

'The Chosen' Actor Details Terrifying Demonic Encounter That Drove Him to God

Hollywood is no stranger to dramatic plot twists—but actor Nick Shakoour's real-life story might be the most shocking yet.

In a recent interview with CBN News, the “Transformer: Awakening from a Spiritual Coma” author who also [plays Zebedee on the hit series “The Chosen,”](#) described a chilling demonic encounter that left him desperate, broken and ultimately, transformed by the power of God.

Before attending a Texas church conference that [would change his life,](#) Nick said he was in a dark and vulnerable place.

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“It was a scary place where I was at. I was reaching a climax of not understanding the point to life,” he admitted. Despite not being suicidal, he described a deep spiritual thirst: “I was thirsty to know who God really was.”

But on the way to the conference, something terrifying happened.

“I actually had a physically tangible—uh—I guess you could call it low energy demonic attack,” he revealed. “My body was—I talked about it... it was that kind of a spiritual attack where I felt like I was being swallowed alive and my body

froze.”

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The encounter left him shaken to the core. “I showed up to the conference completely frightened,” he said. “I’ve heard of people encountering, you know, [what they call demonic entities](#), low vibration, lost souls, whatever it is you want to call it. Either way, it was frightening and it wasn’t fun or funny at the time.”

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Nick arrived at the conference “completely broken and disarmed and desperate,” unsure of what was going to happen next. But in that emptiness, something divine was about to break through. During prayer with a group of believers, he experienced what he describes as the overwhelming presence of God.

From a demonic attack to a spiritual awakening, Nick’s testimony offers a raw glimpse into spiritual warfare—and the miraculous power of God to redeem the most fearful of moments.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Jan Markell: The World Isn’t Falling Apart – It’s Falling

Into Place

When it comes to understanding the darkness of our times, few voices cut through the chaos like Jan Markell. Founder of Olive Tree Ministries, Markell joined Tim Moore and Nathan Jones on the television program Christ in Prophecy to deliver an urgent message: things aren't falling apart—[they're falling into place.](#)

In her conversation with Moore and Jones, Markell didn't mince words about the world's spiritual condition. "What's wrong with a society that cheers for Hamas?" she asked, referencing the brutal October 7, terrorist attack against Israel. "They torture anything they can get their hands on, and the world has sympathy for them. Is that not... a sad statement of where we are here in the beginning of 2025?"

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During the interview, Markell described those who remain faithful to biblical truth as "remnant believers"—a shrinking yet resolute body of Christians who refuse to compromise on doctrine and prophecy.

"They're longing for the truth," she explained. "They're longing for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. And probably they're in a church that's pretty silent about that."

For these believers, Markell emphasized the importance of [viewing current events through a biblical lens.](#)

"The world does make sense when you look at it through a biblical lens," she said. "And that gives us hope." That hope, she insisted, is what sustains the faithful remnant in the face of growing hostility from a confused and increasingly godless world.

Much of the conversation centered on a recurring theme: silence in the church. Markell lamented the absence of biblical teaching on prophecy, particularly regarding Israel.

“My church still hasn’t mentioned it,” she quoted one frustrated Christian after the October 7, attack. “My church still hasn’t prayed for Israel.” The problem, she says, lies in bad theology. “There’s a large segment of them who are mishandling the theology as it concerns Israel and Jewish people.”

Markell also warned of the rise in demonic activity, especially through technology like artificial intelligence.

“This artificial intelligence... is going to run the beast system,” she said, referencing the end-times system described in Revelation. “It allows us to see the setup.” She continued, “God gave mankind the ability to pull all that together... but someday it’s going to be used for evil—total evil.”

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Despite the sobering realities, Markell’s message was far from hopeless.

“We don’t live in uncertain times,” she quoted a pastor in her book. “These times are as certain as any time in all of human history.” For the remnant believers—those isolated, often ridiculed, yet determined to stay true—Markell urged them not to despair. “Don’t believe that your enthusiasm for the soon return of Christ is misguided,” she said. “Don’t let naysayers discourage you.”

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Her call to action? Get serious. Be bold. Recognize the lateness of the hour. “Look at the headlines,” she said. “They’re staggering... overwhelming... totally depressing. If we can’t be about encouraging one another, that’s pretty disappointing.” And her final charge: “Be about your Father’s business while we have time.”

