OpenTheo

Interview with James Pelton: Christianity and Entrepreneurship

May 17, 2023



For The King - Rocky Ramsey

Brother Pelton walks us through some of his journey with some wisdom and insight he has gained along the way concerning entrepreneurship. We talk about cryptocurrency and being wise with our wealth as Christians. There are some great exhortations here to not let riches master you and to repent and believe on Christ alone. Place your hope in Christ and not wealth!

James' Links:

YouTube channel : https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN_RnjVd-kKDr2xaasirPmw Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/jamespeltoncrypto Instagram https://www.instagram.com/jamespeltoncrypto/ Twitter https://twitter.com/JamesPelton18 Tiktok - https://www.tiktok.com/@jamespeltoncrypto

--- Support this podcast: https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/rocky-ramsey/support

Transcript

(music) Don't think I will even ask you to make Jesus Lord of your life. That's the most preposterous thing I could ever tell you to do. Jesus Christ is Lord of your life.

Whether you serve him or not, whether you bless him, curse him, hate him, or love him, he is the Lord of your life because God has given him a name that is above every name so that the name of Jesus Christ every knee shall bow and tongue confess that he is Lord. Some of you will bow out of the grace that has been given to you and others will bow because your kneecaps will be broken by the one who rules the nations with a rod of iron. And I will not apologize for this God of the Bible.

(music) Hello friends. Welcome to the For the King podcast. This is your host, Rocky Ramsey.

And on this podcast, we proclaim the edicts of the king, namely and chiefly that Yahweh

reigns. I am joined this week with James Pelton. He is a brand new guest.

So just to introduce you to who this guy is, he is an entrepreneur, investor. He runs a fairly, fairly famous YouTube channel, husband, father. But what we're most concerned about is that he is a brother in Christ and all those things that he's doing.

So James, welcome to the podcast and maybe fill in the gaps there about who you are. Yeah, no, I love that. I appreciate you bringing me on.

Yeah, one thing that I entrepreneur, but first, like you said, Christian first. It hasn't always been that way. Maybe that's something we can talk about as we get going here.

But I used to kind of be Jesus was a part of my life. And, you know, I was really about career and entrepreneurism, my business and family and all this. And then, oh, yeah, my spiritual part is Jesus.

And over time, he's just he's he's just reversed that in my life where no, you know, Paul says in Philippians 121 to live is Christ. And he's made that true in my life or no, my life is about Jesus. And now entrepreneurism and family and career and money all fit into that rather than the other way around.

So I love the way that you worded that. Definitely. That's that's true in my heart.

Awesome. Praise God. Yeah.

Christ is the cornerstone. So we ought to build our lives on him, you know, not on shifting sand. So that's awesome.

James, appreciate that. I guess, you know, I've been tracking with your YouTube channel for maybe not a year, maybe coming up on a year. To be honest, somewhere around there.

And obviously love your content. Both both the financial advice exposed me to new crypto projects, but also just your spiritual insight and wisdom about finance and investing. So I guess give us some background.

I know you started a company and kind of your path into the finances that God's blessed you with. You started a company and you sold it. What did that look like? What was that company? Maybe some little tidbits of wisdom along the way.

And then how are you now on the YouTube channel with your YouTube scene? And what are you trying to accomplish there? Sure. Well, first off, I don't do financial advice on my channel. No, I'm just kidding.

That's not financial advice. But yes, no, I get what you're saying. Yeah, the disclaimer.

My bad. Yeah. Yeah.

I always got to put that disclaimer. No. Yeah.

So I, I, when I got my job, so I grew up as a, I love computers. Okay. So I started off software development at like second or third grade.

I was programming computers. I go to the library and I was picking up, you know, Pearl in a nutshell and PHP for dummies. And my parents were kind of, they were a little freaked out.

Like, what are you, what are you doing? What is this stuff? I just, can you believe you can make computers do anything you want them to do? And I thought that was the coolest thing. And so then I went to college for that and started doing e-commerce for some companies and things like that. Really enjoyed it.

A few things happened that made me want to get out of doing nine to five work. The first was I had my first daughter, my first daughter, I have a daughter and two sons now. But when she was born, you know, I'd leave for work at seven in the morning before she was awake and I get home at six 30 in the after, in the evening.

She went to bed at seven 30. And I was like, okay, I've got an hour with my newborn daughter and that's going to be the extent of our relationship is just this hour a day. And then, you know, the weekends.

So I was kind of like, I wanted to change that. I was like, I want more time. And then along with that, I built an e-commerce website for a kind of a stubborn company.

They didn't even really want it very much. But I built it for them anyways, and it made seven figures in the first year. And they were, you know, they're like, oh, we're so thankful.

And their thanks was they took me out for lunch. And I was kind of like, you know, I put a lot of work into that. And it's just the nature of when you're working nine to five is you're putting in a lot of work for someone else.

Yeah, someone else's vision. I just wanted more correlation between, hey, if I have a good idea, and if I'm willing to put in the work to do it, I would like, you know, the benefit for that. So those two things together kind of just made me very entrepreneurial.

I just was trying tons of different business ideas. And then eventually I found one that kind of stuck. But it was I wrote some software that sends out mass text messages, kind of turned into text, text marketing, one of the first text marketing companies.

