

Full Sermon Transcript:  
**Over Lording Both Refuted and Correctly Defined**  
March 29, 2025

*Disclaimer: This transcript is computer-generated and may have mistakes or inaccuracies. Though for the most part, the software does a really good job.*

Let us go in prayer. Lord Heavenly Father, in Jesus' wonderful name, happy seventh day.

Thank you, Father, that you're not just a million miles away, up in the heavens, in the universe, hidden behind a planet, but that you're right here in every room that we are in and anywhere that we may go, that you go before us, that you prepare a way.

That you have prepared a way for your people, a path or a plan. Praise your holy name.

You're near to us, your people, your church, your bride. You're near to us, ever guiding us and leading us, teaching us, instructing us and correcting us for eternal life.

Thank you that you continue to teach, guide, lead and direct us. Father, we pray for your special anointing on this service and on this message we're about to receive the edification of the church, the unity of the faith, for correct doctrine, correct understanding that we be delivered from the lies of Babylon, that we be morn to the center of your will and that your truth will bring more people to you.

In this, in the mighty name of Jesus, we pray. Amen. May we see it. Praise Jesus.

Let's go to the book of 1 Peter chapter 5.

The title of today's sermon is Overlording, Both Refuted and Defined.

Overlording, overmastering, over controlling, both refuted and defined. We're not denying that it exists in the world. Let's properly define what this verse is talking about and refute what the Babylonian false Christian church claims to be overlording, over controlling, over controlling pastor, over controlling church, refuting what they claim it is and then explaining what it really is.

1 Peter chapter 5, verse 1, Therefore advise the elders among you as the fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed or manifested.

Shepherd the flock of Theos among you, exercise in oversight, not under compulsion, but voluntarily according to the will of Theos, and not for filthy or dishonorable gain or profit, but with eagerness, not yet as over controlling or overlording those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

There's 11 points that if you look up on the internet to ask what this is talking about, what does it mean to be over controlling or overlording the congregation, what does it mean?

These 11 points are all mostly wrong. But then we will explain after that, after we get through those points, we'll go through some points that the internet does not tell you what it actually really does mean.

Point number one on the internet claims that it's talking about micromanaging the church.

The pastor controls every aspect of church activities, refusing input from staff and members of the congregation and eliminating checks of authority or checks on the authority of the pastor.

I both agree and disagree, there's some truth to this, but it's based on a false premise though.

While micromanaging is not ideal, amen, I would agree that micromanaging is not ideal, but sometimes it can be necessary until people are trained, well trained in administration or in works or in mannerisms or whatever that needs to be trained.

In the context of this specific generation that we're dealing with today, where people have been raised with no manners, no respect, no honor, no work ethic, no high standards, many people don't know how to do anything, how are you going to perform in life unless those same people are trained in the basic functions of life, how to sweep, how to mop, how to write a letter, how to put something in the mailbox, how to pay your bills.

In the context of the modern generation, you have people until they're 40 and 50 years old, and even beyond that, as unbelievable as it is, still living with their parents and have never lived outside their parents' house even when they're

40, 50, 60, 70 years old.

So that's what we're dealing with, and therefore because we're dealing with that level of decay of society, that level of decay of independence, (when maturity and independence normally is natural, is supposed to be natural to a man,) but instead, much of society has decay of brain cells.

And where society is being dumbed down and programmed to be brainless robots and really don't know how to do anything, in that context of what we're dealing with, then there may be a need for some level of micromanaging for the purpose of getting the people trained, and then once they're trained, then to give them more responsibility, more independence.

So the statement is both true and false, and the traditional rendering of this claim is not understanding that there is a need in today's society to train people.

In the false Christian churches, there's very little training of people. You do have some churches that have the training of the youth, the training of men, masculinity, church camps, so forth, some, but by far, a lot of them don't have those things.

If we look at the book of Colossians right now, page 763, Colossians 3 verse 23, whatever you do, do your work heartily as for the Lord rather than for people.

So this means to whatever you do, do it with all of your might, even as it says in Ecclesiastes.

To do it with your full heart, to do it with passion, to do it with zeal. If you look at people today, whether it's work on the job of employment, making money, or whether it's working for the church or working for your pastor or doing an assignment that's been assigned to you by anyone in society, whether it's in the church or in business or even anything in society today, people have very low standards, no perfection, no really strong work ethic in general in modern western society.

That is complete opposite of doing it with all of your might. So we want to teach strong work ethics and we want to teach high standards.

And how are you going to teach that without correction and correction and correction and guidance and guidance and direction and direction and instruction and instruction.

That's why I have many, many, many times called this ministry a boot camp because the Bible does at least twice call the true church the army of the Lord.

Zechariah 14 is one of those places and then I believe also Revelation 19, the army of the Lord.

A army must be well trained and when you first enter the army, the military of any nation, of any empire, of any kingdom, you're trained even how to even make up your bed, even how to shine your shoes.

That's a lot of micromanaging. Hey man, that is a lot of micromanaging. But it's for the goal of making you strong so that you won't have to forever be micromanaged.

So that you can learn strong work ethics and high standards so that you can survive on your own, on the battlefield with your partners leaving no man behind even when the sergeant is no longer with you.

The sergeant may be on a different battlefield altogether but that you know what you need to do.

You have been trained very fluidly in what you should do, what you need to do for survival in this spiritual warfare.

The churches don't realize that. The churches don't realize how serious and how real that the war is and they never look at the church as being an army.

They never look at it that way. And if we are an army according to Scripture, then there must be generals.

There must be a boot camp. There must be training. There must be discipline. If we are the army of the Lord, as the Bible says twice at least, then there must be captains, sergeants, generals, rules, law, discipline, so that we may become strong enough to become complete in Christ to the full measure of the maturity that belongs to Christ, which is an extremely high measure.

