



Pastor Scott Velain

The Great God of The House of Israel

Good morning and thank you for joining us. This morning I thought we'd talk about our Father in Heaven. During this time of Sukkot, I thought that it would be a perfect time to realize what a perfect God we have. Out of all of the gods throughout ancient history... Our God is a God like no other. Sukkot is a time when we were commanded to come to where God was when he tabernacled with us. It was a time of great joy. And even though he no longer Tabernacles with us here on this earth today... His holy spirit does tabernacle with us in our hearts and in our minds and in our very being.

Our God is unique. He is a God like no other. He is a God who created us in his own image. He is a God that is eternal. He is a God of grace. He is a God of holiness. He is a God of immanence, justice, love, and mercy. He is omnipotent. He is omnipresent. He is righteous and sovereign. And he is transcendent. Our God shows his grace and his mercy even on the wicked. His patience is long-suffering. Our God does not even want one to perish.

We often times wonder how long it will be before he returns. But in his loving patience, he waits even for the wicked to turn. His grace shines upon us all even when we were still sinners... he sent his only begotten son to atone for the sins of the world. What other god calls his people his children? What other god created his children in his own image? What other god waits patiently for his children to return to him? What other god allows his children to choose? Let's turn to psalms 102:11-28:

Psa 102:11 My days are like an evening shadow; I wither away like grass.

Psa 102:12 But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever; you are remembered throughout all generations.

Psa 102:13 You will arise and have pity on Zion; it is the time to favor her; the appointed time has come.

Psa 102:14 For your servants hold her stones dear and have pity on her dust.

Psa 102:15 Nations will fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth will fear your glory.

Psa 102:16 For the LORD builds up Zion; he appears in his glory;

Psa 102:17 he regards the prayer of the destitute and does not despise their prayer.

Psa 102:18 Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet to be created may praise the LORD:

Psa 102:19 that he looked down from his holy height; from heaven the LORD looked at the

earth,

Psa 102:20 to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die,

Psa 102:21 that they may declare in Zion the name of the LORD, and in Jerusalem his praise,

Psa 102:22 when peoples gather together, and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.

Psa 102:23 He has broken my strength in midcourse; he has shortened my days.

Psa 102:24 “O my God,” I say, “take me not away in the midst of my days—you whose years endure throughout all generations!”

Psa 102:25 Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.

Psa 102:26 They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away,

Psa 102:27 but you are the same, and your years have no end.

Psa 102:28 The children of your servants shall dwell secure; their offspring shall be established before you.

But it's also turn to James 1:17-27:

Jas 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Jas 1:18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Jas 1:19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;

Jas 1:20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Jas 1:21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

Jas 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Jas 1:23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror.

Jas 1:24 For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.

Jas 1:25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Jas 1:26 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.

Jas 1:27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Our God is a God who teaches his children through patience. Our God is a God who allows us the time to choose, and the time it takes to choose correctly. Of all the gods known throughout history there is not one who can be named that loves his children as much as our God. The God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob is indeed the one true God.

And as we wait patiently for his return just as he waits patiently for his children to return... we rejoice on this festival of sukkot. Our father is not slack in his promise nor is he slow to act as some may think. A day is as 1000 years... and 1000 years is as one day to our father in heaven. And he does not keep time as we know it, but rather our father in heaven keeps time as he knows it. Our clock is not his clock, our calendar is not his calendar, our days and years are not his days and years. And what we must also remember is that our judgment is not his judgment... And I for one am thankful for that.

All our father wants for his children is that we walk in his ways and be as he is. He wants sin to be clearly defined in the minds of his children so that his children can understand that sin is in itself a black plague of destruction. When Paul tells us to put on the full armor of God and he warns us about spiritual wickedness and principality's in high places... I often times wonder how many modern-day professing Christians truly understand the power that these spiritual principality's in high places really have. The idea that spiritual entities can enter into our minds and cause us to make wrong decisions... is almost laughable in the eyes of many would-be Christians today. And yet we believe in ghost hunters, and the demons and the spiritual wickedness that we see splashed across the silver screen. We think nothing of these things that we see from our entertainment industry day after day, month after month, and year after year, in movies, and video games, and even what we hear being pumped over the airwaves of our music industry.

But our father in heaven has made sure through his God-breathed scriptures that we should understand these things. It is indeed through his law that these things have been made manifest to us. It is indeed through his law... that spiritual wickedness is drug out into the daylight. According to the Biblical definition of sin... Sin is the transgression of the law. Sin is the manifestation of spiritual wickedness. And so, it is through our father's perfect law that sin is defined, and spiritual wickedness is made known to us all.

Our father's law is like an earthly father telling his child to stay away from the snake in the backyard. The child at first may not like his father's command to stay away from the snake. The child may be curious. The child may want to know more about the snake. But the father's command is perfect and it's true. And if the child does not heed his father's command, the child may lose his very life. And so, it is with the perfect law of our father in heaven. He continuously warns us to stay away from the snake. And yet so many are curious, so many want to gaze upon the snake. So many want to see what the snake has to offer.

