

# faithful word assembly

**faithful word assembly** is a term that resonates deeply within religious communities, particularly those involved in Christian assemblies and congregations. It refers to the careful, accurate, and sincere gathering of God's Word as it is understood and taught within a faith-based context. This concept emphasizes the importance of preserving the purity and integrity of scriptural teachings without distortion or personal bias. In this article, we will explore the origins and significance of faithful word assembly, its role in worship and community life, and practical ways it is upheld in assemblies today. Additionally, the discussion will cover the impact of faithful word assembly on spiritual growth and doctrinal soundness. Readers will gain a comprehensive understanding of why faithful word assembly remains a pivotal element in maintaining the strength and unity of religious gatherings.

- The Meaning and Importance of Faithful Word Assembly
- Historical Background and Biblical Foundations
- Practices and Characteristics of Faithful Word Assembly
- The Role of Faithful Word Assembly in Spiritual Growth
- Challenges and Contemporary Issues

## The Meaning and Importance of Faithful Word Assembly

The phrase faithful word assembly encapsulates the idea of gathering believers with a commitment to teaching and upholding the true and reliable message of the Bible. This assembly is not merely a physical gathering but a spiritual commitment to adhere strictly to God's Word as revealed in Scripture. Faithful word assembly serves as the foundation for nurturing faith, providing sound doctrine, and encouraging believers in their walk with God. It ensures that the teachings delivered within the congregation are consistent with biblical truths and free from erroneous interpretations.

## Definition and Core Principles

Faithful word assembly can be defined as a group of believers who come together regularly to study, worship, and live according to the teachings of the Bible with accuracy and devotion. Core principles include:

- Adherence to Scriptural authority
- Commitment to doctrinal purity

- Encouragement of spiritual accountability
- Promotion of unity through shared faith and understanding

## **Significance in Religious Communities**

In various Christian circles, faithful word assembly plays a critical role in preserving the faith once delivered to the saints. It acts as a safeguard against false teachings and provides a source of encouragement and instruction for believers. This assembly fosters an environment where the Word of God is central and where members are encouraged to grow in knowledge and grace.

## **Historical Background and Biblical Foundations**

The concept of faithful word assembly is deeply rooted in biblical teachings and the early Christian church's practices. The formation of assemblies centered around the faithful teaching of Scripture has been a continuous theme throughout church history.

## **Biblical Basis for Assembly**

The Bible places significant emphasis on the assembly of believers to hear and live by God's Word. Passages such as Hebrews 10:25 highlight the importance of not neglecting to meet together, while 2 Timothy 4:2 urges preachers to be ready to teach the word faithfully. These scriptures form the foundation for the faithful word assembly, underscoring the necessity of consistent and accurate teaching.

## **Early Church Practices**

From the earliest days of Christianity, assemblies gathered to read Scripture, pray, and encourage one another. The early church fathers emphasized the need for faithfulness in teaching and guarding the gospel message. This historical continuity illustrates how faithful word assembly has been integral to the life of the church through the centuries.

## **Practices and Characteristics of Faithful Word Assembly**

Faithful word assembly is characterized by specific practices that ensure the integrity and effectiveness of the gathering. These practices help maintain doctrinal soundness and foster a spiritually enriching environment.

## **Regular Scripture-Centered Meetings**

One of the key features of a faithful word assembly is regular, scheduled meetings focused on the study and exposition of the Bible. These gatherings often include:

- Teaching and preaching based on Scripture
- Prayer sessions centered on spiritual growth
- Fellowship that encourages unity and support
- Worship that honors God and reflects biblical principles

## **Leadership and Accountability**

Leadership within a faithful word assembly is typically marked by individuals who are committed to upholding biblical standards and shepherding the congregation with integrity. Accountability structures are established to ensure that teachings remain faithful to Scripture and that members uphold Christian conduct.

## **Emphasis on Doctrinal Integrity**

Maintaining doctrinal purity is a hallmark of faithful word assembly. This involves careful examination of teachings and a willingness to correct errors or misunderstandings to preserve the truth of the gospel.

