PROPHECY ABOUT THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES

Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Written by Pastor Joel Martin Prophetic End-Times Teacher

Book Volume One Edition

Prophecy About The Second Coming of Jesus Christ According To the

Written by; Pastor Joel Martin

Scriptures

Prophetic End Times Pastor & Teacher

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We encourage you to use this book in Bible study groups and have open discussions about end-time prophecy! God bless you as you labor in the Kingdom of God to reach lost souls for Jesus Christ!

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Table of Contents

1	Copyright
2	Table of Contents
	Dedication
	Foreword
5	Does the Bible tell us that Jesus will return?
	Will people have a second chance at the second coming of Jesus?
	Is a Rapture going to happen?
	Do people continue living on earth after Jesus returns?
39	What happens on earth at the return of Jesus Christ?
46	When will the second coming of Jesus happen?
50	What are the signs the Second Coming is near?
53	What is the significance of the second coming for us today?
56	Conclusion
57	About The Author

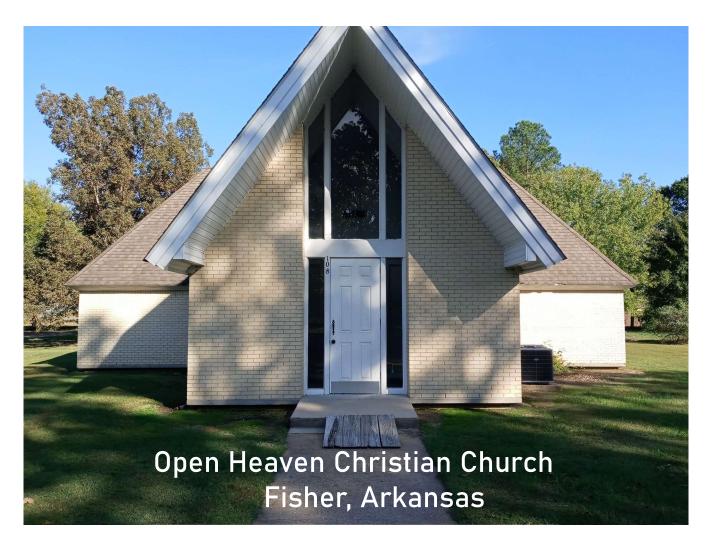
I would like to share this inspiring book on prophecy with you!

Dear ______, I give this book to freely so you can learn what the Bible teaches about how the end of the world will occur. I pray this book is a huge blessing to you!

Dedication

This book is dedicated to anyone who has the desire to learn what the scriptures teach concerning the prophecies written in the Bible about the events that will lead up to and take place at The Second Coming of Jesus Christ the LORD.

OPEN HEAVEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Foreword

My life and dedication to God have led me to write this book about prophecies surrounding the widely misunderstood topic of the second coming of Jesus Christ and the rapture of the Church.

My studies of thirty-nine years on Bible prophecy have inspired me to put on paper and share with the world the revelations revealed to me through my studies of bible prophecy.

Pursuing this vision of writing this book called '*Prophecy About the Second Coming of Jesus Christ According To The Scriptures*' has been a question that many of my peers have asked me to write about. My name is Joel Martin, I am the Senior Pastor of a wonderful "small" country Church called Open Heaven Christian Church located in the beautiful state of Arkansas.

I share in this book what the Lord by His Holy Spirit has revealed to me through many years of personal Bible study using only the Holy Bible to understand the events that lead to what many today is calling **The Rapture** of the Church!

My prayer is that the eyes of your understanding be enlightened by what you are about to read and learn! I Pray that you research what you're about to read to verify and see if these things I share are written in the pages of your Bible!

Ephesians 1:8

"The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what the hope of his calling is, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints."

Pastor Joel Martin.

- GOD BLESS YOU, AND ENJOY YOUR READING -

Chapter One

Does the Bible tell us that Jesus will return?

In the gospel of John, we are told by Jesus himself that He will one day return to receive his people that have trusted in Him and obeyed his teachings.

<u>John 14:3</u>

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, **<u>I</u> will come again**, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also"

Many today are living their lives either unaware or do not care to hear about the return of Jesus Christ because they either doubt or are in unbelief in what the Bible has to say about the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is not something new that's taking place in the world today, we are told in scripture nearly two thousand years ago about people having the same attitude and mentality during the days of Noah before God sent a deluge of rain upon the earth, and everything upon the earth was destroyed by the flood waters.

The New Testament book of Second Peter has this to say about the people living in Noah's day around 1000 BC, about three-thousand years ago.

2 Peter 3:1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which **I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance**: 2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Savior: 3 **Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last day's scoffers,** walking after their own lusts, 4 **And saying, Where is the promise of his coming?** For **since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as** *they were* **from the beginning of the creation**.

The sad truth is that many today have the same mentality concerning the second coming of Jesus Christ. If you were to ask folks today what they think about the second coming of Jesus, the majority would respond in the same way that Peter described the people living before the flood in the days of Noah.

