

“Storyline Church Online (July 31, 2021)” was published on YouTube on 7/31/21 by Storyline Church. Pastor David Asscherick is the Seventh-day Adventist minister that delivered the sermon on death using the New King James Version (NKJV), The New International Version (NIV), the New Living Translation (NLT), the Common English Bible (CEB), The Message (TM) and the Contemporary English Version (CEV). The NLT and TM are Roman Catholic Bibles. At 16:50 the Southern Adventist University name is posted and he then said he wanted welcome “those of you that are joining us from Eugene, Oregon.” Since the Storyline Church is in Eugene, OR and Southern Adventist University is in Collegedale, TN, I would take this to mean that this sermon was delivered at Southern Adventist University. The title of his sermon is “Life & Death.”

This video had been published on YouTube and I started to watch it on Sabbath, 7/31/21. I hadn’t finished it so sent it to the watch later place and when I went to look at it later the same day, it wasn’t there. I found it in my browsing history and it said it was a private video. Fortunately, I was able to find the video on the Storyline Church web site and the title there is “The God of the Living.” All time marks are as they appear on the Storyline Church web site.

David definitely has a following and has spoken on 3ABN. In the church where I have my membership the young adults are currently invited to watch an eight part video series by him.

At 2:48 he makes, as he says, a “provocative statement,” i.e., that “According to Scripture, the line between the living and the dead is blurrier than it may at first appear.” When you are using six different fake bibles, the line is indeed blurrier. He thinks his view on this may be “awesome.”

At 3:55 he says, “There are those who are alive, and by alive here I mean biologically alive; you would look at them, you would monitor all of their vital signs and say yep, he’s alive, she’s alive. There are those who are alive and yet are dead. Hum. And there are those who are dead, biologically dead, and who are yet alive.” He says if his listeners are confused, he is going to clarify things. We’ll see how clear he makes things.

At 4:22 Ephesians 2:1 is quoted as follows:

“You were dead in your transgressions and sins.” Part of Ephesians 2:1 from the NIV.

Then Ephesians 2:5 is quoted as follows:

“We were dead in transgressions.” Part of Ephesians 2:5 from the NIV.

Another NIV quotation follows:

“You were dead in your sins.” Part of Colossians 2:13 from the NIV.

At 5:11 the statement is posted, “When a person is living a life apart from God, and at odds with the holiness and happiness He has called them to, they are dead already, says Paul.”

At 5:34 David says, “People can be biologically alive and yet Paul says, yeh, you were dead in your trespasses, in your sins. But people, as we’re going to see in a moment, can actually be biologically dead, but Jesus says, naw, they’re alive.” David then refers to the example of Jesus saying Lazarus was sleeping when he was dead.

“These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.” John 11:11-14 from the King James Version (KJV); not that David ever used the KJV.

David concludes that “in order to be asleep you have to be alive.” Really? Read the above passage again. Jesus said Lazarus was “dead.” Comparing death to a sleep does not mean death is a sleep in which you are alive any more than floods clapping their hands mean floods have hands and are alive or hills being joyful means they’re alive and capable of emotion.

“Let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful together.” Psalms 98:8 from the KJV.

David reiterates that “the line between the living and the dead is blurrier than it may first appear.” David is certainly making it blurrier but it doesn’t have to be blurrier.

A passage is quoted from the NKJV at 6:35.

“Concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what what was spoken to you by God, saying, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.’ ” Matthew 23:31-32 from the NKJV.

David says at 6:58, “Now if you’re reading that verse and you’re a little bit confused, fair point. I receive that. I was a little confused the first time I thought about this verse. So Jesus here has been questioned by a group of people called the Sadducees who don’t believe in the resurrection, and so, he is basically questionin, questioning them about their own understanding of their own sacred text.” He believes he has found a fascinating pearl in Jesus saying “God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.” There is a fascinating pearl there but David didn’t find it. He says, “So hopefully we’re creating a little bit of, you know, instability here, a little bit of uncertainty where you’re like, ahhh, who is alive and who is dead? Is this, is this some sort of zombie interpretation of Scripture?”