The world may be descending into spiritual darkness, but as Markell reminded viewers, God’s prophetic word is not gloom and doom—it’s hope and light for those willing to see. The remnant is not alone. They are watchmen on the wall. And the King is coming soon.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Burning Bush to Pentecost Flames: The Mystery of Holy Fire Unveiled

In a recent video, biblical researcher and filmmaker L.A. Marzulli shared what he called “huge” news about a discovery beneath the Church of the Holy Sepulchre that could provide archaeological evidence for a specific New Testament verse.

“Ancient garden found at Jesus Christ’s burial site, verifying the biblical account,” Marzulli announced. “Archaeologists digging beneath the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem have unearthed a finding that provides strong evidence for a significant detail of a New Testament—the presence of a garden near the site of the crucifixion and burial of Jesus.”

According to Marzulli, the findings bolster John 19:41, which

says, "Now in the place where he was crucified, there was a garden." Researchers reportedly found remains of olive trees and grape vines dating back 2,000 years, confirming the botanical nature of the area described in the Gospel.

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"It's pointing to the fact that there was a garden there," Marzulli said. "The excavation which began in 2022 is the most extensive archaeological excavation at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in nearly 200 years. Wow."

While Marzulli acknowledged that opinions differ on the exact location of Jesus' crucifixion and burial, he expressed confidence in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. "You can see the actual place where the cross was and then the burial tomb," he said. "So the crucifixion is here at the church and the burial tomb is below it. So it all fits the biblical narrative."

The announcement coincides with the upcoming release of his latest film, *Holy Shroud, Holy Fire*, where Marzulli explores potential connections between [the Shroud of Turin](#) and biblical manifestations of divine fire. "I really believe that this is it," he said. "I believe the shroud is absolutely authentic, 110%."

He referenced biblical accounts as potential precedents. "Before you dismiss the holy fire, let me remind you about this," Marzulli said. "When Moses sees the burning bush that burns but does not burn, how does that work? When that pillar of fire goes before the Israelites, what's that about? When the tongues of flame appear over the apostles at Pentecost,

what is that?"

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For Marzulli, the evidence is mounting. "I think [this is forensic proof of the greatest event in history](#)—the resurrection."

The excavation at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre is expected to resume after Easter celebrations conclude, with researchers continuing to digitally reconstruct the site using ground-penetrating radar and 3D mapping.

"This is really cutting-edge science, at least at the moment," Marzulli said.

The film Holy Shroud, Holy Fire is currently available for pre-sale.

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James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Does Israel's 77th Anniversary Mark a Prophetic Shift Toward Global Revival?

In a passionate message aired May 1, Sid Roth declared [Israel's 77th anniversary](#) a prophetic milestone brimming with supernatural meaning.

“This is a show of miracles,” Roth said. “Get ready. This is a historic day.” He emphasized that the number 77 is far more than symbolic: it holds deep Hebrew and biblical weight tied to strength, completeness, and divine purpose.

“In Jewish tradition, the number 77 corresponds to the Hebrew word ‘oz,’ which means strength,” Roth explained. “So this is a year of strength. It’s a year of strength for Israel. It’s a year of strength for you.” He noted how the number seven alone represents “perfection, completion and divine wholeness,” making this double-seven moment profoundly significant.

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Roth tied these numbers directly to the promises of God regarding Israel, referencing Psalm 105:8–11 as a covenant declaration. “‘He has remembered His covenant forever... the word which He commanded to a thousand generations... an everlasting covenant,’” Roth quoted. “He says it three ways: a thousand generations, forever, and everlasting. If God says something three times in one verse, you better listen.”

Citing Isaiah 66:8, Roth reminded viewers of [Israel’s miraculous rebirth as a nation in a single day](#), as prophesied in Scripture. “Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall a nation be born at once? And in one day, a nation, Israel, was born at once,” he said. He pointed to this fulfillment as one of the clearest demonstrations that “the Bible is from God.”

Roth also warned of the consequences of standing against God’s covenant people. “He that touches Israel pokes God in the pupil of His eye,” he quoted from Zechariah 2:8, describing it

as a warning few heed. “Who would be so...stupid, to poke God in His eye?”

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Despite the current conflicts and fires spreading across the region, Roth remained unwavering in his faith that what’s coming is not destruction, but revival. “That’s the devil’s best effort to imitate the Holy Spirit,” he said. “Next thing on the calendar for Israel is not forest fires or home fires, but it’s the fire of the Holy Spirit. I see Israel ablaze with the fire of the Holy Spirit any second now.”

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According to Roth, this prophetic moment, the 77th anniversary, is a signal of incoming global revival beginning in Israel. “The greatest display of God’s glory in history is about to begin,” he said. “I call it the greater glory.”