Today many would probably respond with something like this... "People have been saying and preaching Jesus is going to return for two-thousand years, and He has not returned yet, my parents and grandparents even preached and believed that for years, and still no return of Jesus Christ yet."

The Apostle Peter speaks to us about those living in Noah's day who had the same mentality and did not believe that God would flood the earth, but God did and the world leaving us sufficient evidence.

2 Peter 3:5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God, the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: 6 **Whereby <u>the world that then was. being</u> overflowed with water, perished**: 7 **But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men**. 7 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, <u>that one day</u> *is* with the Lord as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness: but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Peter said that they were "**willingly**" ignorant, meaning they did not care to know or believed that God was going to flood the earth during the days of Noah, **but God did flood this earth** there is sufficient archaeological and scientific evidence today that proves a worldwide flood took place on the earth.

The question we all must ask ourselves is do we believe that Jesus will return one day? And when Jesus does return will we be willingly ignorant and not believe or understanding what the scriptures teach or will just not care as those living in the days Noah's were? Perhaps because many today are like the people living in the days of Noah who knew about God but were not in communication *e.g. "prayer"* with God so they became ignorant and missed the boat the day of the flood, no pun intended.

Could the return of Jesus Christ be as bad as it was for those in the days of Noah? Are people including professing Christians becoming spiritually complacent and or ignorant as those who lived in the days before the flood of Noah?

Could this mean that one could become spiritually "*unaware*" even spiritually "*blinded*", or even "*distracted*" and "*willfully ignorant*" of what will unfold the day Jesus Christ returns?

Jesus makes these very important points about His second coming. This is what Jesus taught and said...

- Jesus second coming will be as it *was* in the days of Noah.
 Matthew 24:47 "But <u>as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man</u> <u>be</u>." - The Son of man in this verse is Jesus Christ.
- 2. People will be occupied with everything else not looking for the return of Jesus Christ. Matthew 24:38 "For as in the days that were before the flood they were <u>eating</u> and <u>drinking</u>, <u>marrying</u> and giving in marriage, <u>until the day that Noah entered into the ark</u>."
- Jesus also said that His return will catch many unaware as in Noah's day. Matthew 24:39 "And <u>knew not until the flood came</u>, <u>and took them all away</u>; <u>so shall also the</u> <u>coming of the Son</u> of man be."
- 4. Jesus also warned about watching and being ready for His second coming.
 Matthew 24:42 "Watch, therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. The Son of man in the above bible verses is, of course, Jesus Christ.

The most important question we must all ask ourselves is this, **will we all be ready to meet Jesus Christ at His second coming**? Or will many be caught unaware and not ready as in the days of Noah?

Another very important question we all must ask ourselves is, if God destroyed the earth in Noah's days, will God destroy the earth again at the second coming of Jesus? If so, will people have a second chance to repent when Jesus Christ returns, Or will that be the end of all things and the end of the world we now live in?

Jesus did say "*it shall_be*" as in the days of Noah. Did Jesus mean the world would one day be destroyed again?

Chapter Two

Will people have a second chance at the Second Coming of Jesus?

The Apostle Paul a messenger of Jesus Christ writing to the Thessalonian Church during the first century warns his fellow Christians, about what will take place "**the day**" Jesus Christ returns.

Paul mentions Jesus Christ returning with mighty angels to take "**righteous vengeance**" on those who <u>rejected Him</u>, and those who <u>do not obey the gospel</u> of the Lord Jesus Christ. He describes a destructive punishment that will cause an everlasting separation between them and God, the disobedient and rebellious ones who have denied or rejected Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Paul also describes this terrible day as also a glorious day when Jesus returns to be glorified in his saints!

Paul writing to the Thessalonian first-century mentions that he is always in prayer that they may be counted worthy of their calling so that the name of Jesus Christ may be glorified in them. This call is a call to repentance and obedience to God.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-12

"7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, <u>WHEN THE LORD JESUS SHALL BE REVEALED</u> <u>FROM HEAVEN</u> with his mighty angels, 8 <u>In flaming fire "TAKING VENGEANCE" on them</u> that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 "<u>W</u> <u>HEN HE SHALL COME</u>" to be glorified in his saints <u>.</u>, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) <u>IN THAT DAY</u>. 11 Wherefore also <u>we pray always</u> for you, that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of *his* goodness, and the work of faith with power: 12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ."

The Old Testament book of Malachi also prophesied an eye-opening prophecy about "**The Day**" of the Lord references "*the day*" when Jesus Christ returns. The prophet Malachi prophesied an event that takes place in "*one day*", a day in which the Lord shall come and take vengeance on the proud and all who reject the Lord Jesus Christ, and vengeance also on wicked persons who commit evil deeds. He prophesied this approximately 430 years before Jesus came to earth for the first time around two thousand years ago. Malachi speaks about this "day" as a day of burning that will take place in the future when Jesus Christ returns the second time.