And so I read that a little bit because now whenever people receive like spam text messages, I feel a little guilty like I kind of made that happen. But yeah, really, really

thankful for just the journey that it's put me on. And then yeah, in 2020 sold that business.

And that's what opened me up to investing really in venture capital real estate. Then I got into crypto. And once I got into crypto, it's hard to look back with just the potential returns in crypto, it's hard to get excited about, you know, your 10% on a real estate project.

So that's kind of been my journey. No, I hear you there. It's funny you bring it up the I didn't know it was a it was a text messaging mass text messaging.

I remember my buddy in high school, I guess this would be like, you know, 2015 2016. I'm about 24. And he made a text bomber app and put it on the Android store.

He made a he made a couple thousand bucks real quick. So I mean, that was very helpful back then for some people. Yep, yep.

No, that's it was amazing. Well, and the reason I built it was actually I was working as a part time pastor. And I was teaching the college group.

And we were looking for a way to let students know about what we were like going out for dinner after church. And so, you know, eventually we tried a bunch of different things we tried phone trees and all these different things. And then eventually I was like, well, how would we do it manually, we would text everyone.

So I'm like, okay, let's just do automatically what we would normally do manually. And that was kind of the start of it. So, and couple quick tidbits just of like if you're entrepreneurial and you're listening.

One thing that I've learned is if you're wanting to start a business, find a problem that you have personally and solve that problem. Because if you have it, there's not a lot of unique problems. Okay, if you have a problem, there's probably a lot of other people that have the same problem.

And then you become your beta tester and you have the best feedback for how the product should work. So find a problem that's in your life, solve that problem, and then you have a business. So that's kind of how I started.

Yeah, that's very helpful, James. Appreciate that. And that's, I guess, just trying to tie it to biblical wisdom.

You know, in Ecclesiastes, we know there's nothing new under the sun. So that's a good, you know, biblically grounded presupposition that if you got a problem, someone else might have the same problem. Oh, yeah.

Yep, absolutely. Well, and maybe we'll get into this later. I'm actually, I've been working

on a book called Proverbs for Entrepreneurs.

Oh, okay. Oh, yeah. So I mean, there's a lot of, there's a ton of great wisdom from the Bible for entrepreneurs.

So yeah, absolutely. That's awesome. Maybe we could have you back on to plug that once you get it published and stuff.

That'd be great. Yeah, it's more, more if I get it published. I, okay.

Part of my entrepreneurial problem is that I end up with way more ideas than time to implement the ideas. Oh, yeah. So I have a I call it the marker board of oblivion, but I write down all these business ideas and then it, they kind of just sit there on the marker board for a long time.

That's good. Now there's a lot there. Yeah, so I guess just going, let's just follow that rabbit trail right there, I guess, because we were going to go there anyways.

In terms of just like wisdom in investing or just wealth in general, you know, why do you think as a Christian, you're in the crypto space, but also you said venture capital, real estate, a lot of other types of investments. Why should you invest in general as a Christian? Why if, if I guess maybe before we go there, maybe to preface and kind of set up the question, a lot of people, if they're faithful Christians, right? Somebody that reads the word of God meditates on it, writes it on their heart, speaks about Christ in the public sphere. You'll hear people say, oh, you should be a pastor automatically.

You should be a pastor. You should be an elder. You should be a deacon.

You should, you know, you should be in the church office. Well, I personally don't think that's always the case. I think sometimes you can have faithful Christians that know the word of God that do things, you know, apply the word of God in the civil sphere and what they're doing.

So why do you think that applies your Christian life to investing? Why do you do that as a Christian? Why did you think that that was a good route? You know, what do you think? Yeah, no, that's a great question. And I want to preface some too. I have kind of some non traditional views on some financial things that maybe, maybe we can, maybe if it fits in, we'll talk about some of that.

But when I first got into entrepreneurism, I will say it was I did not have good motives. You know, I mean, they weren't terrible motives, but a lot of it was, you know, selfish and a lot of it was greed based and, you know, wanting to get my due and, and so, you know, sometimes you really have to examine your heart with the Lord and work through how much of that is okay and how much of that is wrong and needs to be set aside. It's like not even something you can talk to generally. It's kind of you just got to look at your heart. Yeah, because, you know, Jesus tells the soldiers, some soldiers come up to Jesus and they say, hey, what do you expect from us? And he tells the first thing he tells him is be content with your wages. And so you really, you really have to work through in your heart.

The place that money has money, the root, the love of money is the root of all sorts of evil and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and have pierced themselves with many griefs. You man of God, flee those things and pursue righteousness. So especially for young men, you really, really have to work through in your heart why it is that you're wanting, you know, a better financial situation, why it is that you're pursuing more money.

And, you know, and we can sometimes we can deceive ourselves where we say, oh, I want to take better care of my family. But then in our heart, it's really when Lambo, you know, and it's something you really have to work through on a personal basis. You really have to work through on a personal level with the Lord.

Jesus talks more about money than everything else. And it's just something that can really take over somebody. So when I first started, I was more in that position where, you know, I wanted people to think highly of me and I wanted to be successful in life and I wanted different things.

I wanted to be able to buy what I wanted to buy. And, you know, I even I remember as a younger, like in high school, people would come. I went to a Christian school and people would come and talk about, you know, money doesn't make you happy.

And I remember thinking that's because you didn't you don't have any money. You didn't make enough. That's the only reason you're saying that.