How many modern-day Christians today proudly proclaim that our father's law is nothing more than a curse? How many modern-day professing Christians today... proudly proclaim that no one can keep the law of our father? Even though that's completely opposite of what our father tells us in Deuteronomy chapter 30 verse 11. How many modern-day Christians today... Proudly proclaim that God made a mistake by giving us his law? Even though Paul says in Romans chapter 7 verse 12, that the law is holy and righteous and good. Paul even asks that all

important question... Do we overthrow the law by our faith? And in romans chapter three verse 31 he answers that all important question by saying “by no means... On the contrary... We uphold the law.”

Many years ago, I heard of an old Indian legend, about an old Indian chief who was sitting on the edge of the canyon with his grandson. He turned to his grandson and said... “there are two wolves inside of every person. And these two wolves fight to the death every day of the man’s life. One is wicked and full of evil. He is mean, and full of vanity, angry all the time. But the other wolf is kind, thoughtful and giving, and is patient and long-suffering.” And after a few moments went by... the young grandson looked up at his grandfather and he asked “which wolf wins?” And his grandfather looked down at him and he smiled... and said “the one you feed”.

And this my friends is exactly what Paul is trying to tell us in the book of Ephesians. There are indeed two wolves inside each human being. And they do indeed fight to the death. And in the end... the one that wins is indeed the one that we feed. In psalms 101 verse three David says I will put no wicked thing before my eyes. Let’s turn to psalms 101:1-8:

Psa 101:1 A Psalm of David. I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O LORD, I will make music.

Psa 101:2 I will ponder the way that is blameless. Oh when will you come to me? I will walk with integrity of heart within my house;

Psa 101:3 I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless. I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me.

Psa 101:4 A perverse heart shall be far from me; I will know nothing of evil.

Psa 101:5 Whoever slanders his neighbor secretly I will destroy. Whoever has a haughty look and an arrogant heart I will not endure.

Psa 101:6 I will look with favor on the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me; he who walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me.

Psa 101:7 No one who practices deceit shall dwell in my house; no one who utters lies shall continue before my eyes.

Psa 101:8 Morning by morning I will destroy all the wicked in the land, cutting off all the evildoers from the city of the LORD.

David surely knew about these two wolves. And David was not about to feed the wicked wolf. Paul knew about these two wolves. In fact, all of the prophets and all of the apostles knew about these two wolves. And what is most interesting about this old Indian legend is that as far as we know the American Indian not even heard the gospel message. And so, this leads us right back to the very Holy Spirit of God that dwells with in men. This is what Paul tells us in the book of romans 2:13-16:

Rom 2:14 For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law.

Rom 2:15 They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience

also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them
Rom 2:16 on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

And so, it was... with this old Indian chief and his grandson. They were a law unto themselves, showing that the work of the law was written on their hearts. When other conscience also bore witness. Once again my friends I ask you how great is our god? I would submit to you my friends that his holy spirit goes places where we cannot fathom. His very spirit dwells deep inside those whom we would never expect. There is no evidence found in all of the bible that our father will leave even one behind. There is no evidence found in all of scripture that our father will leave behind one person who chooses good over evil.

While other gods are commanding us to pass our children through a fire of flames to the Devil himself... Our God also asks that we pass our children through a fire. But the fire that we pass our children through is not a fire of flames... but a fire of the spirit, a fire of righteousness, a fire of trials and tribulations that only strengthens us and makes us stronger. The feet of our messiah are bronzed... because he too... just like us... walked through the same fire... the same trials... the same tribulations that we do. There is no sin that he has not been tempted with. There is no place that we go today that he is not gone.

Yeshua our messiah was indeed a man... a human being made a flesh and bone just like you and I. And even though he now sits at the right hand of our father in heaven... and is no longer made of flesh and bone... he was indeed begotten by our father just as we were created our father. And so... let there be no doubt in anyone's mind, that our messiah was fully man. And even though the spirit of our father in heaven dwelt within him... He was indeed created a man just like you and I. Let us turn to 1st Timothy 1:2-5:

*1Ti 2:5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, **the man** Christ Jesus,*

1Ti 2:6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

And yes, we are well aware of those who would argue against what we are told in this scripture. And yes, we are well aware of those who preach the wisdom of men instead of the wisdom of our Father in Heaven that we find through his God breathed scriptures. Nevertheless... The wisdom of men will never supersede the wisdom of our God breathed scriptures. Seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear... nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: ““You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see... but never perceive.”

And so just as our messiah tells us we must indeed be aware of those who indeed hear but never understand and those who indeed do see but never perceive. Once again... the warning is there, and once again we can see that our father in heaven gives us fair warning.