Society today, they want to lower standards in the military, lower standards in business, lower standards in school, education, lower the grade you must get to enter into college, lower the grade you must get to graduate from high school or from college, lower everything all across the board in all areas of society including the church, lowering of standards.

Whereas God has very high standards that not everyone that says unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter again. Amen.

He has very high standards. Amen. The micromanaging, I agree, is not ideal as far as to forever pursue that.

The goal is to get people equipped, trained to become strong, and for those men in the church to eventually become

even sergeants themselves within the church, to be promoted within the church, to become strong. Amen.

Point number two that the web, the internet claims is over-lording or over-controlling of a church or a pastor is depressing criticism.

The pastor surrounds himself with yes-men, silences critics, and distance themselves from tough questions.

So I would both agree and disagree on this. We actually agree that tough questions are actually encouraged.

I do encourage people to ask tough questions many, many, many times over the years.

People have told me repeatedly that I've been able to answer tough questions that no other minister and no other pastor could ever answer.

So I encourage tough questions. So I would agree that a pastor that does not accept, does not like, cannot answer tough questions, that that's a bad thing.

I agree with that. However, to suppress criticism, we must understand that the book of the Bible, the Holy Bible, does show us that we must have unity in the church and honor for our elders in the church.

Does it not? So if you have people that are showing dishonor to the elders, to the pastors, to the apostles of the church, should that not be suppressed if people are showing dishonor or if people are trying to sow seeds of discord?

Confusion of doctrine, division of doctrine, disagreement with the official teachings of the church should not that be suppressed? Absolutely. Amen.

So the traditional thinking of the traditional false Christian church is that anybody and everybody in the church should have the freedom of their own personal opinion to publicly share in the midst of the congregation, even on social media, even among fellow members, to show their disagreement with any and every doctrine, any and every teaching of the church, of the pastor with complete liberal freedom.

So if the pastor is preaching against homosexuality, that the members of the church have the freedom to say the pastor is wrong and to say so publicly, to say so in the congregation, to cause that confusion of doctrine and casting down of the truth.

So you see that the traditional rendering of these points, the way they understand them and the way they teach them, is not correct and is not biblical. Amen.

If we look at 1 Thessalonians chapter 5, page 766, verse 21, but prove all things carefully and hold very tight to that which is good.

I want everyone to prove all scripture, and that's what it's talking about when it says all things, it's not talking about things outside of scripture, it's in the context of scripture and doctrine.

I want everyone to prove all doctrine for yourself and come to the right conclusion.

The problem is a lot of people want to go to the wrong sources, such as letter Y name websites, and Pharisee websites, and Torah, Torah, Torah websites, and all kinds of other religious opinion websites instead of reading the Bible for themselves.

That's not Bible research, that's not Bible study, that's just going to read somebody else's opinion.

And that falls into the trap of Babylon. Amen. We are to prove all things carefully and then to hold very tight onto that which is good, onto that truth.

According to scripture, we don't have the right to let go of the truth and go by our own opinion.

Opinion is opposite of truth. Opinion is opposite of proving the truth. That's why I have said repeatedly over the years, sermon after sermon after sermon, that personal opinion is not allowed and not acceptable in the context of doctrine and official teaching of the church.

You have no right to your personal opinion. The truth is the truth. We must prove it by scripture, by facts, documented facts, and hold very tight to that truth and let go of personal opinion and let go of traditional false Christian doctrines that are based upon women's doctrines, women's cults, and demonic doctrines that pass down from Assyria and so forth. Amen.

So yes, we should suppress, we should suppress criticism when that criticism is based on false doctrine and personal opinion.

Point number three, angry outburst. The claim in the false Christian church is that the pastor should never get angry. Always be, always, always, without exception, be patient, loving, compassionate, gentle, humble, just as weak as possible.

Just as weak as possible. The traditional thinking of the false Christian church is that not only the pastor should be weak, but even the members should be weak, that the church should be weak.

That is about nothing but kissy, kissy, kissy, kissy, wiping each other's butts. No strength at all.

They never refer to the church as an army. Amen. No authority. Amen.

If we look at Matthew 21, something I've quoted many times, but we're going to actually read it right now in Matthew 21, verse 12. So the seats, the chairs. So he overthrew the tables and the chairs. Amen.

We know that another scripture says that he even made whips and chased the people.

This is a huge outburst of uncontrolled anger. Amen. The false Christian church would condemn Jesus if Jesus was walking in the flesh today and did this.

The false Christians would condemn Jesus for doing this. But he had a right to do it as his church, as his temple, and he had a passion for the sanctuary, the holiness of the sanctuary. Amen.

We also know in Revelation 19 that Jesus is coming back with great anger, great wrath, destroying millions of people on that day of his return.

He's not coming back washing feet on that day. Amen. So an outburst of uncontrolled anger is not always sinful. We look at Ephesians chapter four.

Ephesians four. The false Christian church teaches that anger is always a sin in every context, in every way, always a sin.

But what does the Bible say on page 758, Ephesians 4, verse 26.

Be angry and yet do not sin. Amen. Don't let the sun go down on your anger.

It's possible, according to Scripture, to be angry and yet not sin, which is the exact opposite of what many churches teach.

You can be angry without sinning. Amen. There is such a thing as the righteous anger, according to Scripture, not my opinion.

According to Scripture, there is such a thing as righteous anger. Amen. Point number four, converting leadership boards, replacing board members to ensure control.

Let's look at what the Bible says. Ephesians chapter four, right here, exactly on the same page, that there is a five-fold, what we call five-fold ministry in verse 11.

Ephesians four, verse 11. And He gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelists, some as pastors, and some as teachers.