Getting back to the passage, David believes it means that people who are biologically dead are from God’s eternal perspective alive and because they have lived lives of holiness and happiness they are merely sleeping. When taken in context and using a decent brain that hasn’t been

confused by fake bibles, there need be NO “instability” or “uncertainty” as to what Jesus, also known as God, meant. I will use the NKJV even though it’s a fake bible since it says what the real Bible says (with two exceptions) using different words.

“The same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Him and asked Him, saying: ‘Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife and raise up offspring for his brother. Now there were with us seven brothers. The first died after he had married, and having no offspring, left his wife to his brother. Likewise the second also, and the third, even to the seventh. Last of all the woman died also. Therefore in the resurrection, whose wife of the seven will she be, For they all had her.’ Jesus answered and said to them, ‘You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven. But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? God is not the god of the dead, but of the living.’ And when the multitudes heard this, they were astonished at His teaching.” Matthew 22:23-33 from the NKJV.

First, the two things that have different meanings in the NKJV compared to the KJV. In the KJV Jesus is called “Master.” Just a few verses up in Matthew 23:8 Jesus said that only “one is your Master, even Christ.” The NKJV in saying instead that only one is a “Teacher” in 23:8 demotes Christ because Paul said in 1 Corinthians 12:28 in the NKJV that “God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers.” The NKJV puts Jesus Christ behind apostles and prophets. The second difference is that in Matthew 23:33 it speaks of Jesus’ “teaching” in the NKJV instead of “doctrine” as in the KJV. Doctrine is a stronger word than teaching in that it means something with infallible, eternal and incontrovertible authority.

Taken in context, it’s not hard to understand Matthew 22:23-33.

The Sadducees question was regarding the DEAD and whether the DEAD could ever be made ALIVE again. It had NOTHING to do with whether the DEAD had been wicked or righteous. It was about the RESURRECTION of the DEAD who were just as DEAD as the wicked DEAD which Revelation 20:12 says will stand before God at Jesus’ second coming. Jesus said the ONLY way God could be the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob was because there would be a RESURRECTION of them from the DEAD. Lastly, this passage, in the real Bible, is called DOCTRINE of Jesus Christ.

At 8:56 David says, “People that are biologically alive, they’re alive, they’re breathing, they’re living, they have a pulse and a heart rate. Those people, if they are living a life disconnected from God, and not just from God but for God’s intention for their life, from God’s desire to bring them to a place of holiness and healthy, and helpfulness and happiness they, are effectively dead.”

Where have I heard something like this before?

“‘The dead’ of whom the Bible speaks are not those whose days on earth are over. When the Bible mentions ‘death’ it does not mean the separation of the spirit from the body, but the separation of the spirit from God. To be united with God and to belong to Him, is ‘life’. To be severed from God is death’.” *Communication with the Spirit World* page 162.

Communication with the Spirit World was written by Johannes Greber, a former Roman Catholic priest that became involved with the occult. The above quotation is what was spoken by a demon through a demon possessed person.

At 13:37 David reads from the NKJV.

“For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died.” 2 Corinthians 5:14 from the NKJV.

David believes this means that, “in some significant sense, all died.”

“For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:” 2 Corinthians 5:14 from the KJV.

“And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Genesis 2:16-17 from the KJV.

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” Romans 3:23 from the KJV.

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 6:23 from the KJV.

None of this has to be confusing. When we sin, the wages is death even if the sin is a little forbidden fruit. In that sense we are dead and all are dead because all have sinned. I see no need or benefit to introduce “instability” or “uncertainty” into this concept. Paul was saying in 2 Corinthians 5:14 that since Christ is said to have died for everyone it must be that everyone needs a savior because everyone has sinned and was sentenced to death.

At 16:30 David says, “This line between the living and the dead is quite a bit blurrier than we might at first, sort of observe. We see somebody, they’re biologically alive, we say, she’s alive, he’s alive. We see somebody they’re in a funeral, they’re in a morgue, they’re biologically dead. Well, kind of but not really. Because you could be alive but actually dead in trespasses and sins and you can be dead like Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and yet alive.” That’s pretty much what the demon said to Johannes Greber.

