

WHAT'S THE WORD?

Truth In An Uncertain World

What's the Word?

- Our society faces major challenges.
- The culture is talking about many significant topics.
- What does the Bible say about these topics?

Last Week's Topic

Israel and Antisemitism

Next Week's Topic

Marriage and Gender

Today's Topic

AI and Technology

As this conversation begins...

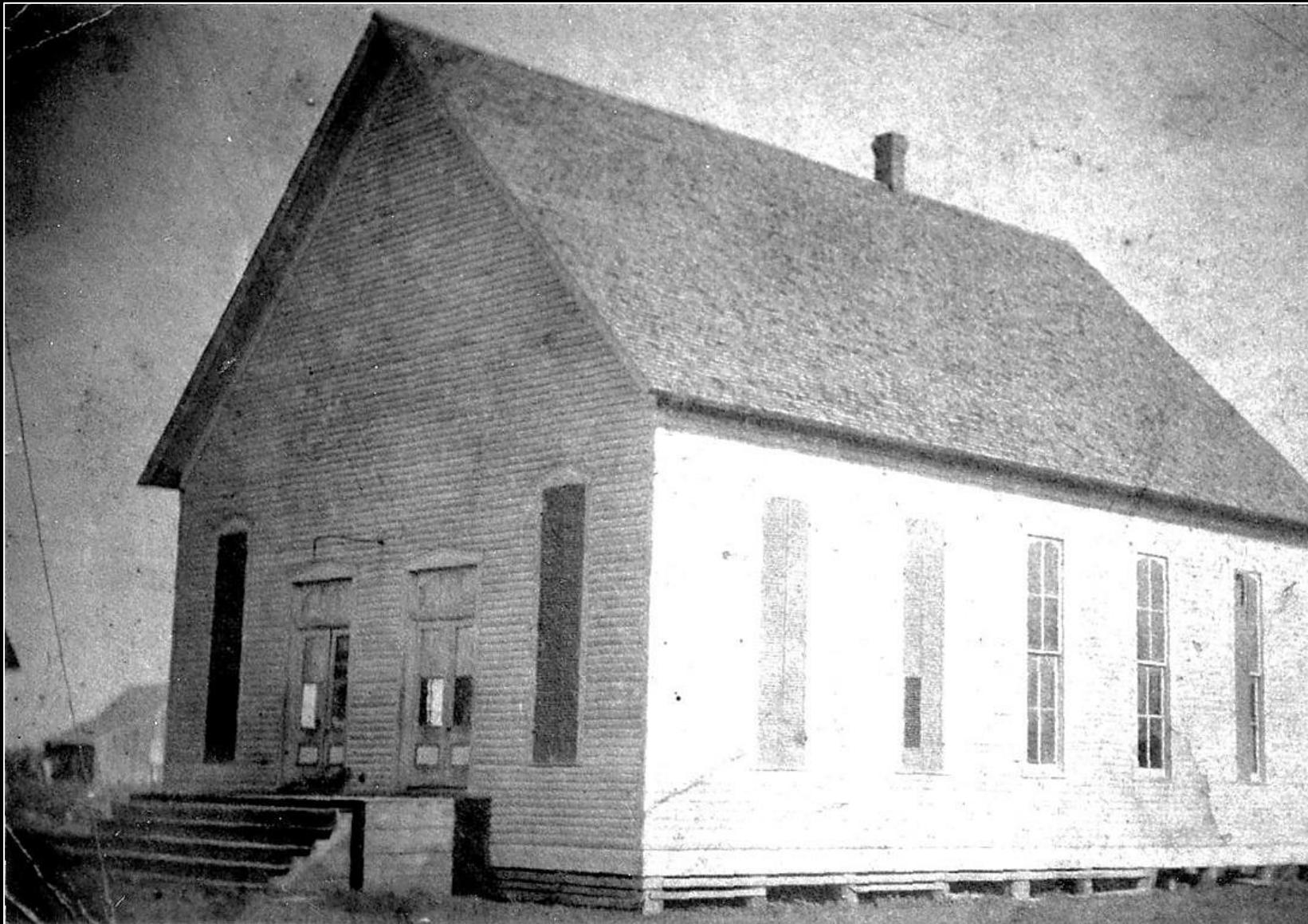
- We can dislike change but we cannot stop change
- Society is always changing and advancing
- Technology can be used for good or evil
- The phrase “Artificial Intelligence” is not in the Bible

There are six places in the Torah where Moses wrote something down at the command of God (Exodus 17:14, Exodus 24:4-7, Exodus 34:27, Numbers 33:1-2, Deuteronomy 31:9; Deuteronomy 31:24).