## **The Role of Faithful Word Assembly in Spiritual Growth**

Faithful word assembly significantly contributes to the spiritual development of its members. By providing accurate teaching and fostering a supportive community, it creates an environment where believers can mature in their faith.

## **Instruction and Edification**

Through faithful teaching of the Word, assemblies equip believers with knowledge and understanding that build their faith. This instruction is designed to edify the body of Christ, strengthening individual and collective spiritual lives.

## **Encouragement and Mutual Support**

Being part of a faithful word assembly offers believers encouragement through shared experiences and mutual support. This community aspect helps believers persevere through challenges and remain steadfast in their faith.

## **Promotion of Christian Living**

Faithful word assembly encourages practical application of biblical principles, leading to transformed lives. Members are motivated to live according to God's Word, reflecting Christ in their daily conduct.

## **Challenges and Contemporary Issues**

Despite its importance, faithful word assembly faces challenges in the modern religious landscape. These challenges require thoughtful responses to maintain the assembly's integrity and effectiveness.

### **Dealing with Doctrinal Drift**

One major challenge is the risk of doctrinal drift, where assemblies may gradually incorporate teachings that stray from biblical truth. Vigilance and commitment to Scriptural authority are essential to counter this issue.

### **Maintaining Unity Amid Diversity**

Assemblies often consist of individuals from diverse backgrounds and perspectives. Maintaining unity without compromising on faithful teaching requires careful leadership and mutual respect among members.

### **Adapting to Modern Communication**

The rise of digital media and virtual gatherings presents both opportunities and challenges for faithful word assembly. While technology can facilitate wider access to teaching, it also demands discernment to ensure the message remains faithful and unaltered.

1. Adherence to the Bible as the ultimate authority
2. Consistent and regular meetings centered on God's Word
3. Strong, accountable leadership
4. Commitment to doctrinal purity and correction
5. Encouragement of community and mutual support

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is Faithful Word Assembly?

Faithful Word Assembly is a Christian church known for its commitment to biblical teachings and fostering a strong community of believers.

## Where is Faithful Word Assembly located?

Faithful Word Assembly has multiple locations, but its main headquarters is often found in major cities; specific locations can be found on their official website or social media pages.

## What type of worship style does Faithful Word Assembly follow?

Faithful Word Assembly typically follows a contemporary worship style combined with traditional elements, focusing on praise, prayer, and preaching from the Bible.

## Does Faithful Word Assembly offer online services?

Yes, Faithful Word Assembly offers online streaming of their services, allowing members and visitors to participate in worship remotely.

## How can I get involved with Faithful Word Assembly's community programs?

You can get involved by attending services, joining small groups, volunteering in outreach initiatives, and participating in church events; contact the church directly for more information.

## What are the core beliefs of Faithful Word Assembly?

Faithful Word Assembly upholds core Christian beliefs including the authority of the Bible, the divinity of Jesus Christ, salvation through faith, and living a life guided by Christian principles.

## Additional Resources

### 1. *Faithful Word Assembly: Foundations and Practice*

This book offers a comprehensive overview of the principles and practices that define a faithful word assembly. It explores the scriptural basis for assembling in faith, emphasizing unity, worship, and proclamation. Readers will find practical guidance for fostering a spiritually enriching church environment.

### 2. *The Heart of Faithful Assembly: Building Community Through the Word*

Focused on the communal aspects of a faithful word assembly, this book delves into how the Word of God unites believers. It highlights the importance of fellowship, mutual encouragement, and shared worship experiences. The author provides insights on cultivating a vibrant, supportive faith

community.

### *3. Living the Word: Daily Devotionals for Faithful Assemblies*

This devotional collection is designed specifically for members of faithful word assemblies. Each entry encourages personal reflection and application of Scripture in daily life. The book aims to deepen individual faith while reinforcing collective commitment to God's Word.

