



MATTHEW

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Matthew 14

Jesus is King of the universe



Matthew 14:1-12

The death of John the Baptist foreshadowed the death of Jesus

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Dance Floor Where John the Baptist Was Condemned Has Been Uncovered, Archaeologist Says

Michael Foust | *ChristianHeadlines.com* Contributor | Monday, January 11, 2021





Death of John the Baptist foreshadowed the death of Jesus

- John the Baptist had been in prison for nearly two years.
- According to first-century Jewish historian Josephus, John was held in a dungeon at Herod Antipas's fortress.
- John was imprisoned because he had spoken out against Herod's relationship with Herodias, his brother Philip's wife.



Death of John the Baptist foreshadowed the death of Jesus

- Though Herod had John arrested, he felt conflicted about putting him to death.
- John had a lot of influence with the people, and he saw John as a political threat.
- John's public outcry against him might turn the people against him.



Death of John the Baptist foreshadowed the death of Jesus

- It was demeaning to even ask Herodias's daughter to dance.
- She was a member of the royal family.
- Performing in this way was something slaves or servants or concubines did.
- It could have only been done in a drunken stupor.



Death of John the Baptist foreshadowed the death of Jesus

- Jewish law forbade execution without a trial and outlawed beheading.
- However, it was the least painful Roman method of execution.
- But the presenting of John's head on a platter was over the top, even for Romans.



Death of John the Baptist foreshadowed the death of Jesus

- John's disciples risked their own lives to come and bury his body.
- Then they went to tell Jesus, which scholars believe means they began to follow Jesus as some of His disciples.
- John was executed about a year before Jesus and foreshadowed what would happen to Him and eventually to His followers as well.



Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus fed the 5,000 just as God had fed Israel in the wilderness

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Jesus fed the 5,000 just as God had fed Israel in the wilderness

- Matthew's version of the feeding of the 5,000 is shorter than those of the other Gospels. This miracle happens right after Jesus has heard about John's death and withdrawn to a solitary place.
- This miracle is a reflection of God's feeding His people manna in the wilderness, and His calming the storm (Mark 6:51) shows that He had the ultimate authority of God over the wind and the waves.



Jesus fed the 5,000 just as God had fed Israel in the wilderness

- Jesus' feeding resembles a miracle performed by Elisha, but even greater. In 2 Kings 4:42–44, Elisha's servant asked how he could set only 20 loaves of barley bread before a hundred men, but God multiplied it, with some left over.
- Jesus' miracle was even greater – only five loaves of bread for 5,000 men with an abundant amount left over.



Jesus fed the 5,000 just as God had fed Israel in the wilderness

- There really was no option other than a miracle.
- Even if they had gone into town to buy bread, the small towns of the area (3,000) probably wouldn't have enough extra bread to buy.
- Philip says it would take more than six months' wages to buy enough bread for each person to have only one bite (John 6:7).



Jesus fed the 5,000 just as God had fed Israel in the wilderness

- As God had done with His people so many times in the Old Testament, Jesus took what His disciples had and multiplied it.
- When Moses asked God for a sign to take to Pharaoh, God used the shepherd's rod that was already in his hand to do miracles.
- When a widow needed help, Elijah asked what she already had in her house and he multiplied it.



Jesus fed the 5,000 just as God had fed Israel in the wilderness

- Jesus used the disciples to distribute the food and then collect the leftovers was indicative of their role in His mission.
- Jesus said, “You give them something to eat” (verse 16), and there were 12 baskets left over.
- Jesus could have simply had manna rain down from heaven or food appear at each person’s feet.



Jesus fed the 5,000 just as God had fed Israel in the wilderness

- This was an extravagant miracle – 5,000 men plus women and children, more than 50 times what Elisha had done.
- God is able to do abundantly more than we could ever ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20).
- He wants to give good gifts to those who ask Him, like a loving Father (Matthew 7:7–11).



Jesus fed the 5,000 just as God had fed Israel in the wilderness

- Nothing is too difficult for God (Jeremiah 32:27), every good and perfect gift comes from Him (James 1:17).
- He will provide what we need (Matthew 6), but not necessarily everything we always want.
- Not because He doesn't want to give us what we want, but because sometimes our desires aren't what is best for us.



Matthew 14:22-36

Calming the sea proved that Jesus really was God

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Calming the sea proved that Jesus really was God

- The Sea of Galilee has an unusual climate.
- Winds funnel through the east-west aligned Galilee hill country and stir up the waters quickly.
- A calm can quickly be transform into a violent storm.
- A storm in March 1992 sent ten-foot waves crashing into downtown Tiberias.