There's a footnote to 1 Corinthians 12, so let's go look at that as well, 1 Corinthians 12, verse 28.

Page 745. And Theos has appointed in the congregation of called out ones, the Ecclesia, chiefly the apostles.

And then second, the prophets, and then third, the teachers, which would also include pastors in this particular case of this verse.

So very clear, if you compare both of those verses, which are very similar, but this verse is more specific.

But if you combine both verses, it's very, very clear, and you cannot misunderstand this, that the apostles are the highest rank of humans in the church.

Of course, with Christ Jesus as the head of the church in heaven, in the atmosphere, in the universe, in the air.

But in humans, that there is such a thing as the office of the apostles, which the Bible never, ever, ever says was done away with, never says it, never teaches it, never hints to the apostles being done away with, ever.

And then after that, the prophets and evangelists, and then the pastors and deacons.

That's the rank of administration in the church, in the kingdom of God, which is exactly what the church is, and people don't know that.

The false Christian church has no understanding that the church is the government, the empire, the kingdom of God.

They don't even understand that basic thing, that the church is a government of God on earth, and that we have ranks of administration offices in the church, in the kingdom, just like any kingdom, just like any empire, just like any government, just like the military, that there are ranks of administration.

Your apostles and prophets are the equivalent of sergeants, captains. And if we have that, which we do according to the Bible, not my opinion, but according to scripture, we have that, then why do they claim that the church should have a board of directors and form a business corporation, and each board of director member be all equal to each other with an equal vote, and that those votes can override the church as if it is a democracy, which the church is not, and the kingdom of God is not.

The kingdom of God is not a democracy. The kingdom of God, if I can pronounce it right, is theocracy.

Think I got that right, right? Theocracy, which means God is in control. Duh. Amen?

God is in control that Christ Jesus is the head of the church, and then the apostles, and then the prophets, and then the

evangelists, and then the pastors, and then the deacons, and then the deaconess.

And so the deaconess has no power or authority over the deacon, and the deacon has no power or authority over the pastor, and so on up the ladder, and they don't all have an equal vote. Amen?

This is not the same as a corporation board of directors where you might have ten people and they're all equal except for the CEO.

That's this corporation thing that most churches operate under is not biblical. Amen?

It is not in line with what we call the five-fold ministry. Five-fold means you got five ranks.

Now, I did at one time have a council of elders, and that is biblical. We do see that in Scripture to have a council of elders.

That is scriptural. Amen? Both in the Old Testament and New Testament, both, that is scriptural. But a council of elders is still not the same as a board of directors in a corporation and a church run like a corporation.

The council of elders would still honor, recognize, accept, embrace the appropriate ranks of administration. Amen?

They would not ignore these ranks of administration. Amen? And when you have a council of elders, these should be all men, no women on that council of elders, unless you have a council just of women which are underneath the council of men, that would be okay.

But the council of elders, the main council, should be all men, according to Scripture, because women should not exercise authority over the men.

In any context, in church, in school, in government, in society, and in the family household, women should not exercise authority over the men other than the young boys, of course, who have not yet reached puberty and so forth.

So we have to respect God's authority, God's design of organization for the church.

They're not doing that. Amen? Now when you have a council of elders, they should all be in agreement with Scripture.

And if you have a member of the council of elders that falls out of agreement with Scripture, with truth, with biblical doctrine, with wisdom, that member of the council of elders should be cast out.

Absolutely. So if you have a member of the council of elders that starts doing Sunday, starts going into the Sunday churches, starts doing Christmas, starts doing Easter, something like that, why would you not cast him out?

He's fallen away. He's gone back to Babylon. So there's an ideal that we can't replace members and elders, that we can't replace elders, and that we can't replace a member of the board, whatever you want to call it, if you want to call it a council, or rather you want to call it a board, whatever you want to call it, the ideal that we can't replace members because they fall out of line is not biblical.

It doesn't match Scripture and it doesn't match intelligence and common sense. Amen.

Point number six, favoritism, filling key positions with family or favored individuals.

Now the Bible does say that we should not show favoritism, but the context of that verse is favoritism toward people because they have more money.

And I would agree with what the Bible says, amen, that we should not show favoritism toward members who have more money, more income. Amen.

I agree with what the Bible says. But the false Christian church, in the way they teach it and twist that verse, is that you should not have family or favored individuals on the council or in positions of authority when the truth is that you should have every member of authority, pastors, other deacons, should be people that the pastor favors based upon Scripture.

Not based upon money, but based upon Scripture, based upon skill set, based upon what they have contributed to the church mentally, spiritually, what they have contributed to the church with the works of the kingdom, helping with the Bible, AOB Bible, showing their devotion to God, their surrender to God, their commitment to God in the truth.

So these are favored individuals, not based upon money, which the Bible warns about, but based upon their devotion to the truth, their devotion to the unity of the church that they have done correctly.

What's wrong with that to show them favoritism? Of course. Amen.

Point number seven, restrictive social interactions discouraging members of the congregation from associating with former, previous members.

The false Christian church says that you should never disfellowship, but if you do disfellowship, you should not forbid members of the church talking with and communicating with those people that you have cast out of the church.

That's ridiculous. And that teaching, that their teaching, is not biblical. Amen. Look at 2 Corinthians 6.

Well, before we go to 2 Corinthians, let's stay in 1 Corinthians, go to chapter 5.

I've not looked at this verse yet, so I don't know how relevant this is. I'm going to look at it.

That 1 Corinthians 5 verse 11. Yes, I did look at it. It is very relevant. Okay, 1 Corinthians 5 verse 11.

Page 740.

But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother, if he is an immoral person or covetous or adulterer or reviler or alcoholic or swindler, not even to eat with such a one. Amen.

