

Trump Vows to Block Central Bank Digital Currency Threats

In a shocking announcement to the congregation, Pastor Joel Osteen, the leader of Lakewood Church, shared the joyous news that the church has successfully paid off a \$100 million loan that had been a part of their financial journey for two decades.

The financial revelation took place during a Sunday service, with Osteen in tears several times as he expressed his gratitude to the faithful members whose giving made this significant achievement possible. Standing beside his wife, Victoria, Osteen reflected on the journey of the church, particularly how they acquired the former sports arena, the Compaq Center, and transformed it into a thriving hub accommodating over 45,000 people.

“I look back over these 19 years, and there have been great years. I mean, Lakewood has been a lighthouse to the whole world,” Osteen shared. He reminisced about the challenges faced when they acquired the facility, initially a basketball arena, and the subsequent need for extensive renovations to cater to the diverse requirements of a church.

Among the challenges was a \$100 million price tag for the renovation, a daunting figure for a church that initially paid \$11.5 million to lease the arena for 60 years. Osteen candidly recalled his initial hesitation, saying, “I thought, kind of, God, I didn’t sign up for this. But you know what, God gives you grace for every season of your life.”

When traditional avenues for funding proved unyielding, including rejection from a bank the Osteen family had long been associated with, the church turned to Bank of America. Osteen shared a powerful testament to God’s providence,

stating, "They showed up at the office, the first day we were there without even knowing us, they'd never seen our financials, they had a check for \$25 million dollars." This initial blessing paved the way for the bank to lend the full \$100 million needed for the renovation.

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

Throughout the 20 years of servicing the loan, Lakewood Church remained steadfast in its commitment to outreach, spending hundreds of millions of dollars on media, humanitarian aid and global assistance. Joel Osteen credited the church's ability to maintain its outreach efforts to the faithfulness of God and the generosity of its congregants.

Addressing the congregation, Osteen emphasized that God's faithfulness to Lakewood Church is a testament to what He can do in the lives of individuals. He encouraged members to trust that in the year 2024, they will experience release from various challenges, including debt, addiction, relationships and wrong mindsets.

"What God's done for Lakewood He's gonna do in your life," Osteen shared. "I believe in 2024 you'll see God release you from some things that have held you back. Release you from debt, release you from addiction, relationship, from wrong mindsets. I just believe [this will be] a year of release."

The Biblical Perspective on Prosperity and Trusting God with Finances

This remarkable journey of Lakewood Church's financial victory aligns with biblical teachings on prosperity and trusting God with resources. The Bible provides guidance on managing wealth, using the funds we are entrusted with in a godly manner.

Proverbs 3:9-10: “Honor the Lord with your substance, and with the first fruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your presses will burst out with new wine.”

This verse highlights the principle of honoring God with one’s resources, acknowledging Him as the ultimate source of provision.

Philippians 4:19: “But my God shall supply your every need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

Joel Osteen’s testimony of God’s provision, even in the face of financial challenges, mirrors the assurance given in Philippians. The belief in God’s ability to supply every need is a cornerstone of biblical prosperity.

As Lakewood Church celebrates its financial freedom, the biblical message of honoring God, trusting in His provision, and expecting release from various burdens becomes an inspirational testimony for believers seeking a deeper understanding of financial stewardship in alignment with Christian principles.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

James Lasher is Staff Writer for Charisma Media.

**Coconato, Wallnau and Murillo
Expose the Lies Pushed on**

America

In a shocking turn of events, a self-proclaimed pastor, Paul Nthenge Mackenzie, leader of the Good News International Church, has been exposed as a cult leader, leading his followers to a tragic end. The revelation comes after mass graves were uncovered in Shakahola forest, southeast Kenya, containing 429 bodies, with signs of starvation and disturbing markings consistent with strangulation and suffocation, particularly among children.

Mackenzie, who allegedly encouraged his disciples to starve themselves in preparation to “meet Jesus,” now faces serious charges, including murder, manslaughter, radicalization, cruelty and child torture, among others. Over 90 individuals associated with the cult will also be charged in connection with these heinous crimes.

The shocking details emerged when investigators, acting on a tip from a local rights group, rescued 15 emaciated members from the Good News International Church. Tragically, four of them later succumbed to the ordeal. Survivors recounted being confined without food or water for five days, wrapped in blankets and buried alive.

Former deputy pastor Titus Katana revealed the harrowing conditions imposed on children, stating, “They were shut in huts for five days without food or water. Then they wrapped them in blankets and buried them, even the ones still breathing.”

Cult Leader in Kenya to Face 191 Charges of Child Murder – The authorities say Paul Nthenge Mackenzie told his followers to starve themselves and their children to death in the Shakahola Forest, where hundreds of bodies have been exhumed. via @nytimes:

– Olav Mitchell Underdal (@omunderdal) January 17, 2024

Despite the grave evidence, Mackenzie denies the charges, claiming ignorance of the deaths, asserting that he closed down his church five years ago. However, investigations reveal a different narrative, linking Mackenzie to an illegal film studio for his church, for which he was convicted in November.