In Roth’s words, the number 77 signals more than a calendar date, it marks a divine call to strength, wholeness and fulfillment of ancient promises.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Prophetic Vision Reveals Demonic Battle Over America

and the Rise of God's Army

During a powerful interview on Charisma, Pastor Mike Thompson opened up about a series of prophetic visions God gave him—visions that have become the foundation for his latest book, [The Lion's Army](#). The revelations center around spiritual warfare, national deception and [the authority believers must reclaim in these final days](#).

“I felt the vision coming,” Thompson said, recalling the moment it all began. “I began to see into the spiritual realm. For me, it’s a feeling like lifting starting to overtake me as a spirit of God pulls me into the spiritual realm.”

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From there, he described being caught up into a lofty vantage point, where he witnessed three waves of demonic forces assaulting America and the body of Christ:

1. **The Shriers and Screamers** – “They just made so much noise they just scared the bejabs out of everybody. It was intimidation, fear tactics.”
2. **Lying Unity** – “This was not the unity of the spirit, [but] lying unity of the flesh. It was man’s unity. It was deception. They looked almost normal... Only when I looked at their face, there was a smirk on the corner of their mouths.”
3. **Punishers and Enforcers** – “The punishers were like a blood lust... [and] the enforcers were more calculated. It was to devise plans to now cast a net over people of control.”

But the demonic assault wasn’t the end of the vision. Behind Thompson stood a mighty lion—Jesus, the Lion of the Tribe of

Judah. With Him was an army of believers clothed in spiritual armor. As the enemy forces charged, Thompson heard a deafening roar: ["You have lost. We have won."](#)

"When the fire would hit those demonic spirits, it would begin to slow them down until eventually they would be paralyzed," Thompson said. In each round of battle, the Lion's Army released a new weapon—fire, then light and finally wind—each symbolic of God's power, truth and Spirit.

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Thompson emphasized that these patterns aren't just metaphorical. "It occurred when Donald Trump was elected as president... It happened with Roe v. Wade being overturned... He said these demons are just looking for a cause." He warned that the spiritual battle is "free floating," manifesting through politics, culture, and personal lives.

He also addressed the deceptive nature of unity when it's not grounded in Christ: "So many people believe that the word unity is a scriptural mandate... and it can be a demonic spirit as it can be human manipulation against you."

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To prepare, Thompson offered these three steps:

- "People need to get into the Word of God."
- "Develop a primary dependency upon the Holy Spirit."
- "Be willing to let the Holy Spirit change the doctrines that are within us that do not conform to in reality what it is that God is doing on the face of the Earth today."

Above all, Thompson calls believers to embrace their God-given authority. “I have third heaven authority. I’m the righteousness of God in Christ. I have the ability. I’m, you know, bind, loose... advancing the kingdom and jerking people out of it.”

To hear more of Pastor Thompson’s incredible vision and teaching, watch the full video above.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Is the Gog-Magog War About to Begin? Bible Scholar Warns of Prophetic Trigger

In a recent teaching, Bible scholar John Barnett laid out two compelling views on [the prophetic “battle of Gog”](#) and its placement within end-times chronology.

“There are two places that this battle of Mog could be,” Barnett said. “One could be right here, uh, right at the front end that launches the tribulation... the other half believe it’s right here, this Jerusalem attack, and it’s right at the end of the tribulation time.”

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Either way, Barnett emphasized, what we do know is clear: “God is headed toward this, the Second Coming of Christ and the launching of Israel as the center of the world and the beacon of hope.”

Barnett pointed to real-world developments aligning with the prophetic timeline found in Ezekiel 38–39.

“Yesterday, Iran displayed the largest collection of armed drones they’ve ever seen in a military parade,” he said. “They are working as fast as possible to develop an atomic bomb.”

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With Russia, China and Iran increasingly aligned, Barnett warned, “It could be very soon this whole thing is going to ignite and [God is going to climactically intervene and save Israel.](#)”

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Regardless of when Ezekiel’s war occurs, Barnett concluded with a sobering reminder: “The next prophetic event for us that we’re looking for is Jesus to return, the judgment seat of Christ.”

If you want to hear more about this fascinating topic, watch the video above.

James Lasher *is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

I Was in Hell: Pastor Says Jesus Saved Him After Near-Death Ordeal

In 1998, Steve Kang, a former Buddhist, lay dying in a California hospital after a suicide attempt. But while his body remained on the operating table, he says his spirit was dragged into a realm of eternal torment—[a place he now knows is called hell](#).

In an exclusive interview with the Daily Mail, Kang recalled, “It’s not a place you want to go. I wouldn’t wish it on my worst enemies—not Kim Jong-il, not Hitler. It’s a place of unimaginable suffering.”

