

“God In Chaos”

Opening Remarks:

What a time we’ve all been through, **right?**

These last few months have just been a tough time, **haven’t they?**

You know, ***we don’t understand the value*** of being in church until they tell you that ***you can’t or shouldn’t*** be in church.

There’s just something about it, ***when we’re together***, sometimes it’s easy to take advantage of the fact that we get to go to church today.

- Week after week after week becomes mundane at some point,
- **Until** somebody tells you ***that you can’t***
- Then something flips and you say, ***“I’m going”***.
- **It wasn’t** all that important a while ago,
- But it’s **really important to me now.**

Let me just say this to you.

In other countries where they would **cut our heads off** for being in this room together ***worshipping Jesus Christ*** right now.

If you walked out of this building w/the Bible in your hand, ***they’ll take your life.***

As Americans, we can walk right down the middle of the street and stand in front of the courthouse all day long, and **there isn’t anybody going to bother you.**

- They might think you’re a little off -
- But they sure **won’t** come take your life.

I just want to say to you, *as Americans*, **we have certain liberties** that not everybody in this world has.

- **There are churches** all around this world, in other places in this world, that **are being burned down.**
- **Their pastors** are being taken and **put into prison and tortured.**
- **Their saints** are being **beaten in the streets.**

Persecution is happening in this world, and we just got a little taste of what that could look like these last few months.

- **I don’t like** what just took place.
- **I don’t like** the decisions that were made.

- I don't like how it was handled from the very top to our governors, to our senators, to every lawmaker, even to our mayors.
- I'm not saying they're wrong.....
- I'm saying I don't like how it was handled.

I will say that I believe that it was **a wonderful opportunity**

- A wake-up call for you and I to **realize** -
- **The value** of being in the House of God when the doors are open.

As a pastor, I've handled phone calls these last few months,

- people talking about **suicide**
- people dealing with **anxiety**
- marriages **falling apart**
- people struggling in **their walk with God**
- trouble with **their teenagers**
- trouble on **their jobs**.....

I'm telling you, **in the last few months as pastor**, I have dealt with more stuff than I have dealt with **in 10 years**.

I believe the reason why is **because of the Spiritual attack** on the Church/Christians.

- We weren't able to be in church together as **Normal!!!**
- There's something about it when **God's people come together....**
- **God heals**, and God mends, and God ministers, and God speaks.
- **Revelation** comes, **healing** comes, **ministry** comes.
- **There's a value** to being in church on Sunday.
- **There's a value** to being in the house of God when the doors are open.

For the last few months, we've been told, **"You can't"** from the very top all the way down.

Everybody trying to tell us as believers that we cannot join together to worship our risen savior together. (The Church has been Exempt)

I'm just going to be **really honest with you** right now, if that's okay.

I have had more anxiety in my own life these last few months than I've had in a long time. You say, "You Sim?" Yeah, hey, listen, I'm a human being too.

It created anxiety for me to not be able to be with you.

Just coming in here and trying to preach a message that is going to reach somebody's heart and life, **it is so much easier for me to preach to your family, to your marriage, with you sitting here.**

I can see your face, and God can speak to my heart about what's going on in people's lives and I can minister to that.

Even as a preacher, even as a pastor, even as a man of God, **it has created anxiety in my mind and in my life**, and **it just feels good** to be here with you this morning.

Somebody said to me this morning, "**We just needed some fellowship.**" I'm glad you're here to fellowship with God's people.

I love you and I appreciate you all being here today and we're looking forward to others as they make their way back to the House of God.

I just want to say to everybody that might be watching via Facebook, "Hey, it was handy. It's what we had to do for a little while, but now **it's time to come on back to church**.

Listen, **if you're somebody from our community** that has been watching our services and thinking to yourself, "**I kind of like what's going on over there**."

- **Come** and check it out. **Next Sunday 11 a.m. Service.**
- **Come and check it out** and see what God is doing here.
- **We really believe** that God will meet you here in this place and bless your heart and bless your life.

Stand for the reading of God's Word today:

Isaiah 45:18 NLT - For the Lord is God, and he created the heavens and earth and put everything in place. He made the world to be lived in, **not to be a place of empty chaos**. "I am the Lord," he says, "and there is no other.

*****NKJV** - Who has established it, **Who did not create it in vain.....**

Chaos - Definition - “Complete disorder and confusion.”

Another word one might use for Chaos is:

- **Bedlam** – Uproar & Confusion
- **Anarchy** – A State of disorder due to non-recognition of authority.
- **Disorder** – A state of confusion.
- **Pandemonium** – wild & noisy disorder or confusion; uproar.
- **Madness** – Mentally ill or extremely foolish behavior.
- Or **Turmoil** – A state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty.

Nobody likes Chaos.