So very clearly, Paul would not want us to, and neither would Jesus, want us to continue to talk with people that have been cast out of the church.

If they have been cast out of the church, they are immoral. Either they have gone back to Babylon or they're trying to overrule the authority of the pastor that God has chosen, that God has called, that God has anointed. Amen.

Women trying to exercise authority over the men. Amen. Or other reasons. If they have been cast out of the church, the church members would be putting the entire church in danger by continuing to communicate and associating and befriending the person that has been cast out.

The person who has been cast out is poison to the church. And I have seen this in person.

I have seen this. I have experienced this as a pastor of 19 years. I know what I'm talking about. When members of the church continue to fellowship, talk with, communicate over the phone, email, in person, whatever the case may be, I've seen it more than once. Amen.

One of the examples is Crystal continuing to talk with Tammy. And Tammy trying to drive Anthony and Crystal away from Jesus, away from the truth, away from this church congregation because Tammy was upset that I disfellowshipped from her.

So it was out of revenge, which the Bible forbids. It was out of revenge. It was a revengeful spirit to try to cause division in the church and separate the church and cause those people to not come to the worship services, not learn, not grow in the truth, not serve Jesus in the place where Jesus has set his name.

Because Crystal continued to listen to her, continued to talk with her repeatedly time after time, it eventually worked. People who have been cast out of the church are poison to the church. A little leaven, leavens the whole lump. Amen. And I've seen it before that as well, other examples. I know what I'm talking about.

Look at 2 Corinthians chapter 6 verse 14, page 750. Do not be unequally yoked together with unfaithfulness, for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what communion have light with darkness, or what harmony have cries with Belial, or what portion faithfulness with unfaithfulness.

Verse 16, or what agreement has the temple of theos with idols, for we are the temple of the living theos, just as theos said, I will dwell in them and walk among them, and I will be their theos, and they shall be my people.

Therefore come out from their midst and be separate, and do not touch what is unclean.

As very clear, we are not to have fellowship with the darkness, and if they have been cast out of the church, they are not of the light, they are of darkness. Amen.

Point 8, demanding uniformity in beliefs, requiring alignment of the pastor's views.

What is the scripture that says one Lord, one faith? Can anybody tell me that in Ephesians?

Ephesians 4, verse 5 perhaps. That's correct, Ephesians 4, page 758.

We also talked about earlier, proving all things, ain't that? Holding fast to that which is good.

But here in Ephesians 4 verse 4, page 758, There is one body and one spirit, just as you were called into one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one theos, and father of all who is over all and through all and all.

And we also know Ephesians 4, the fivefold ministry going up here to Ephesians 4, verse 13, until we have this equipping from the fivefold ministry, until we all obtain to the unity of the faith.

That's talking about doctrine. If you keep reading it, it makes it very clear it's talking about doctrine.

Unity to the faith and of the knowledge, that's facts, of the son of theos, to a mature man, to the measure of the maturity which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

And as a result, that we're no longer to be children, tossed here and there, page 758.

Tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine and the trickery of people by craftiness and deceitful scheming.

It's very clearly talking about that the true church, all the members, every, every, every member of the true church, the body of Christ, must be united in the exact same doctrine and teachings.

Hand it down, context, verse 11, from the administration of the church. All throughout the Bible, God spoke to the prophets and the apostles.

And then they spoke it to the church. Amen? He spoke to Moses. He spoke to Noah. He spoke to Paul. He spoke to Jeremiah. They delivered the messages from God to the congregation of called out ones, to God's chosen people. That is the way it has always worked. Amen? This is easy. Amen. There must be uniformity of beliefs. There must be the requirement of alignment with the pastor's views, if the pastor's views agree with the apostle and the prophet. We know that Paul, if we study it out in Scripture, that he did claim all five offices of the gifts of the Spirit, of the rank of administration.

He was a pastor, he was a teacher, he was a prophet, he was an apostle. He was everything but a deacon. But you could say, even in that sense, he could have been. But you could say at least four out of the five ranks. All in one man. So that's not impossible either.

Next point, point number nine. In the lack of accountability, the pastor operates without accountability, both agreed and disagreed.

Because we do have the ranks, and if that one man does not hold multiple ranks, if he's not both the apostle and the pastor, then yes, the pastor should be held to accountability by the evangelist, and then the evangelist should be held accountable to the prophet, and then the prophet should be held accountable to the apostle.

We do believe in and we do teach accountability through these ranks of administration.

The deaconess being held accountable to the deacon, and the deacon being held accountable to the pastor, all down through the ranks.

And if we was a larger church, if more people surrendered to Christ and the truth, we could fill every one of these ranks.

But until people start surrendering to God, which is not going to happen until the Great Tribulation, then men, there must be certain men, that have more than one rank.

And I've said this over and over and I'll say it again as well, that when you have such few people in the true church, as the Bible does say that there would be, Jesus did call the true church the little flock, and that Satan has deceived the entire world.

So of course the true church is going to be small, especially in the end time generation.

But when you have such a few people as we do have in the true church, then it's very difficult to have the ideal number of officers of the church.

But it is still our goal. It is our goal to establish additional congregations worldwide, as many as possible to get the true church spread across the world, the true gospel, the gospel of the kingdom of God unto all nations, as a witness unto all nations.

And now that God is using Elon Musk, even though he is not a saint, even though Elon Musk is also being used by Satan at the same time as he's being used by God, he's being used by good and evil both, now Elon Musk is being used by God to bring the Internet in places where they have not had Internet yet.

Now allowing that scripture to be fulfilled, that this gospel of the kingdom will be preached unto all nations, and to all people, and to all regions, and to every language, that now people are going to be able to find the true church and the truth and the true gospel, the true gospel of the kingdom, much more easily now, this year, than ever before. Amen.

