

ISAIAH

JEREMIAH

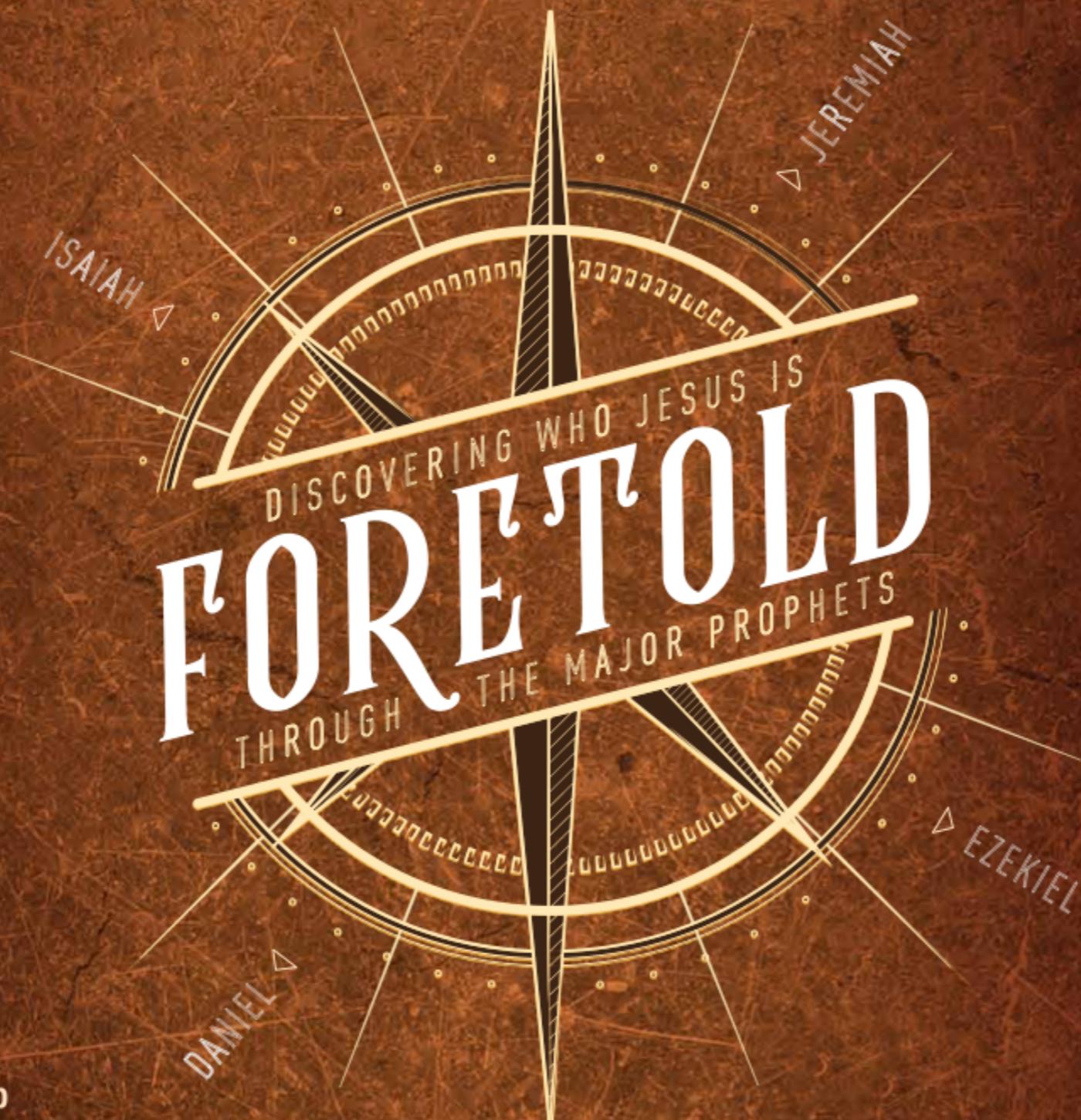
DISCOVERING WHO JESUS IS
FORETOLD
THROUGH THE MAJOR PROPHETS

EZEKIEL

DANIEL

The Sheep Hear
My Voice





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DISCOVERING WHO JESUS IS
FORETOLD
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EZEKIEL

DANIEL

The Messiah Who Dwells
with His People

Isaiah 7:1-17

Hope and security comes through
God's promises, presence, and salvation,
confirmed in the Messiah.