But one thing God has taught me through my journey is that it's true. Money is if that's where you're looking to for your joy or for your fulfillment or your satisfaction, you will be severely disappointed because it's Solomon and Ecclesiastes. He says it's chasing after the wind.

When you finally catch up to it and you finally get your Lambo or whatever it is, you think that's going to make you so happy. You get there and then you realize, wow, this is nothing like it's I can't even grasp it. And that's it struck me really sorry, I'm monologuing a bit interrupt me if I monologue for too long.

No, you're good. But I built my kind of my dream house, quote unquote, I had enough money where we had saved up and sold the business and stuff. And so I built my dream house.

And I remember maybe two weeks in just kind of thinking, wow, what what next? Like that was that was not nearly as satisfying or fulfilling as I thought it would be. And it was

kind of a panicky feeling because it was like, well, that's what I had been aiming at. And now I'm 30 at the time I was 32, I think, or 31 and was just like, man, there's got to be something more to life.

And just time and time again, God has just brought to me and shown me that he is more. I mean, he is better. He is a you know, Psalm 1611 in your presence, fullness of joy at your right hand, pleasures forever more.

He's the only one that satisfies. He's the only one that brings all the things your heart thinks that it's pursuing and thinks it's desiring. It's actually Jesus is the answer to all those things.

And it's just hard to believe that. So no, that's good. It's just two things that come to mind.

You speaking about that. I mean, Christ says seek first the kingdom of God, then all these things will be added to you. And I think C.S. Lewis kind of picks up on that same train of thought when he says, if you aim at Earth, you know, you'll just get hell basically.

But if you aim at heaven, you'll get both Earth and heaven, you know, if our aim is heaven, then we'll also kind of get the things of Earth established for us because they're not our idol. We're not worshiping them and they're not consuming us or destroying us. So I think that rings true.

But let's say hypothetically, we have a Christian man that does put the things in its proper place. You know, when Christ is our God, you know, we're we're skipping Christ and we are not making an idol of money or success or the applaud of men. Let's say we're in that part or sorry, in that kind of frame of mind.

You know, how should Christians think about wealth and investing? Right. I mean, are there I guess maybe something I'm thinking about that maybe can get you jump started. Then you can kind of go wherever you want to.

But can you have an immoral, evil investment? You know, I know when we get to crypto, we can talk about some of the principles in crypto that I think line up with a biblical worldview. But just in general, thinking about investing, you know, how do we be wise with our money? If we're if we have the right motives and going about investing it, where should we place it? And I don't know. I don't know.

I guess that hopefully that sets you up enough. But what do you think? Yeah. Yeah.

No, that's there's some great, great stuff there. Most things I take kind of on a case by case basis, it's kind of hard to do in general, just because like one thing that I've been really walking through is like, how does the Lord give wisdom? You know, like James one says, if anyone lacks wisdom, let him ask of God who gives generously without reproach.

And so, you know, we're going to God for wisdom.

But then a lot of times we don't look for wisdom on like day to day decisions we're making. We kind of ask for like this general wisdom. Yeah.

That's just not really how me and the Lord relate to each other. Like I'm asking him, you know, like, what should I talk about on this podcast, you know, and give me, give me wisdom for that. Yeah, things like that.

So a lot of the investment stuff, you know, it has to come on a case by case basis. And a lot of it is in the heart. Like a lot of it is, why am I wanting to get into this? Is this a get rich quick type thing? Because a lot of times we fall into that.

Like even as Christians go in the right direction and, you know, we love the Lord and all this, but then something pops up where it's like, oh man, I could make this amount of money that would solve a little bit of stress in this or this situation. And we, you know, forget to even take it to the Lord. We're just, we just jump in.

And I see that a lot in crypto. So that's maybe one general principle that I give is, he who hurries his footsteps errors is Proverbs 23, I think. So you want to take it to the Lord and really think about it.

Don't let your, you know, the dollar signs in the eyes cloud you from the decisions that you're making. I see that happen a lot. Yeah.

You know, it's kind of similar to gambling in a lot of ways where people think, you know, if I put 100 K on black in roulette, and if I win that it's going to really set me up, you know, for the future. I'm going to have an extra 100 K and people do the same thing with crypto. And then, you know, once in a blue moon, it works out, you know, and you hear those stories and then that might even encourage you to do more.

But a lot of times you lose and it's hard for me to look at a loss like that and be like, oh yeah, God, that was real responsible with what you gave me. So that's good. Yeah.

So that's that's one kind of general thing I would say is, yeah, taking it to the Lord and, you know, asking him about individual investments and then listening to what he has to say. Going through the Proverbs, I found Proverbs to be super valuable when dealing with business and finances and entrepreneurship. Yeah.

But yeah, that's kind of one thing I'd say. No, that that's really helpful. I know many times me, especially in the crypto space, you know, you see a project and if you like it literally sometimes if you just waited a week, you know, like you're saying, I go slow, pray about it, think about it.

If I would have just waited a week, you know, it imploded. You know what I mean? Yeah.

But instead, I'm like, all right, I'm going to throw it in now, you know, and I don't go crazy.