Alphabets and writing and books were technological advancements in the ancient age.

- <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/exodus-17/>

100 years ago, our congregation met in this building



WHAT'S THE
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How we tell time has changed

What is artificial intelligence (AI)?

- Artificial intelligence (AI) is technology that enables computers and machines to simulate human learning, comprehension, problem solving, decision making, creativity and autonomy.
- Applications and devices equipped with AI can see and identify objects. They can understand and respond to human language. They can learn from new information and experience. They can make detailed recommendations to users and experts. They can act independently, replacing the need for human intelligence or intervention (a classic example being a self-driving car).

- <https://www.ibm.com/think/topics/artificial-intelligence>

How Generative AI Works

Generative AI is a step forward in the development phase. Instead of just reacting to data input, the system takes in data and then uses predictive algorithms (a set of step-by-step instructions) to create original content. In the case of a large language model (LLM), that content can take the form of original poems, songs, screenplays, and the like produced by AI chatbots such as ChatGPT and Google Bard. The “large” in LLMs indicates that the language model is trained on a massive quantity of data. Although the outcome makes it seem like the computer is engaged in creative expression, the system is actually just predicting a set of tokens and then selecting one.

Tools like Copilot and ChatGPT use that token process to write computer code. Though not always perfect, the initial consensus in the tech industry suggests that these tools can save coders hours of tedious work.

Text-to-image models like DALL-E and Stable Diffusion work similarly. The program is trained on lots and lots of pictures and their corresponding descriptions. It learns to recognize patterns and understand the relationships between words and visual elements. So when you give it a prompt that describes an image, it uses those patterns and relationships to generate a new image that fits the description. As a result, these models can create never-before-seen art.

What AI Is Not

We have not yet entered the phase of sentient AI – or artificial general intelligence (AGI). AGI is still a theoretical idea. Unlike generative AI, which seems to be able to do some of the things humans do, AGI systems would actually mimic or surpass human intelligence. Machines would become self-aware and have consciousness. And if you buy into the premise of movies like "Terminator" or "The Matrix," things go south for the human race rather quickly after that. To be clear, that's not where we are today.

AI is also not infallible. Large language models (LLM) like Bard and ChatGPT have an interesting flaw – sometimes they hallucinate. As in, a user enters a prompt and the system makes up an answer that's not true in some way. The system might produce an intelligent-sounding essay explaining photosynthesis, and cite as its source a scholarly research paper that doesn't actually exist. Sometimes the answer is just inaccurate. To complicate matters, the information is presented with confidence and authority; it looks and sounds legitimate.

Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei warns AI may cause ‘unusually painful’ disruption to jobs

PUBLISHED TUE, JAN 27 2026



Sawdah Bhaimiya



KEY POINTS

- Anthropic's CEO Dario Amodei warned that AI could wipe out jobs across several industries, making it harder for workers to pivot.
- He published a 20,000 word essay on the dangers of AI he foresaw and elaborated on past comments about the tech and job losses.
- “The technology is not replacing a single job but acting as a ‘general labor substitute for humans,’” Amodei wrote.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2026/01/27/dario-amodei-warns-ai-cause-unusually-painful-disruption-jobs.html>

WHAT'S THE
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Texas Enacts AI Consumer Protection Law

By Lindsey Tonsager, Jayne Ponder & August Gweon on July 1, 2025

On June 22, Texas Governor Greg Abbott (R) signed the Texas Responsible AI Governance Act ("TRAIGA") ([HB 149](#)) into law. The law, which takes effect on January 1, 2026, makes Texas the second state to enact comprehensive AI consumer protection legislation, following the 2024 [enactment of the Colorado AI Act](#). Unlike the Colorado AI Act, however, TRAIGA's AI consumer protection framework sets out categories of "prohibitions on use" of AI that will apply to persons that develop, deploy, or distribute AI systems (as relevant for different sections), while also establishing AI disclosure requirements for healthcare providers and government entities and amending Texas's biometric and data privacy laws.