Introduction

- Isaiah 7 brings us face to face with one of the most well-known prophecies of Jesus Christ (Immanuel).
- Jerusalem is facing a time of fear and trouble, as their enemies stand ready to destroy them. Yet, God reminds His people of His covenant promises.
- As God's salvation through the Messiah roots our lives, we will experience His everlasting peace in this life and the next.

Our security comes from God's
promises, not man's power

Isaiah 7:1-2

Security

- Isaiah 7 throws us into the middle of a national crisis in Judah. Israel and Syria are marching against Judah, and King Ahaz of Judah isn't sure what to do.
- How could Judah possibly stand against the combined might of two armies?
- Where can Jerusalem turn in this time of trouble?

Security

- The army threatening Judah was camped below Ephraim, in the tribal land of Benjamin.
- This position threatened Judah's access to critical trade routes along the coastal highway to the west.
- Furthermore, if this army fully occupied the plains of Benjamin, only a few miles would separate Jerusalem from this force bent on Judah's submission to the Israeli-Syrian alliance.

Security

- Isaiah does not address King Ahaz, but instead chooses to indicate that the “house of David” has heard the news of the impending invasion.
- Isaiah is reminding the readers that when things seem most dire, Judah must look to God, the one who makes and keeps His covenant promises.
- When we are tempted to trust in our own power, there is something greater than any human authority.

Our hope lies in God's
fulfilled purposes,
not man's empty assurances

Isaiah 7:3-9

Hope

- Isaiah gives the word of God in response to such fear.
- In the face of personal fear, Ahaz and all of Jerusalem will receive a reminder of God's providence through Isaiah's own son and his message from the Lord.
- Through a physical representation and spoken reminder, Jerusalem is offered true hope rooted in God Himself.

Hope

- In this passage Ahaz is being reminded that those who remain faithful to God will endure in the land. Those who choose to rebel against God cannot hope to be protected.
- In some ways, Isaiah's own son embodies the hope that would be more fully incarnated in Jesus Christ. As the only one perfectly faithful to God, Jesus Christ's faithfulness stands as an encouragement to those He has redeemed.

Hope

- Israel and Syria seemed to have the upper hand. They seemed to be in total control. Yet, nothing could be further from the truth. In reality, Israel and Syria are on borrowed time (verses 7-9).
- King Ahaz receives an explicit promise that it's only a matter of time until Israel and Syria are destroyed. These verses predict the downfall of both nations. True to God's words, Syria is crushed within three years and Israel would fall 10 years after that.

Our salvation is found in the
presence of the Son of God,
not the strength of man

Isaiah 7:10-13

Salvation

- This section one of the most recognizable sections in all of Isaiah: the Immanuel passage.
- In verses 10–11, God offers to supply a confirmation or “sign” to reassure Ahaz yet again. In His grace, God reaches out to Ahaz and offers a way of confirming that He would indeed protect and preserve Judah in spite of all evidence to the contrary.

Salvation

- In a show of false piety, Ahaz refuses, pretending he would never ask such a thing of God (verse 12).
- How often does our faith waver when life is not what we expect it to be? How hospitable are we even when we don't feel like welcoming neighbors, coworkers, or enemies in need of the Gospel? How often do we think we are strong enough to improve our lives and develop virtue without the Holy Spirit?

Salvation

- Even though Ahaz refused a sign, God gives one anyway. And not just any sign, but a twofold sign predicting the eventual fall of Judah as well as the hopeful future of life offered in the Messiah.
- In verse 10, Ahaz is given the chance to faithfully follow God but rejects this offer and responds in false piety.
- Thus, Isaiah replies in verse 13 with a sign from God.

Salvation

- When Isaiah references a child born of a virgin, the Hebrew word used portrays a young woman of marriageable age and creates a twofold meaning, one for Isaiah's present audience and one for the future.
- Isaiah's own son was born of a young woman, his wife, and symbolized God's presence in the midst of exile.
- God would be present with his people even in judgment.

