

From the desk of **JOHN BRADSHAW**



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Dear friend of It Is Written,

In March, It Is Written was led by God to an innovation in public evangelism. We set out to reach tens of thousands of people on social media and invite them to an online, interactive evangelistic series. Actually, *you invited thousands to an online series*. *And it worked*. Your faithful support made it possible for the It Is Written team to be able to switch gears in just four weeks from an in-person series reaching hundreds to a global, online platform reaching thousands for Christ. And we aren't looking back now.

We set out to reach

We aren't alone embarking on a new frontier. The richest men alive today are trying to change military intelligence and how we travel by building and testing rockets. Their vision even extends to

tens of thousands of people on social media.

colonizing other planets. Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, and Richard Branson are taking on some very big and expensive projects. They have set out to change history and have had to wrestle with the challenges that entails. But for the prize set before them, the richest men in the world think the innovations—and the risks—are worth it.



You know where I'm going with this. We are trying to colonize heaven and the new earth with souls eternally saved. And like our rocket-loving friends, it takes boldness and patience. The difference is this: **God promises that His Word will never return to Him void** (Isaiah 55:11). There are no wasted risks. Sure, we learn things along the way, but God uses those lessons to bring people to Himself. Let me tell you a little about what He is doing.

Tens of thousands registered for Hope Awakens, our online global evangelistic outreach. At the same time, hundreds of churches engaged with us, wanting to be on the cutting edge of something new and innovative. Over three thousand virtual Bible workers volunteered, and despite a targeted cyber attack designed to take down our event on opening night, thousands viewed Hope Awakens. On the fifth night, *over* 1,600 responded to my call to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Right now the world is changing before our eyes. And we're changing with it.

We're seeing God do exciting things in this truly innovative work because of your continued support. And I want to tell you how grateful I am. I'd love to be able to tell you that holding a series of meetings online means our costs disappear, but the opposite is true. We've had to produce literally dozens of targeted digital ads. We're livestreaming to thousands and thousands of people all over the planet. We have people joining us live from the Middle East, Russia, Asia, the South Pacific, and from all 50 states. We've recruited and trained an incredible number of virtual Bible workers. We've had to invest in software for streaming and tracking and connecting with attendees. What I'm saying is, our costs have been very real. *I'm extraordinarily grateful that you have made this happen*. Many people called me and asked what they could do to help and supported this project selflessly. Thank you!

Right now the world is changing before our eyes. And we're changing with it. When the coronavirus shut down our live meetings, we could have accepted that as the way things had to



Melissa Jordan translates my message into American Sign Language.



Our team in Master Control producing the livestream for Revelation Today: Hope Awakens.



The Hope Awakens production team after an evening program.

be. But our team would not! We've pressed forward to do something groundbreaking, something even more impactful than our live meetings would have been.

As I write this, our staff are working under stay at home orders. We are making budget changes and adjustments. We don't know what the new normal will look like for ourselves or It Is Written. You are likely dealing with very similar uncertainty. But I know this: God is trying to warn the world. He is trying to turn every heart to Him. *Hearts are ready now. They are open.* Listen to these reports, received early in the Hope Awakens series. These are just two. We have received literally hundreds.

"I received a phone call from my stepmom today. She came across Hope Awakens on social media and told me about it. She's going to share it with my dad tonight. Praise God!"

"Thank you for this presentation. I have found such peace and comfort, answers to my confusion and questions, and a heightened desire for the Lord to take my hand and lead my life."

Hundreds of virtual Bible workers are contacting the thousands of people who registered for Hope Awakens. They are making connections and building relationships. One-on-one online Bible studies are starting. This is a new day for evangelism. *It may start online, but it ends with personal contact with hearts and lives*.

As the new normal emerges, I am reminded that God's plans are above ours (Isaiah 55:8); for you, for It Is Written, and ultimately for the world. I'm encouraged.

In April, Pastor Robert Costa shared Christ in Spanish in the three Americas and Western Europe. His online series began with nearly a quarter million views and had 170,000 views consistently throughout the series with over 1,000 preparing for baptism. Early in May, our

Hope Awakens meetings in Spanish begin here in the United States, and we are working on programs in Vietnamese, French, and Icelandic.

We are also working with churches in Australia and New Zealand who will run an online Hope Awakens series re-airing messages I am sharing right now. Revelation Today: Hope Awakens is just getting started! *I'm asking for your continued prayers and financial support as we move forward into new territory*. Your financial support is vital.

Every time a person engages with Hope Awakens, our costs increase. As you can imagine, our costs are significant. But the work of God is even more significant, and we dare not slow down. In addition, we still have a studio to complete. Right now, it's about half done. We have had to put many initiatives on hold—like the video wall we need for our studio, as well as studio sets—so that we could make Hope Awakens a ministry and financial priority. We need to finish these vital projects to be truly efficient and effective in our work for the Lord.

Thank you for your support of It Is Written and evangelism. *It costs money to try something brand new, but unlike Jeff Bezos' rockets, we are guaranteed success.* This gospel will be preached in all the world. Souls will be saved. And *then* the end will come (Matthew 24:14).

May God bless you and keep you safe in His arms.

Pastor John Bradshaw President, It Is Written Click the button to

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P.S. Innovation isn't easy. The richest men in the world are having a tough time at it. But we have something they don't. The promises and power of God. Hope Awakens changed the way we do evangelism. We have tens of thousands of souls to reach with our current series and more series in the weeks and months ahead. This is about making personal connections through technology. And our Bible workers and local church pastors are doing just that. You are doing just that. It's your prayers and support that make this possible. Thank you for supporting this ministry at such a crucial time in earth's history and extending our effectiveness for Christ and the gospel.