And we need to pray and work for God's church to expand. We need to pray for more pastors, pray for more deacons, pray for more members, more brothers, more sisters to surrender to Christ.

But we are not going to lower our standards. We will continue to maintain high standards, and yet still at the same time increase the church and build the church, because there's going to be more people than ever before to find the truth and the extra additional access to the Internet that has been established now.

Point number ten, high turnover of staff or congregation. Many people leave in the church.

They think that that is a sign of the pastor being over controlling. What does the Bible say about that?

2 Thessalonians chapter 2. Page 767.

We talk about the great falling away. Amen. Verse 3, let no one in any way deceive you.

It's not until the apostasy, the falling away, comes first and the personage of the lawlessness is manifested, the son of destruction.

So the Antichrist is revealed, the Antichrist is manifested. His deadly head wound will actually be healed.

Assad will come back to power eventually, which nobody believes, but it's going to happen because it's written in Scripture that Assad will come back to power again.

It will happen. Amen. Because the deadly head wound was fulfilled. You can't possibly say that the president of Russia

has suffered the deadly head wound, therefore he's the Antichrist, or Trump, or Prince Charles, King Charles now, or the president of Turkey, or the president of Jordan.

All these other people that people claim are the Antichrist, none of them have suffered the deadly head wound.

Well, you could possibly say Trump, because when the bullet blazed his ear, but that was not a head wound really per se. It's not a deadly head wound, right? And so Trump's theme with his ear would not fit the definition of a deadly head wound. So he still doesn't fit that.

No one fits it but Assad because that he is completely removed from power for now.

That does fulfill that Scripture. It's actually another proof that he is the Antichrist.

People think I have been proven wrong. Amen. I guarantee you, Tammy and Crystal and other people that have come and gone through this ministry, I guarantee you they think I've been proven wrong about Assad when actually the fact he was removed from power has proved this doctrine, this prophecy of God as correct.

It actually proves the prophecy of Assad because it's fulfilled that he did have the deadly head wound, the complete removal from power.

We didn't know it would be fulfilled in that way. But it was fulfilled in that way and does still yet prove that Assad is the Antichrist. Amen.

But the Antichrist is manifested before Jesus comes back. Amen. Which proves the pre-tribulation rapture as wrong.

But the other part of this is that there is a great falling away. That's not talking about from the false church. Amen.

That's talking about from the true church. So their point, they think that a high turnover, that means a large number of people leaving the church, they think that as a sign that the pastor is being over controlling, when in fact the Scripture says that people falling away from the truth is to be expected because it will happen. It even says so in Timothy. Amen.

Let's go down to 2 Timothy chapter 4 verse 3. Page 773. For the time will come, and Paul is talking about the end time, which he thought would be in his lifetime, but nevertheless he's talking about the end time, for the time will come when they would not endure sound doctrine.

But wanting to have their ears tickled, amen, they would accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and would turn away their ears from the truth, and would turn aside to myths, lies. Amen.

Scripture, both in 2 Thessalonians 2 and here in 2 Timothy 4 and in other Scripture, I've got some more written in the sermon outline, but we don't really need to read those, because right here is enough proof right here.

We should be expecting that if we are the true church, we will have a high number of people falling away.

The falling away ain't talking about people falling away from the false church. Amen.

They can't fall away, because they don't even know Jesus in the first place. Amen.

Point 11, final point before I actually give you some real points of what it really is talking about.

They claim that creating a culture of fear is what they call it, using fear or guilt to control the congregation.

Both agreed and disagreed. Amen. The proper amount of fear and guilt doesn't have the goal of controlling people.

That's not the goal, but rather the proper amount of fear and guilt is actually beneficial for the saving of souls according to Scripture.

We'll prove that in Scripture, Acts chapter 2, Acts 2. Of course, we don't want an overabundance of guilt and fear.

I will talk more about that just in a minute, so I'll both agree and disagree. Then Acts 2, verse 37, page 709. We know that Peter was preaching, and then it says, When they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, they were convicted of their sins, and said to Peter, and to the rest of the apostles, Brethren, what must we do?

And then they told them what they must do. Amen. So we get from this that true preaching convicts us of our sins. It's not always a feel-good, mercy, mercy, grace, grace, grace, grace doctrine, even though we do teach abundant mercy and abundant grace. Amen.

We believe in it, we teach it. Abundant mercy, abundant grace. But we don't believe in and we don't teach hypergrace, which is the traditional doctrine of hypergrace, is you don't have to obey God. Amen.

But conviction of your sins. So if there's conviction of sin, then there is guilt. That you should feel guilty for the sins you have committed, and then repent of those sins, and then be baptized for the remission of those sins, the forgiveness of those sins, in the name of Jesus, receive the Holy Ghost, your sins are washed away, then you no longer have to feel that guilt forever. Amen.

But then talking about fear, let's turn to Hebrews 11 verse seven. Page number 780.

By faith, Noah, being warned by Theos about things not yet seen, in relevant fear, prepared to art for the salvation of his household. Amen.

So we see that fear, righteous fear, appropriate fear, has a place to salvation of souls, and even to physical safety and survival. Amen.

There is an appropriate measure of guilt and fear.

But the false Christian church has an overabundance of guilt and fear, when it comes to the fact that they preach hell, fire, and brimstone.

That you must be saved before you die. That as soon as you die, you don't ever, ever get another chance.

That there's no such thing as a second resurrection in their doctrines. That there's no such thing as a second life in their doctrines.

That you can never possibly be saved after death, even though the Bible says, Paul said that he was casting a man out of the church, casting that man, giving that man over to Satan, so that he will be saved in the next life, in the next future, in the future, in the day of the Lord.