I'm not like a fool with it, you know, but sometimes, yeah, like going nice and slow is extremely wise and the Lord is pleased with that for us to be slow and rely on him rather than I was. Yeah, I might say too, you know, that I there's a chance that I wouldn't be in crypto anymore, except for what I found is it's like a big, it's a big mission field, honestly, like there's not a lot of Christians in the crypto space, or at least not a lot of like vocal Christians. Yeah, the longer I'm in the space, the more I you know, Christians are coming to me saying, hey, I'm a Christian in the space and just not that vocal about it.

And yeah, so, and I've been that's what I spent a lot of my time praying about is because I don't want to. I don't want to be a Christian YouTube channel because I want that you know, there's a place for that. Obviously, I'm not you know, obviously, this is more of a Christian podcast.

I'm not saying don't have Christian podcasts or anything like that. Yeah, I'm wanting to like, I have all this interaction with all these unbelievers. And I want to teach them and like show them, you know, when one of their projects falls apart.

Well, that's their hope. And so then they get really depressed and I want to show them, hey, my hope is not in that project that project falls apart. Yeah, I'm sad.

You know, I wish it hadn't. But that's not where my hope is. And the goal is first Peter says, you know, always be ready to give an account to everyone who asks you for the reason for the hope that's in you.

Yeah. And what's implied in that is that you're going to have hope that people can see is not in the same place that their hope is in. And I think finances is a great place.

So many people's hope is in finances. And if you're able to come in next to these people, but your hope is not in finances, you're doing kind of the same things. You're getting into the same investments and things like that.

But they can tell, oh, his hope is different than my hope. To me, that's opened up a whole bunch of opportunities to give a defense for the reason for the hope. Yeah, that's awesome, brother.

That's good. I didn't even know that aspect of it, too. You were thinking about it evangelistically.

That's great. I guess just like maybe following up on that question a little further. I know, you know, I'm a young man and a lot of the kind of Christian men that I'm attracted to are the ones that are like masculine in the sense that they take responsibility and they're active and they work hard.

And I can tell you, you're one of those men. That's why I like your channel. I like seeing Christian men not be docile and passive, but active and kind of dominating their field, I guess, because I want to be like that.

I think Christians ought to be excellent. If we think we should be excellent when we work for men, the scriptures say that we're supposed to do all things the way I've gotten, 1 Corinthians, or work is unto the Lord, do everything in the name of the Lord, I think is also in Coloss. So we have a couple explicit commands.

So if we're working for the Lord, how much more are we to excel than if we were just working for men? You know, so I think you're doing a great job of that. So maybe some thoughts there of I know there's a lot of like, you know, really masculine men are attracted to wanting to invest and, you know, make a lot of money and that kind of thing. And I feel like the Christian church is kind of in the West, at least evangelicalism is kind of thwarted that demographic of Christian men that feel a little disenfranchised.

So they go to Jordan Peterson and Joe Rogan and a bunch of those dudes when they're solid Christian dudes like yourself that are working hard. Do you feel like maybe you can fill a little space there, I guess, you know, I know you have to be curious what you think there. Yeah, no, and that's definitely something and I think that is part of what I like what you said about young men because that's that's been like 80% of my audience has been young men.

And then I think, you know, probably there's there's a portion of them that are like solid believers who want to please the Lord a lot. There's a portion of them who are kind of like, yeah, I believe in the Lord, but then, you know, money and business has kind of taken over them. And then there's a big portion that are not saved at all, you know, and yeah, you know, the role to play for all that.

But I think you hit the nail on the head with like the reason Jordan Peterson Andrew Tate, like there's a lot of young men who are looking for direction in life and people aren't giving it to him like the church is not giving it to him. And so I think that's something that I think that church isn't telling him, you know, how do you how do you be a man? What does it mean to be a man? So I think there's definitely definitely a place for that. And it's something I do want to be for people is like, just, hey, I'm confident in the Lord.

I'm confident in the people around me. And honestly, that's what's given me a lot of I get a lot of times, wow, how are you so vocal about your faith, you know, on Twitter and on YouTube and things like that. And I used to care I used to be just crippled by what people thought about me.

I wanted to frame everything a certain way, you know, before I had to tweet anything I was like, okay, how is this gonna make me look and things like that? Yeah. And just over time, the Lord's I think he's just shown me how big he is. And then it's, you know, Paul

says it's a small thing for me to be examined by a person.

Like I'm standing before the Lord someday. I'm not, you know, what these people think about me is not a lot of, you know, importance in my heart. And that's really freed me up just to, you know, say what I think and be vocal about the Lord.

And so yeah, I don't know if that's helpful. But I can't even remember the original question. Sometimes I monologue for so long.

I can't remember what the original question was. No, that's fine. We just kind of I kind of derailed about, you know, the masculinity with investing.

I think that's a big connection there. Yeah. But no, that's really helpful.

And I'm glad that you, you know, you could see yourself as that. And I'm glad you see that issue too, because I mean, that's that's a part of my channel too, as you know, younger Christian brother, you know, I'm a layman. I'm not a pastor or a deacon or anything.

But I'm just trying to, you know, do my part here and engage in that conversation and provide an outlet for people my age, you know, in their early 20s and have men like you around that can that can help us, you know, find a pathway forward. Don't feel like we need to go the Andrew Tate router. Because a lot of those dudes, they, you know, like you're saying, they, they make an idol out of money, they're gonna, they're gonna devour those young men alive, and they're gonna lead them straight to hell.