The nightmare began after years of battling addiction and spiritual darkness. Kang said he believed an evil spirit had been pushing him to end his life. One day, he gave in—inflicting knife wounds to his neck and stomach. While surgeons worked to save him, Kang said his soul entered another world.

“There was no light, no plants, not even a blade of grass,” he said. “The ground was jagged, and cliffs of a sickly purplish-red hue jutted out everywhere. When you looked up, there was no sky—just an oppressive, moonless darkness, like the blackest night you can imagine.”

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He described the realm as a lifeless wasteland—full of people, yet utterly void of hope.

“There were so many people, just standing there, chained together,” Kang said. “But there was no connection, no ability

to speak or comfort one another. It was like we were all isolated in our own suffering.”

The emotional pain, he said, was even more severe than the physical surroundings.

“It was like every negative emotion I’d ever felt was magnified a thousand times,” he said. “The fear of condemnation, the anxiety—it was suffocating. There was no escape, no reprieve.”

Over the chained masses, demonic figures stood watch.

“They were massive, three to five stories tall, wearing dark, flowing capes,” Kang said. “Their presence was menacing, and I knew instinctively they were in charge of this place. They just stood there, watching us suffer.”

Scientific studies have noted similar descriptions among near-death experiencers. Research from NYU’s Grossman School of Medicine found that many survivors report entering a distinct realm accompanied by a review of their life’s actions. The experiences are often “vivid and coherent,” leading some researchers to suggest that a dying brain may access “new dimensions of reality.”

For Kang, time seemed to stretch endlessly. While medical records confirmed he was unconscious for eight hours, he said he perceived it as around 20 minutes. That perception aligns with 2017 findings from psychologist Marc Wittmann, who theorized that NDEs can distort the brain’s sense of time.

Kang believes he would have remained trapped in that realm—if not for divine intervention.

“I was in so much pain, and I thought it would never end,” he said. “But something—Someone—was watching over me, pulling me out of that place.”

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When he finally awoke, everything had changed. He left behind not only his addiction but also his past as a Buddhist monk—and [committed his life to following Jesus Christ.](#)

“I don’t want anyone to go through what I did,” Kang said. “If my story can save even one person, it’s worth telling.”

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Now serving as an evangelical pastor, Kang openly shares his testimony to offer hope. He doesn’t present his experience to frighten people but to point them toward redemption. He says the darkness was real—but so was the deliverance.

Kang’s story is a powerful testament to the saving grace of Jesus Christ—who has the power to rescue a lost soul from the depths of hell and offer eternal hope to anyone who calls on His name.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Tom Horn’s Prophetic Warnings

Ring Louder in the Chaos of 2025

More than five years ago, author and Christian expositor Tom Horn sat down with Gary Stearman on Prophecy Watchers and revealed what many considered explosive—perhaps even premature—claims about Donald Trump, a rising Sanhedrin [and a coming Third Temple.](#)

Today, with Trump re-elected as president and Israel embroiled in a multifront war, the interview is not just relevant—it's prophetic.

Horn recounted a private, high-level meeting between two Orthodox rabbis, Donald Trump, Jared Kushner and members of the president's faith council. "These rabbis are in the ear of Donald Trump and Jared Kushner," Horn said, "specifically to let Trump know that he won the election against all odds because God led him to that point so that he would be... a King Cyrus-like agent."

The purpose? To pave the way for the building of the Third Temple in Jerusalem.

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The topic, once speculative, is now front and center. Israel's conflict has extended beyond Gaza, with tensions escalating around the Temple Mount—an area Horn noted would play a central role in a prophetic global shift. "Netanyahu got up and... referred to Donald Trump as fulfilling prophecy," he said. ["He said the Temple Mount is in our hands."](#)

The Temple Mount has once again become the most contested piece of land on earth, as the terror attack on October 7, 2023, demonstrated.

With calls for control to shift from Jordan to Saudi Arabia—as Horn mentioned was part of Trump’s earlier peace initiative—the groundwork appears laid for the next prophetic chapter. “President Trump is advancing a prophetic process that will usher in... the rebuilding of the Third Temple,” read the Sanhedrin’s official proclamation quoted in Horn’s interview.

Horn warned that this move could become a trigger for the rise of the Antichrist. “The Antichrist will stand in the temple of God showing himself that he is God,” he said. “There’s only one way that could happen—you have to have the building of a third temple.”