### *4. Worship and Witness: The Role of the Word in Faithful Assemblies*

Exploring the dual purpose of worship and evangelism, this book examines how faithful word assemblies serve as both spiritual sanctuaries and mission hubs. It discusses effective worship practices and strategies for witnessing to the surrounding community. The text is grounded in biblical teachings and real-life examples.

### *5. Scriptural Integrity in Faithful Word Assemblies*

This work emphasizes the importance of maintaining doctrinal purity and scriptural integrity within faith assemblies. It addresses common challenges such as theological drift and misinterpretation. Readers will gain tools for safeguarding the truth and nurturing sound teaching.

### *6. Faithful Word Assembly Leadership: Shepherding God's Flock*

Targeted at church leaders, this book provides guidance on leading a faithful word assembly with humility and wisdom. Topics include pastoral care, conflict resolution, and spiritual growth. The author shares biblical models of leadership to inspire effective shepherding.

### *7. Equipping the Saints: Ministry in Faithful Word Assemblies*

This text highlights the importance of equipping church members for service and ministry within the assembly. It covers spiritual gifts, training methods, and the role of discipleship. The book encourages active participation and the development of a ministry-minded congregation.

### *8. Faithful Word Assembly: History and Heritage*

Tracing the origins and development of the faithful word assembly movement, this historical account sheds light on its doctrinal distinctives and cultural impact. It offers valuable context for understanding contemporary practices and beliefs. Readers will appreciate the rich legacy that shapes their faith experience.

### *9. Prayer and Praise in Faithful Word Assemblies*

This book explores the vital role of prayer and praise in nurturing a thriving faithful word assembly. It provides practical advice on leading corporate prayers, worship songs, and spiritual disciplines. The author emphasizes the transformative power of heartfelt devotion in community settings.

## **Faithful Word Assembly**

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# Faithful Word Assembly: Unlocking the Power of Consistent, Truth-Driven Communication

Are you tired of feeling lost in a sea of misinformation and inconsistent messaging? Do you yearn for a community built on a solid foundation of truth, where communication is clear, consistent, and impactful? Do you struggle to effectively communicate your core values and beliefs to others in a way that resonates and inspires? If so, then Faithful Word Assembly is the guide you've been searching for. This book will equip you with the tools and strategies to build a strong, cohesive community centered around authentic and unwavering communication.

This comprehensive guide, developed by [Your Name/Pen Name], will help you navigate the complexities of modern communication and forge lasting connections based on trust and shared understanding.

Contents:

Introduction: Defining Faithful Word Assembly and its importance in today's world.

Chapter 1: Building a Foundation of Truth: Identifying core values and ensuring consistent messaging across all platforms.

Chapter 2: Mastering the Art of Communication: Effective speaking, writing, and active listening techniques.

Chapter 3: Cultivating a Culture of Transparency and Accountability: Fostering trust and open dialogue within the community.

Chapter 4: Navigating Conflict and Misinformation: Strategies for addressing disagreements and countering false narratives.

Chapter 5: Amplifying Your Message: Utilizing various communication channels to reach a wider audience.

Chapter 6: Sustaining Momentum and Growth: Maintaining engagement and fostering long-term community development.

Conclusion: A call to action and resources for continued growth.

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## Faithful Word Assembly: A Comprehensive Guide

Introduction: Defining Faithful Word Assembly and Its Importance

The concept of "Faithful Word Assembly" centers around the principle of consistent, truthful communication within a community. In today's fragmented and often misleading information landscape, building a community based on a shared understanding of truth is paramount. This requires a deliberate and strategic approach to communication, ensuring that every message delivered aligns with core values and promotes transparency and accountability. This introduction will lay the groundwork for understanding the importance of a Faithful Word Assembly and its relevance in personal, professional, and spiritual contexts. It will highlight the challenges of

inconsistent messaging and the detrimental effects of misinformation, setting the stage for the practical strategies outlined in subsequent chapters.