You can't the blind will not the blind can't lead the blind, you know. And when you're in that space that as a Christian, you can remind it's not the end of the world, you know, if, if, you know, you lose some money on an investment or whatever, that's not why we're here. We're here to glorify Christ.

We're made for God. We're made in his image, you know. So I don't know, I just think that's so important and we need to, I see you're doing that and I want to, I want to hopefully grow into that more and kind of fall in a lot of men like you and their footsteps, you know.

Well, thank you, brother. I appreciate that. Yeah, I want to say to that, like with Jordan Peterson, Andrew Tate and all that, I think what a lot of men want is strength, like we want to be strong.

Yeah. And so I think that's what attracts a lot of people like to Andrew Tate is he seems strong, you know, it seems like, oh, I want to be that way. I want to be, you know, strong.

And so just as a Christian, we have to be really cautious about looking to like the world's definition of strength, because I think as men, the way God designed us to work is like

Jesus did, which is serving the people around you, you know, washing the feet of the disciples at the Last Supper. And if you're not, if you're not really secure in the Lord and you don't have your eyes on the rewards you're going to get from him in the future and heaven and those things, then you're not going to be strong. You're going to be going around and you're going to kind of be like a footstool for people and they're just going to be taking advantage of you and all these things.

Exactly. But if you have the strength of knowing your future, your confidence is in the Lord, you're not looking for the approval of other people, then what it does is it frees you up to serve, to, you know, do, you know, starting with your wife and your kids and then your extended family and your friends and then even, you know, like my YouTube community, my Twitter followers, but you can serve in a way that makes you strong. But it's not an Andrew Tate type of way.

He's not serving it, you know, he's out, you want a different type of strength. Yeah, exactly. We have to make sure we're not duped as Christians.

We've run into as Christians, we've seen a lot of weak Christian men and we don't want that, but we don't want the strength that's from the world. So yeah, definitely a niche that needs to be filled. That's huge, brother.

I appreciate you saying all that. I guess just one thing recently that's gone about me as a man. When I think about that, how to be strong as a man, but in a Christian way, the way Christ was.

It's, I guess the first thing I'd say there is God is no tyrant, but he is the master. He's the king, right? But he's not a tyrant. So there's a difference, like the kind of masculinity, you know, Tay and, you know, Rogan, a lot of these dudes.

It's more of a domination versus mastery. You kind of see the difference there. Oh, yeah.

Being a master is one that blesses other, like you're saying through their serving, right? The way that they bless the people around them, right? But the one that dominates is trying to extract resources and things from the people around them and train them. They're like a parasite. Those kind of men are the toxic masculine, parasitical men.

But a true masculine man is one that's a master. He still leads. He's still up in front, but he does it in the way that he serves, right? He's a master of all things.

So I don't know, maybe some, if you have any thoughts there, but something really dawned upon me. Yeah, no, I love that. I think that's totally true.

I think it happens a lot in the church too. Like I, you know, I have grew up at kind of a pretty conservative fundamentalist church and there was a big emphasis on like, okay, wives submit to your husbands as to the Lord, you know, like Ephesians says. But what

that turned into was the men really like domineering that over the women.

Yeah, domination. Like, hey, I'm the man, I'm strong, I'm leading and kind of like forcing the wife to respect and to follow and those things. And that's not at all what leaders, like you can't force someone to respect you.

You can't force someone to follow you. And it has to come about by serving like the real, what God really has for men is to die to themselves. That's what he's enabled us.

That's what his spirit enables us to do is like, hey, I think I need this, this and this. Well, all that you actually need is God and his spirit and that's all that you need. And then it's just so it just opens you up to lead in a whole different way.

And I just see so many in the church, so many men that, you know, it's just been corrupted. And then they end up just being these weak men. And then a lot of people in the church go to Andrew Tate to figure out how can I truly be a man? Yeah, exactly.

Totally agree with you. Wow, you. Yeah, brother, it's just awesome that you I didn't I didn't know exactly when we started talking, which kind of direction we'd go and kind of what you thought, you know, but brother, this is great.

So I guess, you know, we got like 15 more minutes here. Let's let's let's go this route now. So we've got kind of a lot of principles, difficult principles in place.

And I guess some good background there. Why why are you specifically I wanted to because, you know, I watch your channel for all your, you know, the crypto information and the people the ama's with all these different projects and stuff and really great information. Why are you in crypto as a Christian is is crypto at odds with Christianity? Well, you know, what should you think about crypto as a Christian? What conclusions have you come to since you're in the space and a leader in the space as a Christian? Yeah, what do you think? Yeah, no, that's a great question.

I think God has led me to crypto. Like there's been several like there have been times I've tried to get out of crypto and then I just get pulled back in for one reason or another. And so I really I do feel like God has me in crypto for a reason.

I'm not a huge like some I don't know how do I put this without being insulting but like there's a lot of Christians are more quote unquote conspiracy theory driven where they're like, oh, this is you know, this is from Satan. This or this or that is from Satan and he's behind this or that and you know, there may or may not be truth to some of that but I'm just like too simple minded to think through all those things and honestly, I don't think that God in general care. I think he's looking at our heart.

And if you're not purposely trying to serve Satan, then I don't think he like holds you that accountable for the things that you do. Like, you know, he holds you accountable for

what you know to be right and what you don't do is kind of how I when I look at the Bible. So that's kind of the approach I've taken with crypto again so I look at more the principles that I know are from the Lord which is don't love money.

