because of it.

For now, I'm calling on leaders to say enough is enough and to "police" our own by giving correction as the New Testament says Christian leaders should. Paul corrected Peter when Peter was preaching a double standard regarding Gentile believers needing to live up to the Jewish laws rather than being free in Christ.

It's time for leaders to meet and discuss what to do, including confronting these false prophets according to Matthew 18. In this upside-world it's more important than ever the body of Christ has our act together. We must stand against this attack by Satan of the church, trying to get us off track and also to bring reproach to the body of Christ. It actually causes Christians to be suspicious of all prophecies. Mario Murillo has spoken up. Now I'm speaking up. Other leaders must stand with us.

One of the most damaging things about false prophets is the lack of care coming from those in leadership simply because a specific false prophet isn't within their own circle. We aren't supposed only to call out immorality within our own group of friends or denomination. When something needs to be corrected, it is our job to stand up for what is right. We do not want the government, nor people who hate God, to be the ones calling these people out. False prophets cause reproach on the cause of Christ and they make people skeptical about prophecy.

I have known Mario Murillo for a long time now, and we've talked several times about the issue of false prophecy and what we should do in the body of Christ to stand against this monstrosity. I believe our most recent conversation on my Strang Report podcast may just be one of the most timely and important ones we've done.

Discerning spirits is critical for deciding if something is from God or not. In a time when more and more false prophets are gaining public voices, my greatest concern is that Christian leaders are not speaking up.

Murillo, a fantastic evangelist and servant of Christ, gave a very honest and candid reasoning for why he believes false prophets must be exposed right now, and why Christians cannot turn a blind eye to false prophecies infiltrating the church.

"I believe that people are being destroyed by false prophets, and I believe that the wave of this we're seeing right now deserves our undivided attention," Murillo says. "It's not to cause division. We don't need to hear anything about, 'Well, did you go to them first?' The answer is 're doing what the Bible says, what Jesus said and what Paul said: beware of false prophets."

So, how can we know the difference between the real and the false? Mario says that the Word of God is the standard we must use for every word and prophet we encounter.

"Number one is the Word of God," Murillo says. "We're in a time of biblical illiteracy, and because of that, we could simply read the Bible and see how off this person or that person is."

Murillo specifically called out Robin Bullock and Kat Kerr as false prophets.

"I believe Robin Bullock is a dangerous false prophet and also a cult leader," Murillo said. "He has all the earmarks of it."

Murillo believes this about Bullock because of Matthew 12:32 which says that “whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven. But whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, neither in this world nor in the world to come.” Murillo says that Bullock holds himself to a higher standard than this verse.

“According to Robin Bullock, if you speak against him, you’re going to go insane,” Murillo said. “The problem is to place yourself above Christ, literally by saying ‘anything you say bad about Jesus can be forgiven, but anything bad you say about Robin Bullock could lead you to be insane.’ It’s not scriptural, it’s not right and it’s an obvious example of error.”

Mario and I also discussed Kat Kerr and her supposed visions of heaven that are far from biblical. What’s so concerning about her ministry in particular is that people who knew her, that I spoke with recently, admitted she is bringing in money from those supporting her ministry. The only way we can stop false prophets from speaking up is to stop supporting them financially.

✘ “Kat is telling us everything she’s experienced in heaven, while Paul won’t even admit he was the person that was caught up to the third heaven and saw things that were inexpressible,” Murillo said, referring to 2 Corinthians 12:2.

We must stay vigilant to protect ourselves from false prophets who are wolves in sheep’s clothing. Just because we live in an upside-down world doesn’t mean we have to fall for its schemes. Instead, we can live empowered by the Holy Spirit and walk in the path of God’s truth and light. {eoa}

To purchase Mario’s book, *It’s Our Turn Now*, visit [. To purchase my latest book, *Spirit-Led Living in an Upside-Down World* or to sign up for my newsletter, go to \[.\]\(#\)](#)

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Stephen Strang *is the bestselling author of God and Donald Trump. The founder and CEO of Charisma Media, Strang was voted by Time magazine as one of the 25 most influential evangelicals in America. He has interviewed four U.S. presidents and has been featured on Fox News, CNN, MSNBC, CBN, Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk, and in many Christian outlets.*

6 Countercultural Reasons to Celebrate This Labor Day

Labor Day is a much-loved three-day weekend in the United States. This national holiday speaks of grilling out, family picnics and summer's last hurrah ahead of the harsh realities of back to school and even the winter to come.

However, the labor it celebrates just may not be as beloved as the holiday itself. I certainly understand everyone loves a special day off, and Labor Day comes at a particularly beautiful "end-of-summer" moment.