- ***We don't like it in*** our finances
- We don't like it in our relationships
- We don't like it in our emotions
- We don't like it in our Kids bedrooms
- We don't like it in our world

Chaos creates Stress!

- ***It creates*** fear
- ***It causes*** our lives to be tipped upside down...

Yet, **much of God's** doings **always occurred in the midst of chaos.**

God, He created everything that there is out of chaos.

Genesis 1 1-3 – NKJV - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

Genesis is the seedbed of the Bible,

Out of chaos we find creation ,and this seems to be the pattern that develops in and around anything that God is doing.

- **Piercing light** coming out of the endless darkness.
- **Dry land** emerging out of the tossing sea.
- **Life breathing** from lifelessness
- **Reproduction** from barrenness

At creation, it appears that **chaos** came before anything.

- And it appears that everything that there is ***came out of or as a result of the Chaos.***

It would seem that Chaos is the place where **God does His greatest works.**

- **One minute** things look bleak
- The next everything is booming

It **started that way and it will end that way.**

- You see the pattern from **Genesis** all the way to **Revelation.**
- **Water coming from a Rock** in the wilderness.
- **A redeemer** as a result of a fallen world.
- **It's a storm on the Sea** of Galilee and everyone's about to die, ***when Jesus speaks peace to the storm.***
- **Lazarus is dead** 4 days in the tomb, when ***Jesus brings him back to life.***

No matter **how difficult** it may seem,

- **God is always going to** bring something out of the chaos.

“Our prayers do not define God, they merely cause Him to reveal Himself to us through the chaos of the situation.”

Just because **what you are praying over** is a really bad situation **does not mean** that God is a really bad God, or that He is weak, or absent or non-existent.

- **Your prayers don't define** who or what God is,
- But ***they will give him the opportunity*** to show you just how good and powerful that He is.

Someone said, ***“My situation is so bad.”***

- That does not define God,
- **That's your chaos**

If you are looking for God to move...

- If you're looking for a miracle in your life...
- You probably **don't need to look** for one in a place of serenity and peace...
- But rather in a place where things **are not stable.**

If areas of your life have serenity and peace, **thank God for that...**

- But realize **if you have serenity**, you *don't need a miracle*.

But **we don't** live in a perfect world do we.

- We may have serenity in some areas of our life, but **all of us have chaos** in other areas of our life.

So, **can we** focus for just a minute on **the places of chaos in your life?**

- The areas where **everything** is out of place.
- The places where **nothing** is as you want it to be.

Can I tell you this morning...

- **Here is where God will work in your life if you will let Him.**

Psalm 46:6 NLT

The nations are in **chaos**, and their kingdoms crumble! God's voice thunders, and the earth melts!

People are like, "**Man this world is a real mess.**

Or "**My life is a complete disaster right now.**

- But then **"God's Voice Thunders!"**

The **voices of Chaos** are saying,'

- Hopeless – Death – Ruin - Disaster
- But then **"God's voice Thunders."**

His voice supersedes the voices of hopelessness in your life.

- It supersedes the impossibilities and desperation of our world.

Revelation 1:8 KJV

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Alpha and Omega are the **first and last letters** in the classical Greek alphabet.

- Jesus declared in His revelation to the Apostle John **that He is the Beginning and He is the End.**

- **No matter the chaos that is going on in our world, **He is still God and He will still work if we will let Him****

Nobody likes the Beginning

- Because the **Beginning represents** in our world, **Chaos**.
- **Omega however, represents the end or completion of something, in fact a miracle.**

We don't like the trouble we have in our lives,

- But we love it when a miracle shows up.

We don't like Alpha, - but we like Omega.

We don't like chaos, but **we love the miracles**.

So understand...

- **He Is Alpha. - He Is Omega**

He is there with you in your Alpha or Chaos

- And **He can take you to your Omega or Miracle** in your life.

See **you can't have the ending** of something unless you have the beginning of it.

"Miracles come out of chaos"

If everything in life were hunky dory or "Normal", we wouldn't need God.

- That would be Heaven.

But we are not in Heaven yet are we?

- So we understand that we are living in a fallen world that needs God.
- **There is chaos here**
- **And as long as there is chaos here, we need God's help.**

CLOSE: Chaos is not some punishment that has been handed down to you.

- **It's your Alpha.**
- It's the place where **you are needing to trust Him for your Omega or Miracle**.

No matter how impossible it may seem, **God is always going to bring something out of the chaos** of your life if you ask Him to.

Ezekial 37:1-10 - The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, ² And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry.

³ And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest.

⁴ Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

⁵ Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:

⁶ And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

⁸ And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them.

⁹ Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God; **Come from the four winds**, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.

¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

PRAISE TEAM:

It looked like the wind was there to destroy what God was trying to do,

- But it breathed life into the death that was in the valley.

You thought the chaos was there to destroy you.

- **It was there to give you life.**