Don't you know integrity is a huge thing in the Proverbs and so like there's a lot of opportunity for me as an influencer where I could skirt around integrity. I could you know, pump and dump and there's there's this different ways that no one would probably even ever know like I could make money in ways, ride steel from people and they would never know that I had ever done that. And so that you know that kind of that could lead to ungodliness very quickly.

But I don't really look at it that way. So yeah, I don't really see crypto at odds with the Lord as long as you're you know, as long as you're following his principles as you go through different things. There could be a debate to be had about like, okay, so things that I think might be a Ponzi scheme of some kind.

If I don't think they're being totally upfront about their revenue streams or something, is it immoral for me to put money into that? And you know, again, I just kind of take it case by case and I just stay true to what I think the Lord is calling me to. I guess I don't really have anything more I can say than that is if I feel like it's wrong, I don't do it. If I pray, search the scriptures and I don't come to like, oh, this is terrible.

I shouldn't be doing this. Then I just don't really worry about it too much. So that may be careless.

Some people tell me I'm careless. But that's just I don't know. That's what me and the Lord have come to.

And I'd have to be convinced to think differently about it. Yeah, that's fine. I just wanted to pick your brain on that and see what you got, you know, because I get you know, I try to talk to people about crypto as a Christian and I gave a little presentation at my church to some of the men during the men's breakfast.

And you know, some men are really receptive to it. Some men aren't. But you know, my kind of the way I go about it is I try to look at like tokenomics and the way that the project actually runs.

And if it's more kind of like a fiat looking thing where they can just inflate the crypto whenever they want to, then you know, I try not to be as much in those cryptos, but they got to have a real world use case, solve a real problem, you know, that kind of thing, which is what you talk about on your channel all the time. All the good principles you want to see in a project. So I don't know if you have any more thoughts there or we can move on.

Yeah, I mean, you hit the nail. I mean, when I'm looking at crypto projects, yeah, you hit

the nail on the head like we've just we've seen tons of projects that have failed. So you can look at the failures.

You learn a lot more from the failures than the successes, but you can look at the failures and say, OK, this is why this failed. This is why this failed. And so, yeah, we've learned, which is so elementary, but for some reason, we had to lose a lot before we learned it.

But there needs to be the revenue has to be coming from somewhere. So you need to be able to pinpoint, hey, where is this money coming from? And if the answer is new investors coming in, then there is a large potential that you're going to have problems down the road at some point. So that's good.

All right. So I guess we can we can wrap up here on this last question. So I have been tracking your I did not know you were a Christian for probably the first five, six months was watching.

I don't know if I just missed the videos where you explicitly talked about it or whatever. But eventually I was watching one of your I can't remember which one it was, but you had quoted scripture. I was like, OK, let's go.

You know, that's cool. And then you had started releasing episodes that were like really explicitly Christian. You had just had one that you released a few days ago about how to how to cure anxiety.

You know, how do we think about anxiety as humans? You know, and you know, all of your I think it was like six tips for an anxiety. And it was great because I was really curious to see you started off talking about all the blessings that you have by making Yahweh your God, you know, and not being anxious about other things. And then I was curious if you were going to end the way I wanted you to.

And you did. You said at the end of that episode that these are truths that are only blessings for God's people. Not everybody is born in Christ, united to Christ with their sins propitiated and taken care of.

Not everybody is born into that. You must repent and believe in Christ. And I was like, man, and he was ending with the gospel.

That's great. So why did you decide to go explicitly Christian on your YouTube channel? Why was that? What got you to that point? I think we had already maybe touched on some of this, but I don't know. Was there just a day where you were like, you know, I'm going to do an episode that's like really because I think that the people that are listening are dying in their sins.

They need to know who Christ is. You know, I guess what are some of your thoughts

there and why? Why did you go like really explicitly? Yeah. Yeah.

No, that's a great question. And I have an answer to. So when I originally started so much of like when I was a younger man, I was like, we just want to figure out our life.

Right. We're not we're not super concerned about we just want to make it through life ourself. Like, hey, can I pay my bills? Can I take care of my family? Can I have a house? Can I? Yeah.

You know, and that's kind of what our focus is. And so that was a big focus for me was just myself. And like, what do I have going on? And honestly, when I started my YouTube channel, I started it because I wanted an outlet to talk about what I'm doing financially.

And so I started with no like I didn't really have any Christ Christ centered goal or anything like that. It was just, hey, I want to talk about what I'm doing. And so I started a YouTube channel for that.

And then just over time, as I connected with more people and I just I realized that like if people watch my channel and all they get is financial, their financial situation is improved. Then, you know, in a in a hundred years, that's going to be worthless. Like, I didn't really help anyone at all.

Wow. And so that just kind of worried me. I mean, it just it it would it bothered me.

You know, the parable that Jesus tells about the rich man who has the barn that he fills up and then he says, what should I do now? I'm going to build bigger barns. And then he collects all this money. And then he says, OK, now I'm going to just eat, drink and be merry and live out my days.

And then he says, you fool. Now you now you're dead and nothing that you did accomplished anything. You know, you're going to be worse off in heaven than Lazarus, the poor man.

You know, like it just doesn't do you any good. And so that really the Lord really started to speak to my heart and tell me, hey, I want you to use your YouTube channel in a way to bring glory to God, glory to Jesus. And then I've really wrestled.