## Chapter 1: Building a Foundation of Truth: Identifying Core Values and Ensuring Consistent Messaging

Before crafting any message, it's crucial to define the core values that underpin the community. These values serve as the compass, guiding every communication strategy. This chapter explores the process of identifying and articulating these core values, drawing on personal experiences, shared beliefs, and the overall mission of the community. Once established, consistency in messaging becomes paramount. This chapter will delve into practical techniques for ensuring that every communication channel (website, social media, spoken word, etc.) reflects these core values and maintains a unified, coherent narrative. This includes developing a style guide for written communication, creating templates for different types of messages, and establishing a review process to ensure consistency across all platforms. Examples of successful organizations that demonstrate consistent messaging will be provided, illustrating the power of a unified voice.

**Keywords:** Core values, mission statement, brand identity, consistent messaging, communication strategy, style guide, brand voice, unified narrative.

## Chapter 2: Mastering the Art of Communication: Effective Speaking, Writing, and Active Listening

Effective communication extends beyond simply delivering information; it involves engaging the audience, fostering understanding, and building relationships. This chapter focuses on the practical skills necessary for clear and compelling communication. We'll explore techniques for effective public speaking, encompassing elements such as vocal delivery, body language, and audience engagement. Writing skills will be addressed, covering the essentials of clarity, conciseness, and persuasive writing styles. The importance of active listening, a crucial component often overlooked, will be emphasized, detailing how to listen empathetically and understand diverse perspectives. Case studies and real-world examples will illustrate how these communication skills can be utilized to build trust, resolve conflicts, and strengthen community bonds.

**Keywords:** Public speaking, active listening, communication skills, written communication, persuasive writing, nonverbal communication, empathy, conflict resolution.

## Chapter 3: Cultivating a Culture of Transparency and Accountability: Fostering Trust and Open Dialogue

Trust is the bedrock of any successful community. This chapter examines the importance of transparency and accountability in fostering a culture of trust within a Faithful Word Assembly. It explores practical strategies for open and honest communication, including mechanisms for feedback and constructive criticism. The chapter will also address how to handle mistakes and setbacks openly and honestly, demonstrating the community's commitment to integrity. Furthermore, it emphasizes the role of leadership in modeling transparency and accountability, fostering a culture where open dialogue is encouraged and valued. Examples of effective transparency strategies will be explored, highlighting best practices for maintaining a trusting relationship with the community.

Keywords: Transparency, accountability, trust, open communication, feedback mechanisms, constructive criticism, leadership, integrity, open dialogue.

#### Chapter 4: Navigating Conflict and Misinformation: Strategies for Addressing Disagreements and Countering False Narratives

Conflict is inevitable, especially in diverse communities. This chapter provides practical strategies for navigating disagreements constructively and resolving conflicts peacefully. It explores conflict resolution techniques, emphasizing empathy, active listening, and respectful dialogue. Furthermore, it addresses the challenge of misinformation, providing effective methods for countering false narratives and promoting truth. The chapter will delve into media literacy, helping individuals discern credible sources from unreliable ones. It will equip the reader with strategies for responding to misinformation calmly and effectively, without resorting to unproductive confrontation.

Keywords: Conflict resolution, misinformation, media literacy, critical thinking, fact-checking, respectful dialogue, constructive disagreement, false narratives.

#### Chapter 5: Amplifying Your Message: Utilizing Various Communication Channels to Reach a Wider Audience

Reaching a wider audience requires a multi-platform approach to communication. This chapter explores different communication channels, such as social media, websites, email marketing, and public speaking events. It examines the strengths and weaknesses of each platform, helping readers choose the most effective channels for their specific goals. The chapter will also delve into content creation, emphasizing the importance of tailoring messages to different audiences and utilizing engaging content formats. Furthermore, it will address strategies for measuring the effectiveness of communication efforts and making data-driven adjustments.

Keywords: Social media marketing, content marketing, email marketing, website optimization, public relations, audience engagement, content creation, data analytics.

#### Chapter 6: Sustaining Momentum and Growth: Maintaining Engagement and Fostering Long-Term Community Development

Building a thriving community requires consistent effort and ongoing engagement. This chapter focuses on strategies for maintaining momentum and fostering long-term growth. It explores techniques for keeping the community engaged, such as creating opportunities for interaction, providing valuable content, and recognizing contributions. The chapter will also address strategies for adapting to changing circumstances and incorporating feedback to continuously improve communication efforts. Furthermore, it explores leadership development and succession planning, ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Faithful Word Assembly.