Family fun and one last fling at the lake are a welcome weekend to be sure, but what about labor, the work from which we take the weekend off? The value of the holiday is self-evident to a recreation-minded culture such as that of the U.S. Work itself?

Maybe not so much.

In fact, there is an actual anti-work message that percolates through Western culture at certain levels. Often it is expressed as a sort of joke, a playful poke at the Protestant

work ethic.

In "My Fair Lady," Liza's incorrigible father, Alfred Doolittle, sings a joyful celebration of laziness and goldbricking:

"The Lord above gave man an arm of iron, to do his job and never shirk/
But with a little bit of luck, with a little bit of luck/
Someone else will do the blinkin' work."

It's good-natured Broadway fun, of course, but the old scoundrel is not so fun when he attempts to exploit, manipulate and even extort money from poor Liza. Laziness and sloth often lead to a host of other even more dangerous sins. Isn't it interesting that this anthem to sloth is sung by a man named Doolittle? Doing little, as little as possible, is the goal of his ilk.

In 1928, decades before Lerner and Lowe put words in the mouth of the reprehensible Alfred Doolittle, one Haywire Mac (actually Harry McClintock) recorded a country music classic about hobo life, "The Big Rock Candy Mountain." Some of the lyrics are as follows.

"There ain't no short-handled shovels/
No axes, saws nor picks/
I'm bound to stay/
Where you sleep all day/
Where they hung the jerk/
That invented work/
In the Big Rock Candy Mountains"

Again, Haywire Mac's song is good-natured enough, I suppose. The problem is that the "jerk who invented work" is God Almighty. In the first three verses of Genesis 3 (KJV), work is mentioned three times and in all three, God is the one working. God invented work, modeled it and gave it as a gift to humanity.

Some have mistakenly concluded that work is the result of the fall of humanity. Nothing could be further from the truth. God gave man meaningful work to do in the Garden of Eden. Adam was

the gardener. In the fall, nature itself was corrupted by Adam's own rebellion. Work was not part of the curse. It was a blessed part of life in Eden. Work, like every other blessing in Eden, including love, life, family, sex and nature, suffered from Adam's fall.

There are many ways in which work is a blessing from God. Here are but a few:

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1. Work is a means to provide for others, especially our families. The next time you are tempted to complain about your job, consider life in Haiti, where the unemployment rate is 85%. Work grants us the ability to care for our families instead of falling heir to the contemporary cure of life on the government dole. Work is not demeaning. Welfare can be.

2. Work is a means to serve and bless others, and to be a blessing in the kingdom. With the sweat of our brows, we can tithe to the church, contribute to other charities and pave the way for those who will come after us. Work enables us to be givers and not takers.

3. Work is a means of expressing our strength, gifts and creativity. It is a way to find a meaningful sense of personal satisfaction. Whether it is by laying brick, programming a sophisticated computer or cleaning public bathrooms, our work can and should give us personal satisfaction. Finished with cleaning a toilet, we should take pride in the job well done.

4. Work is a means to glorify God. We are called upon to do all that we do to God's glory, and that includes hard work.

5. Work affords us a means to witness. When others ask how we can work so well, so hard and take such satisfaction in the job, we can be quick to give God the glory.

6. Work makes rest meaningful. After six days of work, God rested. The rest means nothing without the work. We are not to be obsessed with work, never resting, never able to turn off the phone or take a day off. Sabbath rest is also a gift of God, but it means nothing without the gift of work. {eoa}

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Dr. Mark Rutland is president of both Global Servants and the National Institute of Christian Leadership. A renowned communicator and New York Times best-selling author, he has more than 30 years of experience in organizational leadership, having served as a senior pastor and a university president.

Top of the Week: Radical Young Street Preacher Beating Up the Enemy With Bold Approach

Following are snippets of the top stories posted on over the past week. We encourage you to visit the links to read the stories in full.

Radical Young Street Preacher Beating Up the Enemy With Bold Approach

Isaiah Saldivar, known as a part of a group called the Demon Slayers, has spoken in over 500 churches, at conferences and other events. He travels and preaches a message of revival and repentance.

Through his podcasts and social media, his ministry reaches 6 to 8 million people each week, and he has over 750,000 subscribers to his YouTube channel. Not many would doubt he is doing his part to spread the gospel of Christ in this chaotic world.

But even Saldivar says he has become impressed by a young man named David Mapalo, a Gen Zer who has become an overnight social media phenomenon because he is unabashedly sharing the Good News of Christ anywhere, anytime.

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Why Are So Many Churches Still Teaching the Prosperity Gospel?