Prohibited Uses of AI. In contrast to other state AI consumer protection frameworks that focus on risk mitigation for "high-risk" AI use cases, TRAIGA will categorically prohibit the development, deployment, or distribution (as applicable) of AI systems with the "intent" or "sole intent" that the AI system:

- Incite or encourage self-harm, harm to another person, or criminal activity.
- Infringe, restrict, or otherwise impair individual rights guaranteed under the U.S. Constitution.
- Unlawfully discriminate against a protected class in violation of state or federal law. The law further provides that "disparate impact" is insufficient to show an intent to discriminate for purposes of this prohibition. Notably, TRAIGA's prohibition on AI-based unlawful discrimination does not apply to insurance entities and financial institutions.
- Produce, assist or aid in producing, or distribute (1) visual material depicting child pornography, as prohibited under Section 43.26 of the Texas Penal Code, or (2) deepfake videos depicting intimate imagery or sexual conduct, as prohibited under Section 21.165 of the Texas Penal Code.
- Engage in "text-based conversations that simulate or describe sexual conduct" while "impersonating or imitating a child younger than 18 years of age."

TRAIGA also will prohibit certain government uses of AI, including the use of AI that evaluate or classify persons "with the intent to calculate or assign a social score" and the use of AI "for the purpose of uniquely identifying a specific individual" using biometric or publicly available data collected in violation of state or federal law and without the individual's consent.

Healthcare & Government AI Disclosure Requirement. TRAIGA will require healthcare providers that use an AI system "in relation to health care service or treatment" to disclose to patients that they are interacting with an AI system, and to provide such disclosures "not later than the date the service or treatment is first provided." The law also will require government agencies to provide such disclosures to consumers that interact with an AI system that is "intended to interact with consumers" and made available by the government agency.

<https://www.insideglobaltech.com/2025/07/01/texas-enacts-ai-consumer-protection-law/>

AI, Ethics, and Trust: A Biblically-Grounded Christian Position

Quintin McGrath, AI and Faith

Gretchen Huizinga, AI and Faith

John Dyer, AI and Faith, Dallas Theological Seminary

Mark Graves, AI and Faith, Fuller Theological Seminary

This is a longer version of a paper presented at the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) General Assembly, Seoul, Korea, October 27-31, 2025

Challenge Area	Biblical Principles	Concerns	Opportunities
Human identity crisis	<i>Imago Dei</i> and human agency	Risks dehumanization, abdicating human creativity, and outsourcing uniquely human tasks. Attributing human consciousness, soul, or morality to AI. Diminishing of relationships with God and humans.	Maintaining the dignity of humans as inventors and guides for AI. Importance of human-centric AI design. Ensure system design supports authentic, incarnational human-to-human relationships.
	The Gospel, redemption, and hope	Adoption of transhumanism and accelerationist perspectives. Salvation and transcendence can be achieved technologically.	Accelerating the spread of the Gospel (e.g., bible translation). AI-supported, Holy Spirit dependent, biblical spiritual development.
Truth and trust breakdown	Truth, wisdom, and discernment	AI's inability to distinguish truth from error. Lack of transparency. Breakdown of institutional trust. Erosion of the desire to seek truth, and outsourcing discernment to AI.	Accurate use of AI as an aid to research and greater understanding – enhance our desire to seek truth. Design AI systems to drive users towards the spiritual disciplines and reliance of God for true wisdom.
Economic justice and institutional trust	Justice and love	Ever expanding digital divide. Prosperity and human flourishing for a few, harm to many. Efficiency-driven replacement of humans by machines.	Pastoral support for those negatively impacted. Advocating on behalf of the marginalized. Designing and using AI responsibly for the benefit of all.
Environmental stewardship and creation care	Stewardship and dominion	Poor stewardship and harm to creation. “Can we?” rather than “should we?”	Prophetic call to creation care. Innovating responsibly for Kingdom purposes.

TRUST Aspect	High level Question	Core Questions
T - Theological Alignment Assessment	Does this AI system enhance our desire to love God and our neighbors?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does this AI application honor human dignity as image-bearers of God? • Does it impact our moral agency? • How does it align with biblical principles of justice, truth, and love?
R - Relational Impact Evaluation	Does this AI solution strengthen or weaken human relationships?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does this technology strengthen or weaken authentic human relationships? • How does it affect pastoral care and spiritual formation processes? • What is the impact on intergenerational knowledge transfer and discipleship?
U - Utility and Justice Analysis	Does this AI tool serve the vulnerable or privileged differently?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who benefits from this AI application, and who might be harmed? • Does it address genuine needs or create artificial dependencies? • How does it impact the most vulnerable in our community?
S - Stewardship and Sustainability	Can we sustain and maintain AI responsibly?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we responsibly manage the ongoing costs and complexity of this technology? • What are the environmental and social sustainability implications? • Do we possess the necessary expertise to utilize this tool wisely?
T - Transparency and Accountability	Are we declaring our use of AI? Can we understand and control its decisions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it clear when an AI system is being used? • Can we understand how this AI system makes decisions that affect people? • Are there transparent processes in place for addressing errors or harmful outcomes? • Who is ultimately responsible for decisions made with AI assistance?