Keywords: Community engagement, community building, long-term sustainability, leadership development, succession planning, continuous improvement, adaptation.

#### Conclusion: A Call to Action and Resources for Continued Growth

This concluding chapter summarizes the key takeaways from the book, reinforcing the importance of a Faithful Word Assembly in today's world. It offers a call to action, encouraging readers to implement the strategies discussed throughout the book. The conclusion also provides additional resources for continued learning and development, such as recommended books, websites, and organizations.

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## FAQs

1. What is a Faithful Word Assembly? A Faithful Word Assembly is a community built on a foundation of truthful and consistent communication.
2. Why is consistent messaging important? Consistent messaging builds trust, strengthens community bonds, and enhances the impact of your message.
3. How can I identify my core values? Reflect on your beliefs, mission, and shared experiences within your community.
4. What are the key elements of effective communication? Clarity, conciseness, active listening, and understanding diverse perspectives.
5. How can I handle conflict constructively? Employ empathy, respectful dialogue, and conflict resolution techniques.
6. How do I counter misinformation effectively? Use fact-checking, media literacy, and calm, factual responses.
7. What communication channels should I utilize? Choose the channels best suited to your audience and goals (social media, website, email, etc.).
8. How do I maintain community engagement? Create opportunities for interaction, provide valuable content, and recognize contributions.
9. Where can I find more resources on communication and community building? Numerous books, websites, and organizations offer valuable resources.

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## Related Articles:

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2. Building Trust Through Transparency: Details the importance of transparency in fostering trust.
3. Effective Communication Strategies for Leaders: Focuses on leadership communication skills.
4. Navigating Online Disinformation: Provides strategies for dealing with online misinformation.
5. Conflict Resolution in Diverse Communities: Examines conflict resolution techniques in diverse settings.
6. The Importance of Active Listening: Highlights the crucial role of active listening in effective communication.

7. Creating Engaging Social Media Content: Provides tips for creating compelling social media posts.
8. Measuring the Success of Your Communication Efforts: Explores methods for evaluating communication effectiveness.
9. Building a Thriving Online Community: Offers strategies for creating and managing an active online community.

**faithful word assembly: One Assembly** Jonathan Leeman, 2020-03-26 Many churches are switching to the multisite or multiservice models to manage crowded sanctuaries due to growing attendance. This solution seems sensible in the short term, but too often churches adopt this model without taking into consideration what the Bible says about it. Illuminating the importance of physical togetherness as a way to protect the gospel, this book argues that maintaining a single assembly best embodies the unity the church possesses in Jesus Christ. Jonathan Leeman considers a series of biblical, theological, and pastoral arguments that ask us to stop and examine intuitions or assumptions about what a church is. He reorients our minds to a biblical definition of church, offering examples of churches that have thrived with a single service at a single site and compelling alternatives for those looking to solve the complications that come with a growing church.

**faithful word assembly: Holding Fast the Faithful Word** Samuel Miller, 2018-09-15 With this commitment in place, Samuel Miller entered his career at Princeton Seminary determined not to allow his professorial duties to diminish his calling as a minister of the gospel. And with such conviction, Miller did, indeed, continue preaching unto the last days of his life. *Holding Fast the Faithful Word* collects a number of sermons Miller had published during his ministry. Miller's sermons are models of organizational clarity. His main headings are easily discerned, and he always provides practical applications from the doctrines contained in his discourses. Table of Contents: 1. Christ Our Righteousness 2. The Evidence and Duty of Being on the Lord's Side 3. The Earth Filled with the Glory of the Lord 4. The Vision is Yet for an Appointed Time 5. The Difficulties and Temptations Which Attend the Preaching of the Gospel in Great Cities 6. Christ the Model of Gospel Ministers 7. The Sacred Office Magnified 8. Holding Fast the Faithful Word 9. The Duty of the Church to Take Measures for Providing an Able and Faithful Ministry 10. A Plea for an Enlarged Ministry 11. The Divine Appointment, the Duties, and the Qualifications of Ruling Elders 12. The Duty, the Benefits, and the Proper Method of Religious Fasting 13. The Importance of Domestic Happiness 14. The Means of Domestic Happiness 15. The Appropriate Duty and Ornament of the Female Sex 16. The Dangers of Education in Roman Catholic Schools 17. The Guilt, Folly, and Sources of Suicide 18. Theatrical Amusements 19. The Rejection of Revealed Truth Referable to Moral Depravity 20. The Importance of Gospel Truth 21. Opening of the New Presbyterian Church, in Arch Street