Conclusion

- Immanuel would bear the penalty of judgment as well as reveal the signs of God's grace and salvation.
- Through a virgin birth and sinless life, Jesus Christ fulfills the clear promises of this Old Testament prophet. Jesus Christ is "God with us," a righteous king who knows how to refuse evil and pursue good.
- Jesus is our Messiah who grants salvation and grace even as we face the intense trials of this life.

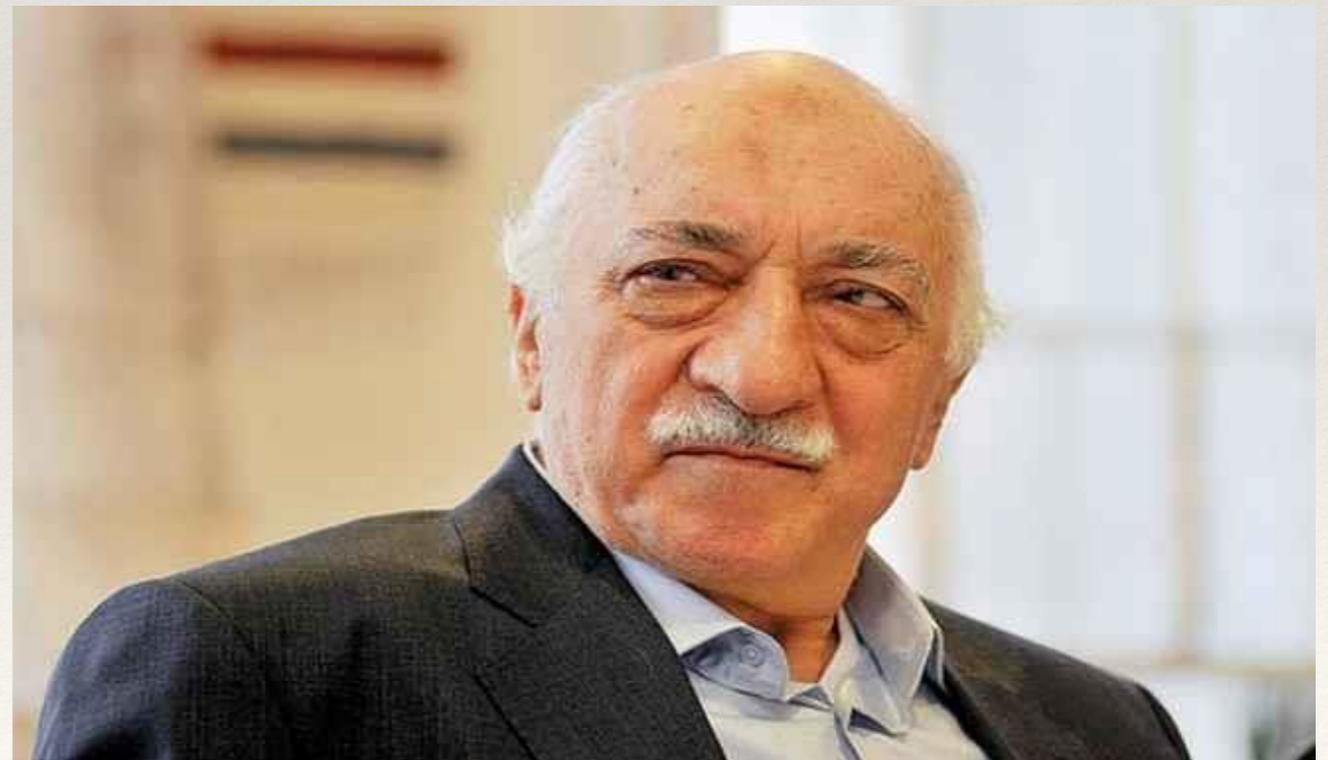
Ask Kerby



What is the Fethullah
Gülen movement and
charter schools:
Harmony Schools?

Gülen Movement

- Muhammed Fethullah Gülen is a Turkish preacher, an imam, and political figure.
- He is the founder of the Gülen movement focused on the education, interfaith dialogue providing primary and secondary education.
- His business entities were closed down by the Turkish government.