And so, with that being said I think it's important that we understand all of the things that our father in heaven has given us. Not only has he given us these things... But he has freely given these things. Let's take the time and go back to the beginning... back to Genesis 1:1 through 2:8:

Gen 1:1 *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*

Gen 1:2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Gen 1:3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

Gen 1:4 And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness.

Gen 1:5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Gen 1:6 And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters."

Gen 1:7 And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so.

Gen 1:8 And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

Gen 1:9 And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so.

Gen 1:10 God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:11 And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so.

Gen 1:12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:13 And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

Gen 1:14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years,

Gen 1:15 and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so.

Gen 1:16 And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars.

Gen 1:17 And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,

Gen 1:18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:19 And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

Gen 1:20 And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens."

Gen 1:21 So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”

Gen 1:23 And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

Gen 1:24 And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so.

Gen 1:25 And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:26 Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

Gen 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Gen 1:29 And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.

Gen 1:30 And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

Gen 1:31 And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Gen 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

Gen 2:2 And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.

Gen 2:3 So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

Gen 2:4 These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

Gen 2:5 When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground,

Gen 2:6 and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground—

Gen 2:7 then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Gen 2:8 And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.

And all of this our father in heaven gave to man. And all of these things God gave man to have dominion over. Not one leaf, not one blade of grass, not one hair upon our heads grows without the blessing of our father in heaven. The sun does not rise nor does it set, and the Moon does

not give its light, and the stars do not shine, without his commandment. The very air that we breathe, the very breath that we take, the very spark that causes our hearts to beat within our chests... comes from him. We do not own the very bodies that we possess. And when our spirits are required of us... we don't even have the power to extend our lives by one second. We own nothing other than what our father gives to us... And all that he gives to us belongs to him. How is it then that today's modern-day professing Christian does not fear God? Even though it is written that the fear of God is the beginning of knowledge... I would submit to you my friends that this is exactly why they do not fear God... It is because they are without knowledge. Once again, they are always seeing but never perceiving. Forever do they study but they never understand.

But during this feast of Sukkot we who know and understand the importance of the commandment of our father... and that the very love of God... that is that we keep his commandments and that his commandments are not burdensome. We fully know and understand what the true Biblical definition of the love of God is. And so even in this Babylonian world that we now live in... we strive to practice the very laws, commandments, precepts, and appointments that he has put before us. Because we know that our God is the same yesterday and today and tomorrow. And we know that he cared about his laws yesterday he cares about his laws today and he will care about his law tomorrow. And so, during this feast of Sukkot let us rejoice... and let us fellowship. And as we feast before our father in heaven and give thanks... let us take the time to count the blessings not only of the agricultural harvests...but the full bounty of what we've been given in our lives.

Yahovah is righteous in all His ways, gracious in all His works. Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His names sake. We being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in his Son Yahshua Hamashiach... are being refined, and strengthened through the fire of his Ruach Hakodesh... the very Spirit of our Father himself. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!" And holy, holy, holy, Is the Son of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob, who was and is and is to come!" Let's turn to Acts 17:26-31:

Act 17:26 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,

Act 17:27 that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,

Act 17:28 for "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we are indeed his offspring."

Act 17:29 Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.

Act 17:30 The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,

Act 17:31 because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the

dead.”

Once again, my friends, here found in the scripture... our father has fixed the day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a “MAN” whom he has appointed, of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead. Let there be no mistake my friends there is only one mediator between God and man... the man Yahshua Hamashiach... Jesus our Messiah... who was indeed just as the scripture proclaims... a “man”.

Blessed and holy is our father in heaven, and blessed and holy are all of his gifts. Blessed and holy is his patience. Bless and a holy as his mercy. Blessed and holy is his grace. Blessed and holy is his righteousness. Blessed and holy is his forgiveness. And blessed and holy is his only begotten son who is our Passover lamb, who has atoned for the sins of the whole world.

Let there be no doubt in our minds or in our hearts that the Sukkot we celebrate today is nothing more than a shadow of the Sukkot that we will soon celebrate when our father and his son will once again tabernacle with us. And at the closing of this year my hope and my prayer is that we will all reflect on what we’ve learned through our trials and tribulations of this past year. And I hope and I pray that the trials and tribulations that we have passed through this year will have strengthened us for the year to come.

As we close out this year’s feast of Tabernacles this Wednesday October 11th with a day of rest... Let us all pray for the discernment and the endurance that we will all need for the on-coming year. And let us rejoice in knowing that our father is still in control, and still sits on his throne with his only begotten son who sits at his right hand. And let us rejoice in knowing that his return is closer now than when we first believed.

And with that... I’d like to close with 1st Peter 1:17-25:

1Pe 1:17 And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile,

1Pe 1:18 knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold,

1Pe 1:19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

1Pe 1:20 He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you

1Pe 1:21 who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

1Pe 1:22 Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,

1Pe 1:23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

1Pe 1:24 for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers,

*and the flower falls,
1Pe 1:25 but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was
preached to you.*