In recent years, an intriguing transformation has taken place within the landscape of American Christianity. A study conducted by Lifeway Research in September 2022 reveals that a growing number of American Protestant churchgoers are embracing the teachings of the prosperity gospel.

This controversial belief system suggests that financial prosperity is a divine blessing attainable through increased donations to churches and charities. Such a trend raises important questions about the evolving spiritual landscape in the United States and its implications for the Christian faith.

A Lifeway Research study reveals that 52% of churchgoers now affirm that their church teaches God will bless them if they donate more—a significant increase from the 38% recorded in 2017. Additionally, 76% of respondents believe that God desires financial prosperity for them, up from 69% in 2017. The belief that individuals must take action to earn material blessings has also risen to 45%, from just 26% in 2017.

Tim Sheets: What Profound Changes Are We About to See in Washington, D.C.?

Standing in Lafayette Square in Washington, D.C., earlier this month, pastor, apostle and prophet Tim Sheets declared a prophetic word over the United States of America for the month of September, a word he says is one of the most powerful prophecies he's ever received from God.

The senior pastor of Oasis Church in Middletown, Ohio, Sheets says he was recently "very burdened" for America. He prayed and interceded for the nation, for which he felt much grief, given the current status of our culture and government.

It is a prophetic word Sheets believes is so crucial that he wanted to deliver it on video on the grounds near the White House.

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Massive X Response to Trump-Carlson Interview, Comments on Biden, Elections, Future of US

Former President Donald Trump bypassed the Republican debate on Wednesday night, opting instead for an in-depth interview with Tucker Carlson that quickly racked up over 100 million views on X. In the interview, Trump fielded questions about his absence from the debate, the potential for a civil war, and even concerns about an assassination attempt. Posted to X just five minutes before the debate started, the event's views surpassed 180 million by Thursday morning, according to Newsweek. The current X viewership stats for the interview are over 254 million. Comparisons arose with Carlson's recent interview of GOP candidate Vivek Ramaswamy, which drew 44 million views in a week.

Ep. 19 Debate Night with Donald J Trump

– Tucker Carlson (@TuckerCarlson) August 24, 2023

Trump's explanation for skipping the debate focused on his substantial lead in polls. "I'm leading by [40] points," he stated, reasoning that while he enjoys answering questions, a crowded stage wouldn't be productive. "So, I've taken a pass."

How to Spend Your Time With God

Once you decide to spend time each day in the presence of the Lord, you may wonder what you're supposed to do during that time.

Many people assume I spend the majority of that time praying. I spend much of my time waiting upon the Lord and worshipping. I wait upon the Lord to quicken me (Ps. 80:18).

It might surprise you to read this, but I have come to believe that prayer in and of itself is not necessarily powerful. After all, religious people pray. Even well-meaning Christians try to put a spiritual label on things they are doing in the flesh, even spiritual practices such as prayer, fasting and praise. {eoa}

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The True Work Christians Should Celebrate This Labor Day

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4, is a time when many Americans will take a break from their daily toils and celebrate the contributions of the labor force. It's a day marked by relaxation, family gatherings and barbecues—a moment to

appreciate the fruits of our labor by, ironically, avoiding work.

For Christians, however, it's a time to reflect on the real labor they should celebrate—a labor of faith and gratitude.

In both our secular and spiritual lives, there exists a delicate balance between work and rest. Labor Day serves as a poignant reminder of this balance. Just as we have times to work and times to rest in our daily routines, our Christian journey also comprises moments of spiritual labor and moments of divine grace and rest.

The heart of Christianity lies in the understanding that our restored relationship with God is not contingent upon our own labor. Ephesians 2:8-9 beautifully articulates this truth: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not of yourselves. It is the gift of God, not of works, so that no one should boast." Our salvation is a gift freely given by God's grace, not something we can earn through our efforts.

This divine grace sets Christianity apart from many other religious traditions, where adherents often strive to earn their way to salvation through their deeds. In contrast, Christianity emphasizes that God has already accomplished the work of salvation on our behalf.

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It does not, however, negate the importance of our own work in the Christian journey.

Ephesians 2:10 reminds us that we are "His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, so that we should walk in them." While our salvation is not a result of our efforts, it compels us to

engage in good works as a response to God's grace.

Philippians 2:12-13 further illuminates this balance between God's work and our own: "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence, but so much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For God is the One working in you, both to will and to do His good pleasure."

Here, we see that both God's transformative work within us and our diligent effort are essential components of our Christian journey.