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In light of recent headlines and renewed momentum behind Jerusalem’s prophetic destiny, Horn’s words echo with sobering weight. What once seemed like speculative commentary is now unfolding on the world stage.

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As global leaders reposition, and as war shakes the Middle East, the question is no longer if we are nearing the fulfillment of biblical prophecy—it’s when.

Watch the full interview above and see for yourself how the prophetic parallels Tom Horn revealed years ago are aligning with the world we’re living in today.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Ken Ham Answers: Do the Unevangelized Go to Hell?

Christian apologist Ken Ham recently addressed a question that has perplexed believers and skeptics alike: What happens to those who die without ever hearing the gospel? He offers a message that is both sobering and hope-filled, reminding listeners that [while we are limited in our knowledge, God is not.](#)

“We are finite, fallible human beings who know nothing compared to God,” Ham said. “God is infinite knowledge, infinite in wisdom. He knows everything.” He emphasized that while we don’t know every detail, we can trust God’s justice and sovereignty: “Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?”

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Ham pointed to Scripture to support the idea that God makes Himself known to all people. “God has made it evident to everyone that He’s the Creator,” he said, citing Romans 1:20. He also noted Romans 2:15, stating, “We all know what’s right and wrong,” because God has written His law on human hearts.

When addressing the fate of children who die, Ham referenced 2 Samuel and David’s statement: “I shall go to him, but he will not return to me,” suggesting a biblical hint that children

are with the Lord.

Ham stressed that those who seek truth will receive it: “If you want light, God will give you light.” He supported this with the story of the Queen of Sheba and her pursuit of wisdom, saying, “She wanted light. God gave her light.”

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He concluded by affirming both human responsibility and divine sovereignty. [“Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God,”](#) Ham said. “God is the one who saves people by opening their heart to the truth.”

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Ultimately, Ham urged listeners to trust God’s character: “Make sure that you open your heart to the Lord and say, ‘I want that light,’ and He will give you that light and save you for eternity.”

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

We Are Closer Now to the Third Temple Than Ever Before

Pastor James Kaddis isn’t one to sensationalize prophecy—but even he admits things are accelerating when it comes to Jerusalem and [the coming Third Temple.](#)

“We’ve seen three major events happen in a matter of days that tell us the coming of a third temple may be sooner than we think,” Kaddis said in a recent video. “God doesn’t get it wrong, and we shouldn’t be surprised when we see it. But it sure is exciting.”

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With Bible in hand and headlines in view, Kaddis walked his audience through [the undeniable momentum surrounding the Temple Mount](#). “We know what the Bible says,” he reminded viewers. “The Bible tells us that there will be a temple that will be on top of the Temple Mount because it will be used by the coming antichrist in the last days.”

Here are the three events he says are paving the way:

1. Record-Breaking Passover Attendance on the Temple Mount

“First day of Passover sees 43% rise in Jewish visits to Temple Mount,” Kaddis read from a news article. “494 Jewish worshippers ascended the Temple Mount... a 43% increase over 2024 when 345 visited Judaism’s holiest site.” He added, “Amongst that 43% was my friend David Tall.”

2. Policy Shift in Israel’s Government

Kaddis highlighted the growing support for Jewish prayer on the Temple Mount: “The policy is to allow free worship for Jews everywhere, including on the Temple Mount,” quoting a spokesperson for Israel’s National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir. “There is no law permitting discrimination against Jews on the Temple Mount or anywhere else in Israel.”

3. Trump's Handwritten Prayer at the Western Wall

"Trump sends handwritten prayer for peace to Jerusalem's western wall," Kaddis read from another report. "It reads 'for peace in Israel' and was signed with his initials." He praised Mike Huckabee for delivering the note, quoting him directly: "I come on behalf of the president of the United States... with the instruction that my first act as the ambassador would be to take his prayer... and to pray that there would in fact be peace in the land."

Kaddis also touched on a fourth, unexpected headline: "Tens of thousands of Jews gather for traditional blessing in Jerusalem." He emphasized how the gathering was deeply tied to temple heritage: "The burkat kahaman or cohen's blessing is a ritual dating back over 2,500 years to when King Solomon's temple stood on the same site."

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While acknowledging that the prophesied temple will be used by the antichrist, Kaddis still encouraged viewers to be excited: "Although it's terrible that this temple is going to be built for the antichrist, it's kind of exciting... because that's something that happens in the last days."

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His message for viewers was one of vigilance: Watch. Study. Prepare. "Christ could come for His church at any moment and

we need to live that way," he said. "You study the word of God... and you live wholeheartedly for the Lord."

James Lasher *is staff writer for Charisma Media.*