

The Violent Take It by Force

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. Mat 11:12

How many people were awakened by the preaching of John?

Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins. mat 3:6

How many people were awakened by the preaching/life of Jesus?

And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan. 4:25

And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee. Mat 1:28

What was the purpose of John's preaching?

For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. Matt 11:10

How did John's message compare to the message that Jesus preached?

In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Mat 3:1-2

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Mat 4:17

How relevant is that message for us today?

As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Rev 3:19

For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. Matt 11:10

What does repentance mean?

Repent ye therefore, and be converted.....Acts 3:19

How do we have repentance?

Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. Acts 5:31

What do we need to repent of?

Where was Jesus when he preached repentance?

And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up. From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Mat 4:13-17

What was gift was given to Capernaum?

The people which sat in darkness saw great light;...Mat 4:16.....**GREAT LIGHT!**

Why was that light given?

... the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Mat 4:17...

What was to be the correct response to that Great Light?

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Mat 4:17

What did Capernaum do with the great light which they received? Did they repent?

Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not: Mat 11:20

And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee. Matt 11:23-24

What determines whether a person is condemned or not?

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. John 3:19

Will this apply to a group of people or an organization?

Capernaum is a group of people....A City

Who does capernaum represent?

To say we believe the truth while its principles are not practiced daily in our lives, will leave us in a condition similar to that of Capernaum,—exalted to heaven in point of light and bestowed blessings, yet these blessings and

this light unappreciated. RH April 5, 1887 [unappreciated = indifferent = lukewarm]

Of those who boast of their light, and yet fail to walk in it, Christ says, “But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you. And thou, Capernaum [Seventh-day Adventists, who have had great light], which art exalted unto heaven [in point of privilege], shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. RH Aug 1, 1893

What type of repentance are we to have?

**As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.
Rev 3:19**

What type of attitude is characterized by those who enter the kingdom of God?

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. Mat 11:12

The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it. Luke 16:16

An aggressive or zealous repentance is needed. why?
because we as a people. As a denomination have had great light.
And what have we done with that light?

We have in many ways, chosen darkness instead of the light.

Another group of people who had great light

and think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. Mat 3:9

What is His counsel?

Bring forth therefore fruit worthy of repentance: Mat 3:8

Why did he tell them to bring forth fruit?

And even now the axe lieth at the root of the trees: every tree therefore that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Mat 3:10

What is being investigated?— —trees
What are they being investigated for?— —fruit

If They do not have fruit?— --cut down/judgement

Did the judgement take place In John the Baptists day?
Or does it represent another time? **both**

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravening wolves. mat 7:15

beware of false prophets who come to you in adventist clothing

**There used to be a time when I thought
oh this preacher is adventist.....they are preaching the truth...I don't think that anymore**

Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. Rev 3:9

**There was a time when I thought
this verse applied to people outside of Adventist church
I don't think that anymore**

**Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.
Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.
Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. mat 7:19-23**

**There was a time when I thought
this verse applied to people outside of Adventist church
I don't think that anymore**

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. mat 7:24-27

**There was a time when I thought that the current adventist church
was built upon the rock...the words of Jesus Christ
Sadly.....I don't think that anymore**

**The greater the light given
the greater the fall.**

Capernaum.....

**exalted to heaven
brought down to hell**

**We as a people as a denomination need to repent
And I said we. I am including myself...you as well**

**We have been praying for revival and reformation since I became an adventist
10 years ago...not once have I heard of a corporate
call for repentance**

**we all need great repentance
We have allowed false shepards
to take the house that was once built upon the rock
move the whole structure off of the rock
and place it upon sand.**

**The warning is thereright there in the word....who will heed the warning
be zealous therefore and repent...**