On Labor Day, as we celebrate the labor that contributes to the well-being of our nation, let us also reflect on this labor of faith and gratitude. As Christians, we are called to serve the Lord with dedication and wholeheartedness in all aspects of life, including our vocations, as Colossians 3:23-24 reminds us: "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. For you serve the Lord Christ."

This Labor Day, may we find rest in God's grace while remaining diligent in our commitment to serve Him and others with grateful hearts. {eoa}.

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Shawn A. Akers *is the online editor at Charisma Media.*

Charisma News Brief: 'Joe the Plumber' Dies From Pancreatic Cancer at 49

Samuel Joseph Wurzelbacher, also known as Joe the Plumber, died earlier this week. He was known for his bold and confrontational stance against Obama's tax policies back in 2008 when the former president was on the campaign trail. After suffering with pancreatic cancer, Wurzelbacher died at age 49.

"Our hearts are broken," Wurzelbacher's wife, Katie, said in a statement. "We lost a beloved husband, father, son, brother and friend."

Wurzelbacher became a voice in the conservative movement as he represented the struggles and dreams of the average American. However, his family noted that it was during the end stages of his life that his priorities shifted from the political cause of the country to that of his family and faith.

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"His big thing [was] that everyone come to God," Wurzelbacher's son, Joey, told NPR. "That's what he taught me, and that's a message I hope is heard by a lot of people."

On the Wurzelbacher family's Give Send Go account, Katie Wurzelbacher was quoted about the joy he brought his family and friends.

"I won't forget that smile he gave me," she said. "It brought him peace knowing we were all together by family. And everyone who helped us move also brought Joe that peace. Truly, truly,

thank you!”

Wurzelbacher’s political career included time traveling with John McCain and Sarah Palin during the 2008 presidential campaign and writing a book, “Joe The Plumber: Fighting for the American Dream.”

While family and friends continue to grieve at his passing, Katie Wurzelbacher shared that one of the things that made Joe special to everyone was his ability to connect with the everyday American.

“He was an average, honorable man trying to do great things for the country he loved so deeply after being thrust into the public eye for asking a question.”

Wurzelbacher leaves behind his wife and four children. {eoa}

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Abby Trivett is a marketing copywriter and coordinator for Charisma Media.

Why Should Americans Celebrate This Labor Day?

As the first Monday of September approaches, many Americans prepare to celebrate Labor Day by spending time with family, attending parades or enjoying a barbecue by the pool. While these festivities may seem far removed from matters of faith, it’s worth exploring whether Labor Day aligns with Christian values and principles.

The holiday's origins lie in the recognition of the contributions of the working class to the nation's social and economic achievements.

The history of Labor Day in the United States dates back to 1887, when states began passing laws acknowledging the holiday. Eventually, on June 28, 1894, the U.S. Congress officially designated Labor Day as a national legal holiday.

The Department of Labor rightly asserts that American labor has played a crucial role in elevating the nation's standard of living and contributing to unprecedented levels of production. Through the labor movement, vital measures such as child labor laws, livable wages and safe working conditions have been established.

From a Christian perspective, the concept of work is deeply rooted in biblical teachings. Colossians 3:23 encourages believers to approach their work with dedication, doing it heartily, as for the Lord. Proverbs 14:23 underscores the value of labor, stating that in all labor, there is profit. Additionally, Proverbs 16:3 advises committing one's works to the Lord, emphasizing the importance of aligning one's efforts with God's guidance.

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Throughout history, many individuals who upheld their faith in God made significant contributions to society through their work. A prime example is Benjamin Franklin, an 18th-century polymath who attributed his success to daily prayers for wisdom drawn from Proverbs 8. Franklin's achievements spanned fields such as science, medicine, publishing and politics, and he played a vital role in shaping America's trajectory.

The Bible teaches that Christians are called to be diligent workers, using their talents to bring glory to God. Whether

you are an artist, student, parent, teacher, entrepreneur, writer or scientist, your unique abilities can be harnessed to serve God's purposes on earth. By displaying love, hard work, dedication and consistency in the workplace, followers of Jesus can bear witness to their faith and contribute positively to society.

On this Labor Day, American Christians can find solace in the finished work of the cross. While celebrating the historical achievements of the labor movement, Christians can also reflect on the eternal salvation offered through Christ's sacrifice. As God's children, we are called to be vessels of the Holy Spirit, working diligently to impact the world positively and represent the character of Jesus.

Labor Day can be viewed through a Christian lens as an opportunity to celebrate not only the labor of our hands but also the grace and redemption offered through faith in Christ. It reminds us that our work can be a testament to our faith and an expression of our gratitude for God's boundless love and mercy. {eoa}

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