Gülen Movement



Gülen Movement

- The Gülen movement is a civil society group promoting education, religious tolerance, and building social networks.
- It shared a major goal of Turkish President Erdoğan of empowering religious individuals in civil life
- The alliance was destroyed after the 2013 corruption investigations in Turkey. He is currently on Turkey's most-wanted-terrorist list.

Gülen Movement



Harmony Schools

- Harmony Public Schools is the largest charter management organization in Texas with 48 campuses serving students in kindergarten through 12th grade.
- Harmony Public Schools is heavily associated with the Gülen religious movement.
- “Every faculty member who was brought over from Turkey via an H1-B visa is under a 'hush hush' requirement to forfeit a cut of every paycheck for unspecified reasons.”

Harmony School of Business



Harmony Schools

In Perfect Harmony?

Harmony Public Schools is the largest and fastest-growing charter school network in Texas, with eight new schools open this year and a total of 33 schools statewide serving about 16,500 students. Founded by Turkish academics, Harmony boasts small classes, a worldly faculty with advanced degrees and outstanding TAKS scores — which is why, perhaps, it's one of just three charter operators given permission by the Texas Education Agency to open new schools without going through the usual bureaucratic channels.

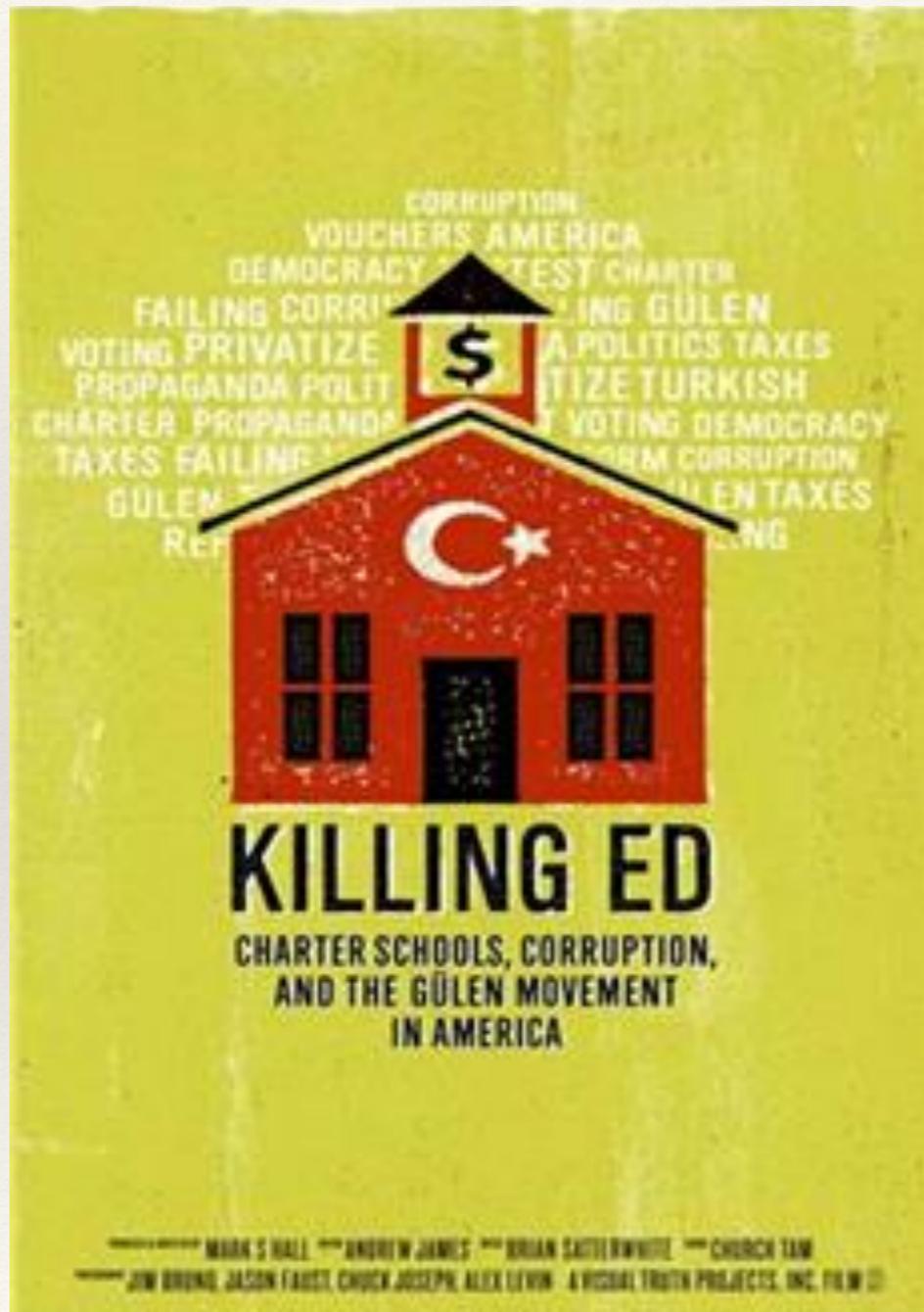
BY BRIAN THEVENOT SEPT. 27, 2010 5 AM



REPUBLISH



Harmony Schools



- According to the documentary, the group runs more than 150 schools in the United States
- That brings in more than \$500 million in revenue enrolling about 60,000 students annually.

Ask Kerby



Why doesn't the Bible mention chakras: energy points on the body?

Chakras

Powers	Chakra	Truth to Uphold	Sound
<p>Crown Spirituality, knowing who you are, letting go, enlightenment, awareness.</p>		<p>Live in the Present Moment</p> <p>Time/Space</p>	<p>Om* Sahasrara</p>
<p>Third Eye Intellect, brain, open-mindedness, divine reason, bigger picture, trust.</p>		<p>Seek only Divine Truth</p> <p>Light/Dark</p>	<p>Aum Ajneya</p>
<p>Throat Self expression, choice, will, follow your dream, faith, trusting life.</p>		<p>Surrender to Divine Will</p> <p>Ether</p>	<p>Ham Vishuddha</p>