It's actually one of my number one prayers right now is how to best do that, because, you know, my subscribers, I have fifty one thousand subscribers. They're there for passive income, you know, and so it's kind of if I came out, like you might have noticed that that video I did on anxiety got a fifth the number of views that I noticed that. Yep.

I'm monthly numbers do. And so it's really praying through with the Lord. How do I, you know, do I just keep it passive income, but then bring in the Lord more often? Do I make it? I've thought about making it like just an exclusively Christian kind of similar to like

what you're doing, like just an exclusively Christian thing.

So I'm still working through that. It's still a work in progress, but I just again taking it day by day and just praying for the Lord to guide me. And I've kind of given it over to him or hey, it's your YouTube channel.

It's not mine. So you do as I please, like the growth I've had has been one hundred percent from you. Whenever I try things to grow it, it never works.

But then God always has these other things that make it work out. So, yeah, that's something I'm praying through. But definitely I don't want people to be able to go months watching without knowing that I'm a Christian, you know, and so I try to bring it up.

At least every every couple of videos. And I'll probably do some more just like exclusive Christians, Christian ones just to sprinkle them in there. But yeah, that's a it's a journey for sure.

Yeah, I guess maybe just to offer my thoughts, I think I think personally you've done a great job. You have you have done the people are coming to your channel for passive income and they're getting that right. But then you're throwing in these these these like leavening agents, right? Like the kingdom of God is like leavening a lump that spreads.

You know, you're adding little bits of salt, saltiness to your speech. So, I mean, honestly, it may. Yeah, you may lose some of that following if you went explicitly Christian.

Oh, I mean, and you have. That's the thing. I think those few episodes are doing, you know, they're at least exposing people to, hey, this guy's a Christian, you know.

So when they see you excelling, they're like, OK, well, at least Christians can excel to a passive income. You know what I mean? So I don't know. I think I honestly I think you're doing great, brother.

I think the Lord is pleased to be honest. Thank you. I'm for you.

And then, yeah, I guess last thought here, because you have a hard out at four fifteen or no, no, no. Whenever whenever you need. I've got nothing else today.

So, OK, I got I got one more question and then we can kind of plug some of the things that you're doing and we can wrap it up here. So last question, what are your thoughts on impacting the culture through technology and media as a Christian? So you're you know, you got your Twitter, YouTube channel, you know, specifically YouTube channel. Do you think Christians have done poorly or maybe they've done well that they could do way, way better? What are your thoughts there on how we can leverage that tool that God's given us, the tool of technology and media? How can we leverage that to impact

the culture more? What are some of your thoughts that you seem to be doing it well? What's your wisdom? Yeah, no, that's a great question.

And this is another thing I put a lot of prayer into. And this might be where I have like maybe some non-traditional views on things. But I honestly I believe that there's not really a way to change people apart from just God's salvation work in their hearts.

Right. And so really, I'm just more focused on a one by one type impact. I don't have like these big views of, you know, I want to change the crypto industry or anything like that.

Okay. Personally, I just am like, hey, I want to influence. I interact with people one at a time.

And that's how I want to kind of save people is I want to just, you know, share with people one on one. I allow my audience to like schedule a time to pray with me or a time to just talk through their spiritual thoughts. And that's opened up a whole bunch of opportunities.

But yeah, I'm not I'm not super big. I'm like trying to change the culture or anything like that. Just because, you know, when I look at like the book of Revelation and again, I don't know, we don't have to get into eschatology or anything like that.

But it seems to me that like the world is going to just get worse, worse, worse and worse. And then Jesus is going to come and save, fix everything. And so I really, you know, and there's a balance to that.

And that's what I've been praying through because like, you know, with transgenderism and things like that, I like I appreciate the people, the politicians and the people who are fighting. You know, in that front on our behalf. Yeah.

So then I feel I just am I skirting that by saying, you know, it doesn't doesn't really matter. So that's honestly something that I'm trying to work through is how involved you get politically or culturally. So I don't know.

That's something that I'm working through. I don't know. What are your thoughts on that? Maybe I'll turn the question around on you.

Oh, my. Please don't do that. I'm just kidding.

You know that. I mean, I guess. I like the way you're doing it.

I think that you're doing a good job of impacting culture that way. I mean, there are some people that are in certain positions to be more explicit about certain ethical issues that the Christian worldview speaks to like transgenderism, homosexuality, things like that. Obviously, we abominate that. We think that those things are evil, that God is displeased with that. And that's not the way he made humans. And it's not just that they're evil.

It's that that's going to destroy their lives and they're going to be left wanting after their homosexuality, transgenderism, et cetera. Right. It's not that we hate.

We don't hate those people. We want salvation for them. We're going to proclaim Christ to them.

You know, so I think some people are set up to proclaim the gospel to those parties like you're saying, politicians and that little more accurately. So because your your your channel is not geared towards that, I think you're doing perfect. And you're geared towards financial people's financial life.

You know, you're not do your own research and not financial advice, but kind of in that sphere. So you're speaking to common sins that that specific sphere of your influence people succumb to. You know, so I guess that'd be my thought is, you know, people that are in that that they have an ability, a more clear route to address those kinds of sins than they do that in their sphere.

You know, but obviously all Christians can condemn all sins that the scriptures speak to. So it's not like, you know, you wouldn't say right, you know, that the Bible doesn't speak to that. So I don't know.