So their doctrine of guilt and fear, that you must be saved before you die, and that there's no other way to be saved, is an overabundance of fear and guilt.

That they don't even accept that that's what it is, and it is that. So they're the ones that are guilty of this. Amen?

They are the ones that are guilty of overabundance of fear and guilt to control the congregation, that you've got to get saved today, and even making them believe in a death, bad salvation, which is also not biblical. Amen.

So I both agree and disagree with the point, but who's guilty of it? Amen.

Now let's go over some points of what it really does mean to be over-controlling as a pastor.

They don't tell you these things. These do not come up on the list, except for the first one, but the other eight, they don't come up on the list when you look for what it means on the internet.

This first one does come up on the list, and it's the only one that gets fully correct, and that is using secret information as power.

The pastor controls decision-making by monopolizing knowledge. In this context, the pastor exercises control by limiting access to information or selectively sharing knowledge.

By doing so, they guide or dominate decision-making processes, and others reliant on their insight, and this is what the Freemasons do, and many other churches.

I'm going to give you some examples of what we're really talking about here, and that is, for one example, the King James-only people, which is a lot of churches, a lot of churches in the South, a lot of the Baptists, a lot of the Pentecostal churches, King James-only.

When a person, when a pastor, when a leader of those churches teach King James-only, they are forbidding the congregation from reading other translations, and they're not teaching knowledge about the Greek Septuagint.

They're not teaching knowledge about why the New American Standard and NIV are better than the King James.

They're hiding deliberately, deliberately keeping knowledge to themselves, not teaching the congregation the truth, prohibiting the truth, prohibiting people from researching the truth, from examining the truth, from proving all things.

They're holding knowledge back. They don't even teach that there's such a thing as a Strong's Concordance, which really blows my mind every time I meet a person that don't even know what the Strong's Concordance is.

They are withholding knowledge, and they are the ones guilty of that, not us. Amen.

We teach about Strong's Concordance. We teach about looking at the Greek words and the Aramaic words and the paleo-Hebrew words. We teach this. We don't withhold that knowledge. Amen.

The Freemasons, the Shriners, they are very guilty of keeping books as well as the Vatican, the Catholic Church, is very guilty of holding back books, manuscripts, and not revealing them to the world.

Documents, historical manuscripts, agent copies of the Bible, the Catholic Church, and the Freemasons, the Shriners, are very guilty of that, of holding back and holding secret knowledge.

And they're very big into that, very big into it. They believe it and they teach it.

They're the ones guilty of that. We believe in teaching people, increasing your knowledge. Amen.

Now, the rest of these points you do not find on the Internet, but they are the truth about why over-lording, over-controlling the Church, what it really means.

Point number two, over-lording by legalism, legalism. That is controlling the Church when the pastor is very overly legalistic by doctrines and teachings that are not biblically based.

Accurately, they're not biblically based. Of course, they want to try to use Bible, but they're twisting Scripture and not

understanding Scripture.

For example, the Pentecostal Church teaching that men must never go shirtless in public, ever.

Very legalistic doctrine that you cannot prove by Scripture if you use Scripture accurately and it doesn't even match common sense.

And when they teach no alcohol, no alcohol allowed. And when they teach that a man cannot have more than one wife, that's not biblical.

And it is legalistic and is the doctrine of women and women cults and women controlling the men and exercising authority over the men and teaching that the man must get permission from the woman about every words he goes, everything he does, who he speaks to, what he does, all of this.

It is a legalistic thing not based upon Scripture correctly. No Sabbath, some churches teach no Sabbath, that's legalism. No baptism, that's legalism. No holy days, that's legalism. No reading the Bible, you just believe what I say. Read the Bible for yourself, don't study the Bible for yourself.

No real research, no usage of strong sequence, even allowed. And don't even ask questions in private, in email.

Just accept what I say. That's not us. That is some of the cults out there. Amen.

Another form of legalism and over-controlling would be when a pastor or church says that you cannot use the words Lord and God and Christ and church and amen.

That's very legalistic to say you can't use any of those words even though you can't prove that they are pagan, they're not pagan. Amen.

In fact, to say that all of those words are pagan is really paranoia. That is paranoia to say that Lord and God and Christ and church and amen, that every word is pagan, that's just being paranoid.

And legalistic, not based on proven facts. Point number three, over-lording by teaching against medicine, by forbidding church members from going to the hospital or to the doctor.

That causes death of the church members. It's very dangerous, legalistic teaching.

That is over-control of the church.

Point number four, demanding all members have sex with the pastor.

As ridiculous as that is, there have been multiple cults nationwide and worldwide that have done that.

It's crazy, it's insane, but it is an example of over-controlling the church. You must have sex with me, everyone.

Point number five, the mentality that only the leaders can hear from God. And I've seen that many times as well.

Different groups I've seen out there where they think only the pastors, only the people in the administration of the church can hear from God.

That's being over-controlling. Amen. We encourage the church members that are truly saved, that are truly baptized to speak up and say, God said this, but they need to be careful.

They need to be sure God said it to them that it was not their imagination, which a lot of times it is.

So we do teach to examine yourself and to use caution in such statements. But we don't forbid like a lot of groups do.

We do not forbid people from hearing from God on your own. That's different from personal opinion, unless it is your imagination.

If it is your imagination, then yes, it is your personal opinion. So again, you've got to use caution.

You've got to be careful about it. But we do not forbid people, individual members, hearing from God. Amen.

But some cults do.

Point number six, the restriction of worship. There are some groups that forbid raising of the hands during worship services.

There are certain groups, a lot of groups, that forbid speaking in tongues, which the Bible says do not forbid speaking in tongues.