<p>Heart Love, forgiveness (does you good), compassion.</p>		<p>Love is Divine Power</p> <p>Air</p>	<p>Yam Anahata</p>
<p>Solar Plexus Personality, self-esteem, gut instinct.</p>		<p>Honor Self</p> <p>Fire</p>	<p>Ram Manipura</p>
<p>Sacral Creativity and sexuality. Power, control, money, relationships.</p>		<p>Honor One Another</p> <p>Water</p>	<p>Vam Swadishtana</p>
<p>Root Family and social belonging. Safety and security.</p>		<p>All is One</p> <p>Earth</p>	<p>Lam Mooladhara</p>

Chakras - Serpent Power



- Energy rests like a coiled serpent at the base of the spine.
- When this dormant energy flows freely upward through the seven chakras, it leads to an expanded state of consciousness.

Chakras

- Supposedly, chakras play a role in certain types of medicine. Acupuncture and other types of Chinese medicine claim to use body energies and meridians to promote healing.
- Whether or not chakras exist, many people have found acupuncture to provide relief from pain. So, there may be a physical benefit to acupuncture independent of the spiritual philosophy behind it.

Chakras

- The real danger of belief in the chakras is in the spiritual overtones connected to it.
- The chakras are central to a meditation technique known as Kundalini, which literally means “that which is coiled.” Kundalini is also the name of a goddess.
- People who have engaged in “mantra meditation” will testify both to its power and its danger.

Chakras

- One woman's testimony:
- "Mantra meditation is so very seductive because it generates a very powerful, seemingly supernatural experience that can make one feel as if they are actually encountering God."
- "In hindsight, I believe that this encounter truly was supernatural. The Bible tells us that Satan himself can masquerade as an angel of light (2 Cor 11:14)."

Chakras

- The spiritual experience achieved through this type of meditation is undeniably real, and it may feel like a connection to the divine, but it is not of God.
- The Bible says that we should reject spiritual messengers who claim to be from God but speak “a different gospel” (Galatians 1:8).
- The message of Eastern mysticism is contrary to the gospel.

Resources