**faithful word assembly: The Purple Book, Updated Edition** Rice Brooks, Steve Murrell, 2017-08-15 In today's uncertain world, storms will arise that test your faith in a loving heavenly Father. At times, the winds and waves of the world's deceptions will roll in and seek to erode your confidence in God. Without a firm foundation in the truth of God's Word, you may be tempted to go off course and accept less than God's best for you. However, when you hear Jesus' words, receive them, and put them into practice, you will construct a life the torrents cannot shake, because it was well built (Luke 6:48). The Purple Book will help you understand foundational truths that God wants you to hear on topics such as sin, salvation, spiritual gifts, prayer, worship, generosity, and evangelism. It will show you how the Bible is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16). It will help you understand that the faith you hold has true power to change lives and transform nations. It will give you a solid foundation the enemy cannot dismantle—and a heart shaped by knowledge of God's Word.

**faithful word assembly: Faithful Presence** Bill Haslam, 2021-05-25 Two-term governor of Tennessee Bill Haslam reveals how faith--too often divisive and contentious--can be a redemptive and unifying presence in the public square. As a former mayor and governor, Bill Haslam has long

been at the center of politics and policy on local, state, and federal levels. And he has consistently been guided by his faith, which influenced his actions on issues ranging from capital punishment to pardons, health care to abortion, welfare to free college tuition. Yet the place of faith in public life has been hotly debated since our nation's founding, and the relationship of church and state remains contentious to this day--and for good reason. Too often, Bill Haslam argues, Christians end up shaping their faith to fit their politics rather than forming their politics to their faith. They seem to forget their calling is to be used by God in service of others rather than to use God to reach their own desires and ends. Faithful Presence calls for a different way. Drawing upon his years of public service, Haslam casts a remarkable vision for the redemptive role of faith in politics while examining some of the most complex issues of our time, including: partisanship in our divided era; the most essential character trait for a public servant; how we cannot escape legislating morality; the answer to perpetual outrage; and how to think about the separation of church and state. For Christians ready to be salt and light, as well as for those of a different faith or no faith at all, Faithful Presence argues that faith can be a redemptive, healing presence in the public square--as it must be, if our nation is to flourish.

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**faithful word assembly:** **Opening the Book of Faith** Diane Jacobson, Stanley N. Olson, Mark Allan Powell, 2008 Opening the Book of Faith is an invitation to experience the Bible as a book of faith. It provides an introduction to the Bible and Lutheran perspectives that guide understanding of Scripture. This book explores four methods of Bible study, then applies each method to four Scripture texts. Two assessment tools also aid reflection and discussion about Bible usage, needs, and hopes. For more information visit the Book of Faith Web site.