Now, of course, the pastor has the duty, the responsibility, to make for sure that if a person stands up or is sitting down, whatever the position might be, if a person starts speaking in gibberish and is not true speaking in tongues, or if the person starts speaking in a satanic tongue, which is possible as well, then that pastor has the duty and the responsibility to say, And it can be the words shut up. Amen.

And it can be that if a woman is exercising authority over man and has been repeated or stubborn in rebellious and continue to try to do the same thing over and over and over, sometimes people need to be told to shut up.

That's just the reality. You might say that I'm being mean or whatever, but the reality is some people deserve to be told to shut up.

But we do not forbid worship. We do not forbid speaking in tongues, the raising of hands.

We do not forbid people from saying amen during the sermon, but rather we encourage all of this.

But overlordship is restriction of worship. That's not us. Amen.

Point number seven, forbidding women from saying anything at all in a worship ceremony.

They forbid women from singing. They forbid women from giving their testimony and sharing a dream and sharing something that the Lord has laid on their heart.

That is being over controlling. Now, of course, it would be acceptable for the pastor to forbid women from teaching on the Internet when they are not to be teachers of men.

And especially when those teachings are in contradiction and not in agreement with the church.

So there are times when restriction must be exercised, but we do give in general women the freedom of worship, which means including being able to give their testimonies to glorify God, to contribute something to the worship service even as the Bible does say, that as long as the woman is wearing a head covering within that worship service, as long as she has permission from the male pastor, as long as she has permission from her husband if she is married, then she has that freedom according to Scripture to contribute something verbally to the worship service.

When it says that they are not to speak, the context of that particular verse is the Pentecostal church where there's multiple women speaking at the same time, multiple women in tongues at the same time, and all that chaos that some of the Pentecostal church exercises.

You've got to look at all Scripture, every Scripture, every verse in the Bible, and there is that verse talking about the head covering of the women given a ministry in a church setting, as long as they are under the authority of the men and not pastoring, amen, and not in disagreement, Amen.

Point number eight. A true over-controlling pastor is one that never allows any new deacons, and he is the only person that's going to exercise any of the authority of the fivefold ministry ever.

He never wants to appoint new deacons, never tries to do that, never attempts to do that, never has that as a goal.

There are some cults where it is truly only one leader, and that's it, and that's the way it's going to always be, and it will never change.

Whereas in this ministry, we have attempted to have a council of elders, we have attempted to have deacons, multiple deacons, even a deaconess or two, we have tried to promote within the church, we have tried to build people up to where that they can exercise authority in the church and not be just me alone.

We have tried to do this, and we will continue to try to do this as the membership grows, and as each individual grows, then we do hope and we do have that goal, which is God's will, for there to be multiple ranks, multiple members in the administration.

That is our hope, that is our prayer, that is our goal.

Point number nine, final point, over-controlling church, over-controlling pastor, is when that pastor or evangelist or that church leader is in the business of church for profit or for communist propaganda.

This is the guilt of most television evangelists, which the Bible calls hirelings.

Churches that are corporations, they are in the business of church for the money.

Television evangelists and other pastors that sell CDs of their teachings for money, or they sell tickets for you to come and listen to their sermons.

That has actually happened as well, that you have to pay your way to get into the church.

This is what the Bible warns about. Let's go back to that 1 Peter 5 that we started with at the start of the sermon, page 786.

And let's read this with Matthew and we'll see what this verse is really, really, really talking about.

1 Peter 5 verse 2. Shepherd the flock of theos among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion but voluntarily according to the will of theos, and not for the filthy, dishonorable profit or gain, but with eagerness. Amen.

And not yet as over controlling the allotted to your charge, but proven to be examples of the flock.

It has a footnote there for Matthew 20, so let's go there, Matthew 20, verse 25. You see how these references are very important.

Page 642. Matthew 20, verse 25. But Jesus called them to himself and said, You know that the rulers of the Gentiles

control them, and their great men exercise authority over them.

It is not this way among you, but whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.

Whoever wants to be first among you or chief among you, it can be translated as well.

You shall be your slave. Amen. Just as the Son of Mankind did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life a ransom for men.

When Jesus said that the Gentiles have men ruling, exercising authority over them, whoever is to be great, but it's not this way among you, he's not saying that he doesn't have ranks of administration. Amen.

Because then you would have to deny how God did use Moses, how God did use Noah, how God did use Apostle Paul. Amen.

So you got to understand this in the right context. And the right context is explained in those next verses, where it's talking about the ministers, the leaders should be servants to the church.

And that is opposite of being over controlling. So you have to ask yourself, have I been your servant?

Have I sacrificed myself for you? Have I served the church? And I believe that my private record stands for itself.

When I say the word private record, I use that term because the Bible speaks against me, bragging about and sharing publicly all the things I have done.

The Bible says that if you're, you know, don't let your left hand know what your right hand does.

That pay your alms, do your alms in secret. So that what you have done in secret, God may reward you willfully.

So I'm not going to stand here and list one, two, three, four, five, six, so on, so on, so on.

All the deeds I have done and how I have sacrificed myself. But many of the people who are in the church know how I have served, how I have sacrificed my time, my energy, my efforts, and the finances and other areas of how I have served the church.

So my record that even though it's not publicly known, the church knows. Amen. Not all of the church knows all of it. But they don't.

Because I don't stand up here every week and say, this is what I've done this week, that I've done this, and I've done this, and I've done this, and I've done this.

But God knows. And those individual members of the church that we have helped over the 19 years of this ministry, you know. Amen.

So when we look at all of this, 1 Peter 5 and comparing it to Matthew 20, the people that are truly over-controlling are the people that are in business of church for profit, for power, for such as Jim Jones that was not even a believer, did not even believe in God, he was an atheist, and he was a church pastor, a cult pastor for the purpose of power.