Let's take this concept a little further and apply it to a favorite Seventh-day Adventist death text. We'll pretend that, as David and the demon said, to be alive or living means were following Christ and to be dead or dying means the opposite.

“For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten.” Ecclesiastes 9:5 from the KJV.

For those following Christ know that they shall not follow Christ; but those that don't follow Christ know not anything, neither have they any more a reward for the memory of them is forgotten.” The made-up Ecclesiastes 9:5.

My prediction is that other Seventh-day Adventist ministers, seeing the wisdom of David's logic and how popular he is with young people, will introduce “instability” and “uncertainty” into their own flock.

David posts another verse at 17:11 and he says, “I love this from the New Living Translation.”

“Because God's children are human-made of flesh and blood-the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could He die, and only by dying could He break the power of the devil, who had the power of death.” Hebrews 2:14 from the NLT.

Do we accept a “Bible” just because someone, even David or a priest, loves what it says? If David can use any “Bible” he likes for doctrine, is there any reason everyone else can't pick their “Bible” because they love what it says? What David allegedly posted from the NLT isn't exactly what my NLT says; perhaps David has a different edition or maybe he edited his because he didn't exactly like what it said.

“Because God's children are human beings-made of flesh and blood-Jesus also became flesh and blood by being born in human form. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could He break the power of the Devil, who had the power of death.” Hebrews 2:14 from the NLT.

I think some people love this from the NLT.

“In those days, and even afterward, giants lived on the earth, for whenever the sons of God had intercourse with human women, they gave birth to children who became the heroes mentioned in legends of old.” Genesis 6:4 from the NLT.

That verse in the NLT makes a distinction between humans and the sons of God; that would leave angels. That contradicts Matthew 22:30 where the NLT says angels in heaven don't get married. Of course angels in heaven could have sexual intercourse without being married but if they do so I would ask why would that be wrong for me if it wasn't for them?

At 18:04 David, instead of saying Paul was the author says instead, “the author of Hebrews.” There is scholarly debate regarding who wrote Hebrews so Seventh-day Adventist ministers who are doubtful about Ellen G. Whites prophetic gift say “author of Hebrews” instead of saying “Paul.”

“The kingdom of grace is brought to view by Paul in the Epistle to the Hebrews.”
The Great Controversy page 347.

David has certainly made the concept of death blurrier when there was no need for confusion in the first place. He has also taught that six different fake bibles are good sources for learning about death.

“The Lord knoweth how to deliver the Godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:” 2 Peter 2:9 from the real Protestant Bible, the KJV, that David never used.

“then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,” 2 Peter 2:9 from the NKJV.

“if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment.” 2 Peter 2:9 from the NIV.

“So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of final judgment.” 2 Peter 2:9 from the NLT.

“These things show that the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from their trials, and how to keep the unrighteous for punishment on Judgment Day.” 2 Peter 2:9 from the CEB.

“So God knows how to rescue the godly from evil trials. And he knows how to hold the feet of the wicked to the fire until Judgment Day.” 2 Peter 2:9 from TM.

“This shows that the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their sufferings and to punish evil people while they wait for the day of judgment.” 2 Peter 2:9 from the CEV.

Notice that all of those bibles except the KJV, the NIV and the CEB say the wicked are being punished during the time between their death and the judgment so they must be awake. Different fake bibles have different errors. When someone (like David) uses several fake bibles because they love what they say and calls them “the Bible” or “Scripture” they can “prove” all sorts of doctrines.

“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits—to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water.” 1 Peter 3:18-20 from the NIV.

The NIV clearly teaches that AFTER his resurrection Jesus preached to the spirits of people that had died in the flood. If Jesus preached to them, the spirits had to be awake. If Jesus went to the trouble to preach to them, there must have been a chance they could repent and be saved. That sounds a bit like Purgatory doesn't it?

“In those days, giants lived on the earth and also afterward, when divine beings and human daughters had sexual relations and gave birth to children. These were the ancient heroes, famous men.” Genesis 6:4 from the CEB.

The KJV is not wrong in any of the aforementioned verses or in any of the hundreds of other places David's fake bibles have errors.

SatanIsDead.com

InfallibleBible.com

AdventistsToday.com

SabbathSchoolGuide.com