Those are just some of my thoughts. I don't know if you have anything you want to bounce off. Yeah.

No, that's super helpful. Yeah. A couple of things that I thought of just while you were talking.

First off, one thing that I thought is that like I have political views and actually I have pretty like strong political views in a lot of ways. But, you know, Jesus says if they hate me, they're going to hate you. So we know that just by being by just saying the name Jesus, we're going to get hatred.

And so like I don't want to get hatred if if people are turned off to me, I don't want it to be because I said Donald Trump, you know, or something like that. Like I want if they hate me, I want it to be because I said Jesus, not because of some political view, because just my how I love Jesus is so much greater. So much greater than like, oh, yeah, sure.

I voted for Trump mostly because I want lower taxes. OK, I don't really know. It's not that big of a deal to me compared to Jesus.

So I just want to be careful with that, where if I get into politics or something like that, I don't want that to be what divides my audience or turns away. And then the other thing I

was going to say, which maybe this doesn't have anything to do with what we're talking about. But I've been thinking a lot about how Christians have been responding to transgenderism and homosexuality and these things.

And I just I think that we need to be careful because like the divorce rate in the church is like 60 percent right now. Yeah. So it's like we're OK looking at other people and saying, yeah, look at these transgender people doing this and wrecking their life and all that.

But then like divorce, which to me is equal. You know, God talks more about divorce than he does about transgenderism. But we've just let that come in and just be like, well, no, that's fine.

You know, that's just a part of life and it's just the way things are. And I just you know, if we can just out of love, you proclaim to everyone like what you were saying, that this is going to ruin your life. This is going to make you worse off than you were before, whether it be divorce or greed or immorality or pornography or transgenderism.

But yeah, I feel like we've maybe as a culture, a Christian culture, we've like highlighted transgenderism because it's kind of weird, you know, and it looks strange. And it's it feels different than like divorce does or something like that. But I just don't want to like, you know, come out against that and then be like, oh, yeah, but divorce, that's fine.

Pornography, which is rampant in the church. Like we could do a whole episode on pornography. Oh, yeah.

But then, yeah, I know kind of the take the log out of your own eye before we start looking at the spec in our brothers eyes and saying, OK, you know, out of love for you. I want you to work on this, this and this. But me right now, the American church has these huge logs in their own eye that I would like us to see, you know, kind of work on.

That's one of the things I want to do. No, I completely agree. I think that's very wise.

That's the text I was thinking of the whole time. Take the log out of your eye. I guess also continuing, I guess, with the sermon on the Mount, the church is to be a city on the hill, you know, that you don't put a basket on top of.

We're supposed to shine a light. And then we're supposed to also be salty. And if the salt has lost its saltiness, it's good for nothing except to be trampled underfoot.

So the church has lost that. I agree. So, you know, we ought to be more not as hypocritical, you know, but still still obviously condemn those sins.

But we need to clean our house first. Right. So yeah, totally agree there on some of those thoughts.

So I appreciate that. I think that's kind of all I had, brother. Last things I wanted to plug,

I've, you know, you started.

I'm really pleased to see that Flux NFT and the Forex NFT. I just watched both of those AMAs. Well, not the Flux one.

There's just your video on it, but the AMA with the Forex Trading Bot thing. And I don't know, it looks super cool. So I know that's what you've been doing recently.

What else besides that? Maybe that, that you're, you know, you can plug your YouTube channel, Twitter, whatever else you want. You know, sure. Yeah.

I mean, number one thing, probably my YouTube channel is like my number one thing. I have a paid community on my YouTube that is probably half Christians, half non-Christians. And that's where I like a lot of the deep.

I'm pretty open with them and just honest about, you know, like when I'm discouraged and when I'm struggling with, oh, I'm worried about finances or, you know, this or that. And so that's been really rewarding. I've just found that when you're, you know, transparent with people and authentic with people, they're transparent, authentic back, and it just opens a lot of opportunities.

Yeah. As far as finances go, you have ForexBotNFTs.com, WarBots are our big thing. They're trading bots, crypto trading bots that I helped put together.

So those are my two top projects. But then, yeah, we got the Flux NFTs. We have several other NFTs coming out as well.

I have a JP, James Peltin NFT that's going to be coming out here probably next week. And we just got a lot of stuff in the works. But if you follow on YouTube, that's probably where you'll, you know, stay, stay.

For some reason, the only word I can think of is abreast. But you can stay abreast. I don't know why.

That's the only word I can think of. But you can stay informed. There's a better, there's an easier word.

You can stay informed about all the... I was thinking connected, you know. There you go. Connected.

That works too. That works too. But yeah, you can stay connected and hear about all those things through there.

But no, I appreciate you having me on. And I love talking through some of this stuff. And I have even more.

I could probably talk all day just about what I've been learning from the Lord and things like that. But I appreciate you having me on. Awesome.

Thanks, brother. Yeah. Maybe we can do it again.

Yeah. Thank you so much for coming on, James. Appreciate you, brother.

And I always end with the doxology in 1 Timothy 1 17. To the King of the Ages, immortal, invisible, the only God. The honor and glory forever and ever.

Amen. Solely, Deo. Amen.

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]

- [Music]
- [Music]

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]

- [Music]
- [Music]

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]

[Music]