Calming the sea proved that Jesus really was God

- Jewish people feared the sea, calling it an abyss and using it as a symbol of chaos and hell.
- For Jesus to be able to command the sea and to walk calmly on the water was a clear sign of His divinity.
- In Jewish tradition, they believed only God could tame the winds and sea (Job 9:8; Psalm 107:29).



Calming the sea proved that Jesus really was God

- They were terrified for a reason. By the fourth watch of the night (between 3:00-6:00 am), they had been struggling against these waves for a long time and were exhausted.
- When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they didn't recognize Him because they simply could not have imagined any human being walking on water like that.



Calming the sea proved that Jesus really was God

- They had left Jesus alone on the mountain to pray (verse 23), and the boat was a long way from the land (verse 24).
- Even if they had all the faith in the world, it wouldn't have occurred to them that Jesus would have been able to catch up to them in a storm, even in a boat, much less walking on water.



Calming the sea proved that Jesus really was God

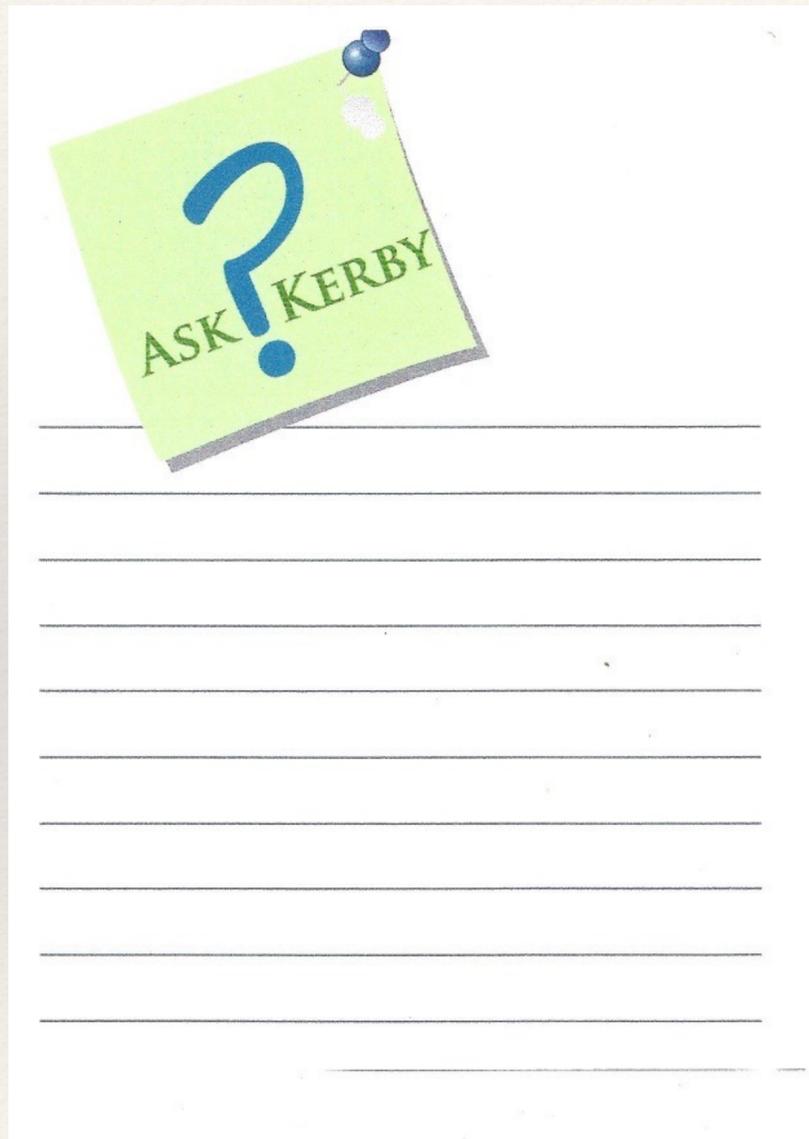
- Peter didn't step out of the boat onto normal water. He stepped out of the boat onto a raging sea, onto huge waves in the middle of fierce winds and pouring rain.
- Jesus didn't chastise Peter for his lack of faith. He merely asked, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"
- Jesus has used the phrase "you of little faith" in other passages.