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up to date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

Kenya, with a history of self-declared pastors and cult-like movements, now grapples with the aftermath of this horrific saga. The country has over 4,000 registered churches, and the case has prompted a commission of inquiry and a task force to review regulations governing religious bodies.

Biblical Perspective on False Prophets

The Bible offers guidance on recognizing false prophets and protecting against their teachings. In Matthew 7:15, Jesus warns, “Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.” The apostle John also advises in 1 John 4:1, “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”

Discerning False Teachings

Christians are urged to discern false teachings by comparing them with the truth found in the Bible. 2 Timothy 4:3-4 states, “For the time will come when people will not endure sound doctrine, but they will gather to themselves teachers in accordance with their own desires, having itching ears, and they will turn their ears away from the truth and turn to myths.”

The Word of God is the ultimate survival guide against false prophets who seek to draw people away from God for their own nefarious purposes. But to access the power held within this holy book, Christians must choose to spend time reading and meditating on the Bible and growing in wisdom and discernment so that we may resist the enemy and his plans.

Guarding Against False Prophets

Believers are encouraged to guard against false prophets through prayer, discernment and staying rooted in the Scriptures. Colossians 2:8 warns, "Beware lest anyone captivate you through philosophy and vain deceit, in the tradition of men and the elementary principles of the world, and not after Christ."

As the world mourns the tragic events in Shakahola, the Christian community is reminded to remain vigilant, testing teachings against the truth of God's Word and staying steadfast in faith.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Open Doors Report Reveals Alarming Trends of Persecution

Houston Texans rookie quarterback C.J. Stroud put on a stellar performance in the wild-card playoff game against the

Cleveland Browns on Jan. 13, 2024, leading his team to a 45-14 victory. The 22-year-old became the youngest quarterback in NFL history to win a playoff game, a feat that has cemented his status as a rising star in the league.

But it was his humility and redirection of the fame being thrust onto him over to his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ that sent the most powerful message.

“I just want to give all glory and praise to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,” Stroud said. “It’s been amazing being in this city for as short as I’ve been—but the love that I’ve got, I’ve really just been doing it for Houston and the people back home. I’m blessed to be in the position that I’m in and blessed enough to be playing at a high level right now. We’ve just got to keep it going. But I’m super blessed.”

C.J. Stroud originally thanked his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ after Saturdays win vs the Browns@SNFonNBC later cut it out of the interview clip.

– NFL Notifications (@NFLNotify) January 17, 2024

NBC, which broadcast the game, would go on to remove this portion of the interview from future replays.

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up to date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

Far exceeding pre-season expectations, Stroud has never wavered in his faith and has professed Jesus as the cause for all of his success up to this point.

“I’m blessed enough to wake up every day and to walk, to talk, to interact with people, to play football,” Stroud shared back in September. “These are all things we take for granted from a day-to-day basis. But I try to do my best to thank God through

all that, because His grace and His mercy; He laid His life on the cross for us—I really believe that.”

Openly Christian while being a superstar in the NFL. Major respect to C.J. Stroud!☐☐ Got mad love for the kid. I'm pullin for the Texans in the AFC and Packers in the NFC

– Erima (@yungfelakut1) January 15, 2024

The former Ohio State standout has had a remarkable rookie season, leading the Texans to an 11-7 record and an AFC South division title. He threw for 4,108 yards during the regular season, the third-most ever for a rookie quarterback behind only Andrew Luck and Justin Herbert.

This type of leadership and profession of faith is what it will take to reach an entire generation of youth who look up to sports stars yet rarely get lessons on publicly professing Jesus Christ as Lord.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

**Discover the Impact of Jesus
on Culture Through the Eyes
of ‘The Chosen’ Star in**

'Jonathan & Jesus'

In a cautionary move, health officials in the nation's capital have issued a warning regarding a potential measles exposure on Tuesday. The alert comes after an individual with a "confirmed case" traversed two of the busiest airports in the region while returning home from an international trip.

The potential exposure is believed to have occurred in the international arrivals area of the main terminal at Dulles International Airport between 4 and 8 p.m. on Jan. 3. Subsequently, the individual was present at terminal A at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport the following day from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

DC Health, the local health authority, released a statement acknowledging the situation: "DC Health has been notified of a confirmed case of measles in a person who traveled through DC area airports when returning from international travel. While the threat of transmission is low, DC Health is notifying District residents who were at these locations about their possible exposure."