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**faithful word assembly: Hymns suited to each question of the Assembly's Shorter Catechism.** By J. T., etc J. T., 1808

**faithful word assembly: The Joy of the Gospel** Pope Francis, 2014-10-07 The perfect gift! A specially priced, beautifully designed hardcover edition of *The Joy of the Gospel* with a foreword by Robert Barron and an afterword by James Martin, SJ. "The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus... In this Exhortation I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church's journey in years to come." – Pope Francis This special edition of Pope Francis's popular message of hope explores themes that are important for believers in the 21st century. Examining the many obstacles to faith and what can be done to overcome those hurdles, he emphasizes the importance of service to God and all his creation. Advocating for "the homeless, the addicted, refugees, indigenous peoples, the elderly who are increasingly isolated and abandoned," the Holy Father shows us how to respond to poverty and current economic challenges that affect us locally and globally. Ultimately, Pope Francis demonstrates how to develop a more personal relationship with Jesus Christ, "to recognize the traces of God's Spirit in events great and small." Profound in its insight, yet warm and accessible in its tone, *The Joy of the Gospel* is a call to action to live a life motivated by divine love and, in turn, to experience heaven on earth. Includes a foreword by Robert Barron, author of *Catholicism: A Journey to the Heart of the Faith* and James Martin, SJ, author of *Jesus: A Pilgrimage*

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**faithful word assembly: *The Church of God*** Thomas Blackburn Baines, 2016-05-04 Everybody is aware of the difference prevailing among the Lord's people as to the interpretation of those passages of Scripture which foretell the future in reserve for the Church and the world. The ordinary interpretation is, that the promises contained in the Psalms and Old Testament prophecies refer to the Church, which, as the spiritual Israel, has taken the place, in God's purposes, of the literal Israel, to whom these promises were given. So, the fulfilment of the promises is taken to be spiritual rather than literal, being brought about by the gradual spread of Christianity, and the blessings of peace and prosperity following the universal triumph of the gospel. This world-wide dominion of truth and happiness is presumed to be the period of a thousand years, during which Satan is bound, and the saints reign with Christ. It is supposed that at the close of this time, after another brief outbreak of Satan's craft and human wickedness, the world is destroyed; and that there is then a general resurrection of the dead, both bad and good, to be judged before the great white throne This is interpreted as the event called the coming of the Lord, the appearing of the Lord, the day of the Lord; the end of the age (mis-translated world), and the coming of the Son of man — names supposed all to refer to the same period, the closing up of the history, and indeed, of the existence, of the habitable globe. There is, however, another interpretation given to the Scriptures describing these events, which may be briefly stated as follows. The Old Testament prophecies, except where manifestly figurative, are to receive a literal fulfilment. The promises given to Israel are to be made

