

## THE GREAT HEIST AND THE GREAT RECOVERY - Kahu Billy Mitchell, September 4, 2022

### A. The Great Heist - Who did the stealing?

John 10:10 NIV The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

**Not only satan! But you and I . . . our religious false confidence, the world etc.**

### B. What did the thief want to steal? The Mana of the Word of God!

#### C. Why the Mana of the Word of God? (6 points)

1. Luke 1:37 NIV For no word from God will ever fail.

2. Hosea 4:6 NASB My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

3. Matthew 4:4 NIV Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall **not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.**'"

4. Personal Relationship with Jesus : Matthew 1:21, 23 NIV <sup>21</sup>"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." <sup>23</sup>"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" [which means "God with us"].

5. Our Eternal Salvation : John 3:3 NIV Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are **born again.**"

Acts 2:21 NIV 'And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Isaiah 1:18-19 NIV <sup>18</sup> "Come now, let us settle the matter," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. <sup>19</sup> If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land;

6. "Blessings to Overflowing!!! "Lord you are my shepherd I shall not want! . . . surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life! . . . my cup runneth over!" (23rd Psalm)

#### D. How did the Great Heist occur? (3 points)

1. The Church sought the crowds and not the CHRIST and His Word!

2. Spiritual Immaturity: Hebrews 5:12-14 NIV <sup>12</sup> For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. <sup>13</sup> **For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant.** <sup>14</sup> **But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.**

3. Isaiah 6:9 NIV He said, "Go and tell this people: "'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.'" (About our hearts - Proverbs 4:23)

#### E. The Great Recovery! (6 points)

1. Matthew 5:6 NIV Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

2. Joshua 1:8-9 NIV <sup>8</sup> **Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night**, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be **prosperous and successful.**

3. Colossians 3:16-17 NASB 1995 <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup> Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

4. Proverbs 22:17-18 NIV Pay attention and turn your ear to the sayings of the wise; apply your heart to what I teach, <sup>18</sup> for it is pleasing when you **keep them in your heart** and have all of them **ready on your lips.**

5. Proverbs 4:20-23 NIV My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words.<sup>21</sup> Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart;<sup>22</sup> for **they are life to those who find them and health to one's whole body.**

6. "SAY IT!" "PRAY IT!" "TRUST IT!" "SHARE IT!" "DON'T GIVE UP!" "BE TRANSFORMED!"

#### In Conclusion: The Great Heist can end with the Great Recovery!

Psalm 91:14-16 NIV <sup>14</sup> "Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name."<sup>15</sup> He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.<sup>16</sup> With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.

AMEN AND AMEN