The Virginia Department of Health had issued a similar warning just days earlier, emphasizing the potential risk associated with the traveler's movements through the busy airports:

Measles is a highly contagious illness that can spread easily through the air when an infected person breathes, coughs, or sneezes. Measles symptoms usually appear in two stages. In the first stage, most people have a fever of greater than 101 degrees, runny nose, watery red eyes, and a cough. These symptoms usually start 7 to 14 days after being exposed. The second stage starts 3 to 5 days after symptoms start, when a rash begins to appear on the face and spread to the rest of the body. People with measles are contagious from 4 days before the rash appears through 4 days after the rash

appeared.

The statement further highlighted the challenge in identifying the airline the person with measles was traveling on, adding an additional layer of complexity to the situation.

Both health agencies are urging individuals who may have been exposed and are at risk of developing measles to be vigilant for symptoms until Jan. 25. Hundreds of flights involving thousands of travelers arrive and depart at both Dulles International Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport daily, underscoring the importance of this warning.

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up to date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

As health authorities work to contain the potential spread, residents are encouraged to stay informed and seek medical attention promptly if they exhibit symptoms associated with measles. The situation serves as a reminder of the ongoing importance of vaccination and public health measures in preventing the resurgence of preventable diseases.

This potential outbreak comes on the heels of the announcement at the World Economic Forum of "Disease X." This revelation set off a firestorm of speculation about the release of another pandemic, 20x more deadly than COVID according to the WEF documents.



None of this should be cause for fear among Christians however, as Jesus' words warned us 2,000 years ago that these events must take place prior to His returning.

"For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines, epidemics, and earthquakes in

various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows" (Matt. 24:7).

Pestilences, epidemics, pandemics, whatever term people wish to use to define the diseases which will plague the earth—there will be multiples of them, and they will be a part of the precursors to the end times.

These events will be accompanied by false teachings that will deceive many, social and political unrest, natural disasters and persecution of the faithful.

Using a biblical lens to observe these outbreaks and the current state of the world around us, it is clear to many that those days Jesus told His disciples about are upon us.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Emmys Push Sinister Messages to Children

As the preparatory days before the End Times continue forward, biblical prophecy continues to unfold as the world grows increasingly cold to the Jewish people.

Yet few would have imagine that in America the same hatred that led to the Holocaust would take root and perpetuate actions that make one's skin crawl in disgust.

But these are the days that we are living in.

On Monday, anti-Israel activists led a protest outside the renowned Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, one of the world's top pediatric cancer hospitals.

"Another complicit institution: The Sloan Kettering Center," yelled a woman appearing to lead the march with a bullhorn.

"Make sure they hear you; they're in the windows. On this day, shame on you. You support genocide, too," the protestors shouted at cancer patients in the hospital.

Not a good look as pro-Palestinian protestors target a cancer hospital on New York's Upper East Side. The Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center also houses a pediatric day hospital...

"Make sure they hear you, they're in the windows".

– Danny Morris (@DannyMMorris) January 15, 2024

Visible in the video taken is a child who is believed to be receiving treatment at the hospital.

Established in 1884 as the New York Cancer Hospital, it was the first of its kind in the United States. The center also boasts one of the nation's leading pediatric cancer care facilities and over 120 research labs dedicated to ending the disease. In March 2023, it became the first in the country to earn the American College of Surgeons' Level I Specialty Children's Center in Oncology designation.

And these protestors are the people who harbor demonic hatred for God's chosen people, and for His tenets and design.

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

Radical leftists have taken up arms across the world in major cities, accusing Israel of crimes she did not commit, while

spreading false propaganda about the war being raged between Hamas and Israel.

As this rabid anti-Semitism spreads across the world, far too many Christians are either believers in replacement theory (that the church of Jesus replaced the Jewish people) or simply do not care enough to be bothered about that.

Are the pages of Scripture that warn about what will happen to those who attack Israel no longer relevant today?

Christians are witnessing the preparations for the End Times as prophesied in the Bible on a daily basis. The world is not just becoming as the days of Noah, but it is surpassing them in the level of evil being committed before the throne of God.

Sexual immorality, theft, deceit and deception, greed, hypocrisy, false teachers and prophets, how much more will it take to wake the church up to what is taking place before them and that the focus of God's prophetic clock is the nation of Israel?

These types of protests which target children with cancer and their families show the depth to which Satan will go to attack the nation of Israel. And do not think that the massacre which took place on Oct. 7, 2023, was anything but a satanically inspired assault on the people of God, who have been targeted for eradication their entire existence.

But the hand of God is clearly upon Israel, for even though the nation was destroyed, twice, the Lord still restored His people of covenant. Just as the Bible prophesied He would do.

So take up the Word of God and evaluate the happenings in the world today through a biblical lens. What does the Bible says about the times we live in and the state of the church? Are the writings of Revelation becoming increasingly real as we witness the abandonment of God and His principles?

Hopefully people around the world will take the warnings of Jesus Himself to heart and repent of the wickedness being lived out on a daily basis and turn from lifestyles which grieve the Lord's heart.

If not, their ending, should they refuse repentance, is also prophesied in the Bible.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

James Lasher is Staff Writer for Charisma Media.