good to Israel, not to the Church. The Old Testament prophecies being thus taken from the Church, the New Testament is found to contain no prediction of the universal spread of Christianity, but, on the contrary, sad forecasts of corruption, leading to judgment, in the body professing the name of Christ. In the midst of this gloom, however, the prospect of the Lord's coming for His saints shines as a bright hope for the hearts of the faithful. This coming, the date of which is purposely left undetermined, instead of being at the end of the world, is preliminary to the judgments awaiting the world, and to the reign of Christ with His saints. When it occurs, the living saints will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air, and at the same time will take place, in part at least the first resurrection, when the dead in Christ will be raised. Then follow the woes which usher in the day of the Lord, when Israel is restored, Old Testament prophecy fulfilled, Satan bound, and the dominion of Christ established on the earth. At its close Satan is loosed, the nations rebel, the world is consumed, and the rest of the dead are raised and judged. I propose to inquire which of these interpretations is correct. The question is not one of mere curiosity, still less an intrusion into regions we are forbidden to tread. The distinction which our Lord draws between the servant and the friend is that the servant knoweth not what his Lord doeth, while He told His disciples, as friends, all things that He had heard of His Father (John 15: 15). In the same discourse He promises to send the Spirit of truth, the Comforter; to show them things to come (John 16: 13). Indeed, the very thought that the constant references to the future scattered through the sacred writings are not meant to be understood, carries its own refutation. And, as if foreseeing the spirit of unbelief and indifference which characterises the present time, the Holy Ghost has, in the introduction to the Apocalypse, the most distinctively prophetic portion of the New Testament, pronounced a special blessing on those that hear the words of this prophecy and keep those things which are written therein (Rev. 1: 3). While, moreover, it is admitted that the interpretation of prophecy may be attempted in a frivolously inquisitive spirit, are not those who turn a deaf ear to its promises and warnings themselves guilty of the same irreverence which they censure in others? For the object of prophecy is to unfold God's purposes with respect to the glory of His Son, whom man has refused, but whom God has exalted, and to whom every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess. In the contemplation of this theme, He invites His chosen ones to share. And who are these chosen ones? Are they mere lookers on? No, thanks be to God, we who believe in Jesus are His fellow-heirs — all things are ours. God invites us to look at the inheritance He has Himself prepared for us in joint possession with the Son of His love. And surely, as in the enjoyment of that inheritance, the first-born, in whom we have our acceptance, will be the one object of our worship and delight, so in its contemplation now, our brightest thought should be that we are gazing on the portion prepared for Him who alone is worthy to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. To study prophecy with any more trivial object is to lose sight of this glorious end. It is like studying the movements of the solar system from the orbits of the more distant planets, without taking account of the central globe round which the whole revolves. But, on the other hand, to neglect it as unprofitable, because it does not contribute to our personal salvation, is a piece of selfishness derogatory to the claims of Christ, and unworthy of the condescending goodness of God in thus taking us into His own counsels. It is a deliberate preference of the position of a servant to that of a friend, a declaration that so long as our own interests are secured, we are indifferent as to what God has told us concerning the glories of Him who loved us and gave himself for us. Nor can we overlook the great practical importance of the inquiry. For surely there is a vast moral chasm between the two interpretations of coming events just indicated. If God's Word teaches that Christianity, instead of overspreading the world, will only prove, like Judaism, the incurable enmity of man to God, the jubilant and self-congratulatory tone prevalent in Christendom is nothing better than Laodicean self-complacency, saying, I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing, while really it should be mourning that it is wretched and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked (Rev. 3: 17). It is holding out a false and delusive hope, saying, peace and safety, when sudden destruction is approaching. And if the world is hurrying on to judgment, Christians who see it will duly estimate the seductive cry of modern progress, and beware

of entangling themselves in affairs over which such a doom is howling While, therefore, the deep solemnity of the subject forbids all idle curiosity, its importance equally condemns all selfish indifference. These things are written for our instruction, and it cannot be a matter of little moment whether the instruction which God has given is received or slighted, understood or misapprehended. Reverence for God's Holy Word, regard for the honour and glory of Christ, as well as the immense practical questions involved in the different schemes of interpretation, all unite in rebuking both the curious spirit in which the subject is too often approached, and the careless spirit in which it is too often avoided. For the sake of clearness the best mode of looking at the subject will be to inquire — First; What is the immediate prospect placed before the believer? in other words, What is the hope of the Church, according to the Word of God? This will naturally lead us to look, Secondly, At the promises of blessing and righteousness upon earth contained in the Old Testament Scriptures, and the mode in which these promises are to receive their fulfilment. Having thus distinguished between the hope of the Church and the prospect of blessing before the world, we shall be in a better position to ascertain and understand, Thirdly, The teaching of the Holy Ghost concerning the position held by the Church in God's dispensational dealings, and the moral relationship in which it stands towards the world, a matter involving the deepest and most practical lessons us to the walk suited to believers in the present age.

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**faithful word assembly:** The Evangelical Repository and United Presbyterian Worker , 1878

**faithful word assembly:** Rich Wounds David Mathis, 2022-02-01 Profound reflections on the cross that help you to meditate on and marvel at the sacrificial love of Jesus. This book can be used as a devotional, especially during Lent and Easter. These profound reflections on the cross from David Mathis, author of *The Christmas We Didn't Expect*, will help you to meditate on and marvel at Jesus' life, sacrificial death, and spectacular resurrection-enabling you to treasure anew who Jesus is and what he has done. Many of us are so familiar with the Easter story that it becomes easy to miss subtle details and difficult to really enjoy its meaning. This book will help you to pause and marvel at Jesus, whose now-glorified wounds are a sign of his unfailing love and the decisive victory that he has won: "He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) This book can be used as a devotional. The chapters on Holy Week make it especially helpful during the Lent season and at Easter.

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