It had nothing to do with trying to serve God, trying to save souls. So Jim Jones, he fit that definition of being over-controlling of the church for profit and for power.

Other people like a lot of the television evangelists are guilty of this as well.

And they don't want the tough questions, not even in private, because they can't even answer those questions.

They don't even know the Bible. They're extremely ignorant of the Bible. Even though they're reading from the Bible every Sunday, they're still extremely ignorant from the Bible.

And they are over-controlling of the church, saying you have to believe it this way.

You have to do Christmas. You have to believe in the Trinity. And if you don't believe in the Trinity, you're lost. That's over-controlling because that is controlling the people with false doctrine.

That's controlling the people with your personal opinion. That's controlling the people with traditional doctrine passed down from Satan. Amen.

So there's many ways that the churches can be over-controlling. But a lot of the points that you find on the Internet of what over-controlling is, is not biblical.

Because their definition of what is over-controlling by far, for the most part, doesn't fit Scripture.

Because their ideal of a good pastor and a good church is one that is extremely weak, that really has no administration. And if they do have an administration, it's from the bottom up. That the church members are voting on who will be their pastor.

And that's a lot of churches do that, and that's not biblical. That's not biblical at all. Amen.

Where you have the lower members of the congregation that are not even called by God in any administration, choosing and voting for who will be their pastor, and then even firing the pastor if he says anything they don't like, that's not biblical.

So their ideal of a church is one of either that's extremely weak or is a church that is ruled from the bottom, from the

bottom up.

And a weak church and a weak pastor is not biblical. And a church that rules from the bottom up is not biblical. So we can't go by what the Internet claims is an over-controlling church when they are the ones guilty of the over-controlling, over-controlling by many different ways that I have explained here today. Amen.

When I think of over-controlling, I also think of the Vatican that has gotten rich and has all of that gold and all of those statues and how almost every Catholic church building in the world have a lot of gold and silver.

Instead of taking that money to help people, that they spend thousands of dollars per church building on nothing but gold decorations.

And how the Pope exercising authority over that false church with incorrect doctrine, wrong doctrine, a demonic doctrine.

In fact, that would be over-controlling the church with wrong doctrine and so many other things I have talked about.

I think of the ruler of Iran, what they call him the supreme leader. Yeah. The Ayatollah Khomeini, they also call him the supreme leader. So that's the religious leader of Iran.

He doesn't care anything whatsoever at all about saving souls. He doesn't care anything at all about what is accurate, what is true, what is good.

Only thing he cares about is himself, that he stays in power and he's not called by God, he's called by Satan.

So when I think of over-lording, over-controlling of a religious group, he fits the definition.

He doesn't have a cure for the congregation of Muslims. He doesn't care about them.

He only cares about himself. Amen.

I think of the president of Iran. I think of the president of Russia.

I think of the president of China. That these people don't care about the people.

They only care about maintaining their control, their exercise of control over those nations, which is the equivalent of the church for them, because the church and a nation are the exact same thing.

The church is a nation, the kingdom of God, and you cannot separate government from religion.

You can't. It's impossible. So when I think of people, pastors, as being over-controlling and what the Bible warns about in 1 Peter 5, I think of the presidents that are dictators in those nations, which are kingdoms, which are churches, that they only care about themselves.

They are not servants of the people. Amen. Just the last sermon before this, I talk about denying yourself, and putting the kingdom first, and putting other people first.

That sermon itself stands as my witness as well, about what this church is about, what God's church is about, what my ministry is about. Amen.

Calm Adam, he quotes 1 Timothy 4, starting in verse 11. Describe and teach these things.

Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but in speech, conduct love, faith, and purity.

Show yourself example of those who believe. Until I come and give attention to the reading of scripture to preaching and teaching, do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance for the laying over home of hands by the ministers.

Take pains with these things, be absorbed in them so that your progress will be evident to all.

Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching, preserving these things. For as you do this, you will ensure salvation both for yourself and to those that hear you. Amen.

So Paul was teaching Timothy self-examination and to stay with the doctrines of the apostle.

That's why he was teaching Timothy that he could not go by his personal opinions, but he had to stay with the doctrine and give close attention to those doctrines to maintain unity with him.

The apostle Paul did, we did expect Timothy to honor him and to go with his teachings. Amen.

The entire book of Timothy is about the apostle Paul mentoring Timothy, guiding Timothy in his life, in his ministry. Amen.

Thank you for sharing that.

Brother H in South Africa says, I praise Jesus for his mercy and protection.

Last night I was driving on the highway, going at about 100 kilometer an hour. And out of the blue, a man ran across the road, and I only saw him when he was like nearly in front of the car.

I braked, and he kind of hesitated to run in case I was going to swerve into the direction he was running.

But praise Jesus, I could slow down in time, and I did not swerve, and the man just made it across the road in time.

It came as a shock because everything happened so fast. What would have happened if I had hit him?

I praise Jesus that it never happened, and it's all because of God's protection. Amen.

I agree with that. I definitely agree it's God's protection because it sounds like it was a very close call, and God works in that way.

Many, many, many times I've seen God work in that way, that a difference of one second or a difference of one inch, even with Brother Robert that he could have transcribed, could have been killed if it had been just a few more inches.

Many times, God does not remove us from complete danger all the time, but sometimes just that one inch or that one foot, just that one little bit, is God saying, you might get a scratch, you might get a dent, you might get a broken leg, whatever, but you're alive. Amen.

Praise Jesus. Decipher says, Through last week's sermon, I realized the importance of a new covenant that Jesus wants. I believe that realizing the meaning of that is a blessing in itself. I have a lot to say, but I'm grateful for the enlightenment that I received. Thank you for that.

Okay, I'll see y'all tomorrow. Alright, have a good seventh day. All this be in Jesus' name. Amen.

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