Calming the sea proved that Jesus really was God

- This story ends in worship because it is the only response the disciples could possibly have to this situation.
- Jesus just told them and showed them that He was God.
- No matter what doubts or fears they may have felt earlier, in that moment, all they could do was worship Him and declare that He was the Son of God.

Ask Kerby



Big Tech Censorship

Censorship in Three Steps

- Letter from Apple: accusations that the Parler app was used to plan, coordinate, and facilitate the illegal activities of January 6, 2021.
- Step 1 - Apple notified Parler that it wouldn't distribute apps that represent "dangerous and harmful content" and removed them.
- Step 2 - Google decided to "suspend" Parler from its Play Store thus limiting users ability to download it onto Android phones.
- Step 3 - Amazon informed Parler that its web hosting service was terminating them.

Censorship in Three Steps

- In a matter of days, Parler went from being the most popular and fastest-growing app in the country to being banished from the Internet,
- Explicit calls for violence are rampant on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube (which is owned by Google).
- Glen Greenwald - documented that of the first 13 arrested for the Capitol Hill violence, “a total of zero” were active on Parler.

Glen Greenwald, “How Silicon Valley, In a Show of Monopolistic Force, Destroyed Parler,” [substack.com](https://www.substack.com)

Banned on Social Media

- President Donald Trump
- General Michael Flynn (national security adviser)
- Sidney Powell, Lin Wood (lawyers)
- Steve Bannon, Roger Stone (associates)
- Brandon Straka (#walkaway)
- Former congressman Ron Paul

Reaction From Leaders

- Spokesman for German's Angela Merkel - called the ban "problematic" and added that the freedom of opinion is an "elementary significance."
- Mexico's Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, "I don't like anybody being censored or taking away from the right to post a message on Twitter or Facebook. I don't agree with that, I don't accept that."
- Eduardo Bolsonaro (son of the Brazilian president) called Twitter "authoritarian" and tweeted: "A world where Maduro is on social media, but Trump is suspended cannot be normal."

Size of Big Tech

“To give you some perspective, the size, scope, and influence and power of the Big 5 Tech companies: Google (Alphabet), Amazon, Facebook, Apple, and Microsoft is jaw dropping. They have a combined valuation of over \$3.3 trillion and make up more than 40 percent of the value of the Nasdaq 100 index.”

Bob Scott, *Joseph Project*, 2017

Legal Issues

- Social media is protected by Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act.
- It claims to operate a platform, but actually is acting more like a publisher.
- Many members of Congress are calling for regulation, but will that happen with the incoming administration?
- These social media companies are private companies, so does the First Amendment even apply to them?
- The Supreme Court has ruled the government “may not induce, encourage or promote private persons to accomplish” what it is forbidden to do.