Would you like to hear a song?

Lyrics for “My Guide, My Light”

[Verse]

In the shadows, You are near
In the whispers, I can hear
Every promise, every word
Assures me of Your love unheard

[Chorus]

You are my guide, my light
None but Jesus, shining bright
In Your arms, I find my peace
Rooted deep, my fears release

[Verse]

Through the valleys, in the fight
In the darkness, You bring light
Every moment, You abide
In Your grace, I will confide

[Chorus]

You are my guide, my light
None but Jesus, shining bright
In Your arms, I find my peace
Rooted deep, my fears release

[Bridge]

With each breath, I'll sing Your praise
Every trial, in You I'll gaze
You are faithful, forever true
My soul finds rest, secure in You

[Chorus]

You are my guide, my light
None but Jesus, shining bright
In Your arms, I find my peace
Rooted deep, my fears release

Original AI generated song
created in less than
10 minutes using

www.udio.com

A Brief Sermon About AI

“Wisdom in the Age of Machines”

“The beginning of wisdom is: acquire wisdom; and with all your acquiring, get understanding.” Proverbs 4:7

We stand in a moment unlike any other in human history. For the first time, humanity has created tools that can learn, reason, and generate ideas at a scale we once thought impossible. We call this artificial intelligence. Some fear it. Some worship it. Some misunderstand it. But as believers, our question is not, “Is AI good or bad?” Our question is, “How does God call us to live faithfully in a world where AI exists?” The Bible may not mention algorithms or neural networks, but it speaks powerfully about wisdom, creation, responsibility, and the human heart—truths that guide us even now.

“Wisdom in the Age of Machines”

1. AI Is a Tool—Not a Master

Genesis 1:26 tells us that God made humanity in His image and gave us dominion over creation. That means we are creators because we were made by a Creator. AI is simply an extension of that creative mandate. It is a tool—powerful, yes, but still a tool. Just as the hammer does not build the house without the carpenter, AI does not act without human direction. The danger is not the tool itself, but the heart of the one who wields it. Technology reflects human intention. If our hearts are surrendered to God, our tools—including AI—can be used for good.

“Wisdom in the Age of Machines”

2. Wisdom Must Guide Innovation

Proverbs 4:7 reminds us that wisdom is the principal thing. Not intelligence. Not innovation. Not speed. Wisdom. AI can process information, but it cannot produce wisdom. It can generate answers, but it cannot generate character. It can imitate human speech, but it cannot imitate the Holy Spirit. This is why God’s people must remain grounded in Scripture. We must be the conscience of a world racing ahead without asking whether it should.

“Wisdom in the Age of Machines”

3. Guard Your Heart in a Digital World

“Watch over your heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.” Proverbs 4:23

AI can shape what we see, what we hear, and even what we believe. Algorithms influence our emotions, our habits, and our worldview. So the call of Scripture is clear: Guard your heart. Guard your mind. Guard your time. Use technology, but do not let technology use you. Let Christ—not code—be the Lord of your life.

“Wisdom in the Age of Machines”

4. Love Your Neighbor in the Age of Automation

Jesus said the greatest commandments are to love God and love our neighbor.

AI will change jobs, economies, and relationships. Some will prosper. Some will struggle. The church must be a place where people find dignity beyond their productivity. Where identity is rooted not in what we do, but in whose we are. As AI reshapes society, the people of God must reshape compassion.

“Wisdom in the Age of Machines”

5. Hope in the Unchanging God

Technology changes. Culture changes. The world changes. But Hebrews 13:8 declares: “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.” Our hope is not in machines. Our hope is not in progress. Our hope is not in human brilliance. Our hope is in the eternal God who holds all things together.

“Wisdom in the Age of Machines”

Conclusion

Artificial intelligence is not a threat to our faith—it is a test of our faithfulness. Will we use it with wisdom? Will we let it serve God’s purposes? Will we remain rooted in Scripture as the world accelerates around us? Let us be a people who embrace innovation without losing revelation. Let us be creators who reflect the Creator. Let us walk in wisdom, humility, and love—no matter how advanced our tools become.