Big Tech Losses

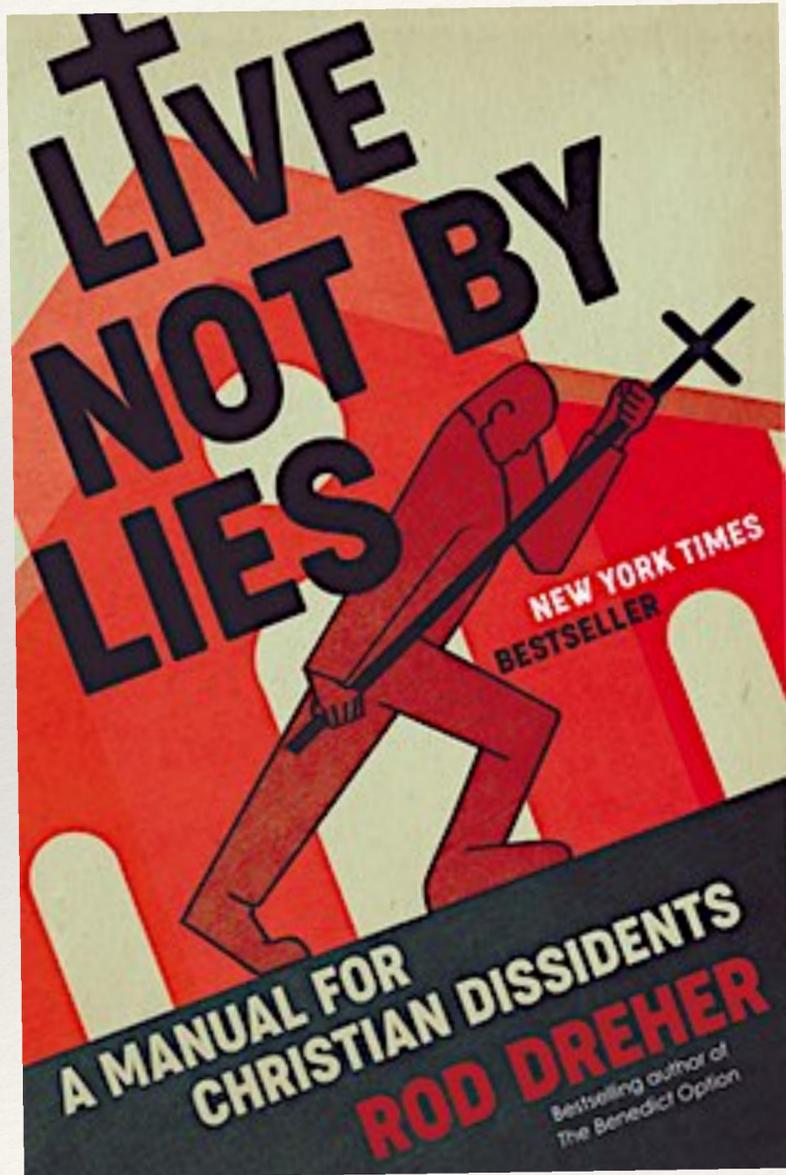


A combined image showing Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg (L) and Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey testifying remotely before Congress on Oct. 28, 2020. (Michael Reynolds/Pool/AFP via Getty Images)

SOCIAL MEDIA PREMIUM

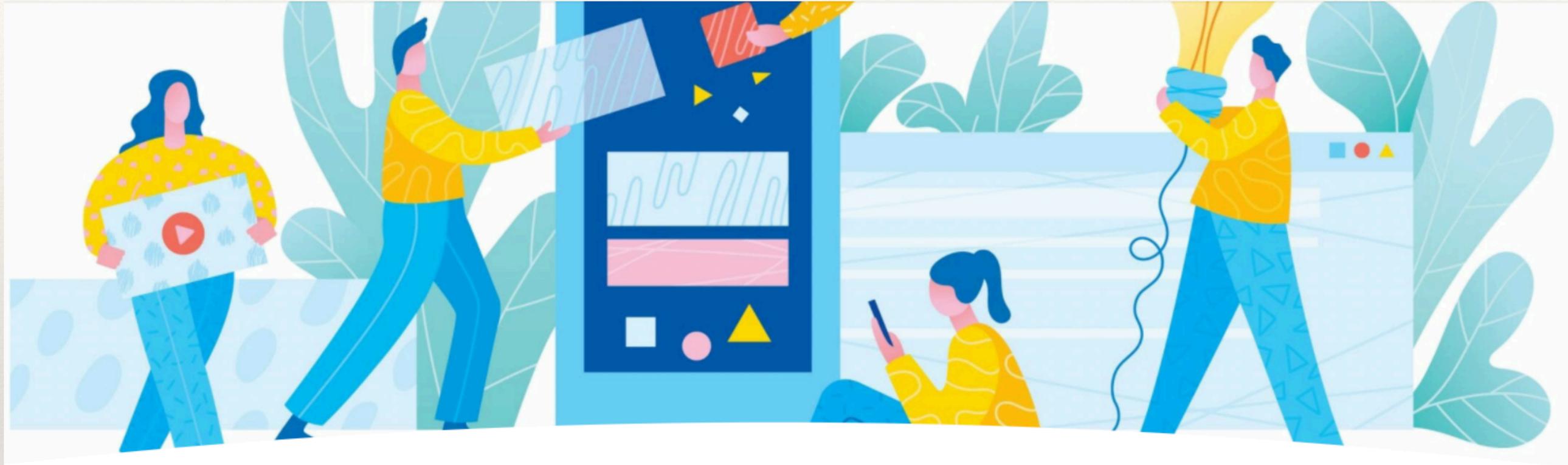
Twitter, Facebook: \$51 Billion Combined Market Value Erased Since Trump Ban

Soft Totalitarianism



- Hard Totalitarianism - Nazi Germany, Communist Russia
- Soft Totalitarianism - private sector, cancel culture

Digital Fast



GREAT AMERICA

**How Everyday Americans Can
Resist Big Tech**

Biblical Principles

“But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.”

Colossians 3:8

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.”

Philippians 4:8

A BIBLICAL VIEW ON
SOCIAL MEDIA



KERBY ANDERSON