That sermon was written in about 5 seconds by Microsoft Copilot

Prompt...

- Write a Bible-based sermon about artificial intelligence

After writing the sermon, Copilot then offered...

- “If you want, Trey, I can help you turn this into a full sermon outline, a spoken script, or even a Bible study for a small group.”

KAT TENBARGE CULTURE JAN 5, 2026

AI Deepfakes Are Impersonating Pastors to Try to Scam Their Congregations

Religious communities around the US are getting hit with AI depictions of their leaders sharing incendiary sermons and asking for donations.



<https://www.wired.com/story/ai-deepfakes-are-impersonating-pastors-to-try-and-scam-their-congregations>

WHAT'S THE
WORD?

What does God's Word teach us?

A sermon not written by AI

We are born with a sinful desire to be God-like

Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, “Indeed, has God said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’” The serpent said to the woman, “You surely will not die!” Genesis 3:1-4

“For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil.” When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings. They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. Genesis 3:5-8

Jesus said... “You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for **he is a liar and the father of lies.**” John 8:44

Apostle Paul wrote... “in whose case **the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving** so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.” 2 Corinthians 4:4

What is the antidote to this sinful desire?

Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. 2 Peter 1:5-7

- A wise man will hear and increase in learning, and a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel, to understand a proverb and a figure, the words of the wise and their riddles. Proverbs 1:5-6
- “The beginning of wisdom is: acquire wisdom; and with all your acquiring, get understanding. Prize her, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her. She will place on your head a garland of grace; she will present you with a crown of beauty.” Proverbs 4:7-9
- The mind of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge. Proverbs 18:15

Jesus said, “But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, **He will guide you into all the truth**; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.” John 16:13

Remind them of these things, and solemnly charge them in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless and leads to the ruin of the hearers. Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, **accurately handling the word of truth.** But avoid worldly and empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness, and their talk will spread like gangrene.

2 Timothy 2:14-17a

Does God really grant wisdom?

As for these four youths [Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah], God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every branch of literature and wisdom; Daniel even understood all kinds of visions and dreams. Daniel 1:17

God's plan for mankind in the Last Days includes the use of technology

For the earth [dry land] will be filled with the **knowledge** of the **glory of the LORD**, as the waters cover the sea.

Habakkuk 2:14

They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the **knowledge** of the **LORD** as the waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 11:9

Does the Bible give us a glimpse
into a future that includes
Artificial Intelligence?

Revelation 13

John the Apostle's vision...

And the dragon [Satan] stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast [Antichrist] coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names. And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority. I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast; they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?” There was given to him [Antichrist] a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months [3.5 years] was given to him. Revelation 13:1-5

John the Apostle's vision...

And he [Antichrist] opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven. It was also given to him to make war with the saints [Tribulation believers] and to overcome them, and **authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him**. All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain. If anyone has an ear, let him hear. If anyone is destined for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints. Revelation 13:1-10

John the Apostle's vision...

Then I saw another beast [False Prophet] coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon. He exercises all the authority of the first beast [Antichrist] in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast [Antichrist], whose fatal wound was healed. **He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men.** And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to **make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life.** And it was given to him [False Prophet] to give breath to the **image of the beast** [Antichrist], **so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.** Revelation 13:11-15

John the Apostle's vision...

And he [False Prophet] causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, and he provides that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six. Revelation 13:16-18

How to follow Jesus in the Days of Artificial Intelligence

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:1-2

How can my mind be renewed?

“Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to **be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus**, so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 15:5-6

Our Promise As Followers Of Jesus

You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because **greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world**. They are from the world; therefore they speak as from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. 1 John 4:4-6

How to follow Jesus in the Days of Artificial Intelligence

- Remember that our God is greater than all who oppose Him
- Remember that we worship Jesus who is the Truth
- Remember that to be anti-Jesus is to be anti-Truth
- Regularly, eagerly fill your mind with Truth from God's Word
- Learn the biblical difference between Right & Wrong, Good & Evil
- Seek biblical wisdom as a daily goal
- Pray for knowledge and understanding
- Pray for and practice spiritual discernment
- Surround yourself with Godly counsel
- Fear not

Our Freedom As Followers Of Jesus

So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and **the truth will make you free.**”

John 8:31-32