<u>Malachi 4:1-3</u>

"1 For, behold, **THE DAY COMES**, **THAT SHALL BURN AS AN OVEN**; and all **the proud**, yea, and **all that do wickedly, shall be stubble**: and <u>the day that comes shall burn " THEM UP "</u>, saith **the LORD** of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings, and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. 3 And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in "**THE DAY" that I shall do this**, saith the LORD of hosts."

This event has obviously not taken place yet because people are still living on the earth and the "rapture of the Church" has not happened yet. This event will be the worse cataclysmic and catastrophic event that the world has ever experienced or will ever take place on the earth since God created mankind. According to scripture, this will be the worse day on earth for billions, and billions of people, for the unprepared, the unbelieving, the wicked, the proud, and unrighteous people who refuse to repent of their sins and reject the only hope of salvation offered by God, His only begotten Son-- *Jesus Christ*.

None of the Old or New Testament prophets never contradict this day in which God will judge the entire world. They all preached and prophesied the same exact thing concerning what happens on earth the "day" Jesus Christ return. Let us look at scripture references to confirm both the Old and New Testaments agree with one another.

The disciples asked Jesus **when the end of the world would take place**. Jesus never corrects their questioning about an "*end of the world*," but **confirms to them that the world will come to an en__d one day** as He goes into more dialog with them about the events that take place on the earth in Matthew chapter twenty-four.

Matthew 24: 1-3

"1 And Jesus went out and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to *him* for to show him the buildings of the temple. 2 <u>And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you,</u> <u>There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down</u>. 3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? And <u>what shall *be* the sign of thy coming, and of the END OF THE WORLD?</u> "

The disciples of Jesus wanted to know even as many today also are curious to know about the last day – end-of-the-world events, and the "signs" that would trigger the end of the world. The Apostle Peter confirms a cataclysmic, and catastrophic worldwide event that takes place at the coming of the Lord in 2 Peter chapter three. Peter uses words describing everything on the earth burning and melting with such an intense fervent heat that the surface of the earth begins to dissolve and melt.

2 Peter 3:11-13

"11 *Seeing* then *that* **ALL THINGS SHALL BE DISSOLVED.** what manner *of persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness, 12 **Looking for and hasting unto THE COMING OF THE DAY of God**, wherein **THE HEAVENS BEING ON FIRE SHALL BE DISSOLVED, and THE ELEMENTS SHALL MELT WITH FERVENT HEAT?** 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."

Psalm 97:5 "The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth."

Look at this prophecy that Jesus spoke concerning the condition the earth will be in one day. Jesus is telling us that the Heaven that we can see with our eyes, and the earth we all are walking on today will one day pass away, e.g. *die*. Only those who are saved will be spared of all the terrible events that will take place and unfold one day on earth when Jesus Christ returns. Look at what Jesus said about the earth in the gospel of Matthew.

Matthew 24:35 "HEAVEN and EARTH SHALL PASS AWAY", but my words shall not pass away."

The prophet Joel in the Old Testament also had much to say about this day. He describes this day as a "*terrible gloomy day*" in which people's faces shall be covered with dark ashes from a fire that he is shown to him by God. The prophet Joel foresees and describes a day in which men shall try to run and hide from the judgment they are about to face when Jesus Christ returns. According to the prophet Joel, no one will be able to hide on the day of the Lord's vengeance. Indeed, this will be a terrible day for many that are unaware, and unprepared for the second coming of Jesus Christ the Lord.

The prophet Joel in the Old Testament reveals what that "*day*" will be like when Jesus returns.

Joel 2:

"2 **A Day of darkness and of gloominess. a day of clouds and of thick darkness**, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, *even* to the years of many generations. 3 A **fire devours before them: and behind them. a flame burns**: the land *is* as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them, a desolate wilderness; yea, **AND NOTHING SHALL ESCAPE THEM.** 4 The appearance of them *is* as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. 5 Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, **like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble**, as a strong people set in battle array. 6 Before their face the **people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness**. 7 **They shall run like mighty men: they shall climb the wall like men of war**; and they shall march everyone on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: 8 Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk everyone in his path: and *when* they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded.

Joel 2:9 They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. 10 The earth shall quake before them: the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: 11 And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp *is* very great: for *he is* strong that executes his word: for <u>the day of the LORD</u> *is* great and VERY TERRIBLE : and who can abide it ?"

Joel also had this to say in verse thirty.

Joel 2:30 "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, **and fire. and pillars of smoke**."

Isaiah the prophet in the Old Testament was also no stranger to this day in which heaven and earth will pass away. It was revealed to him approximately 740 years before the birth of Jesus Christ in the first century. This is what was shown to Isaiah by God what that day looked like when Jesus returns at the second coming.

Isaiah 24:1-6

"1 Behold, <u>the LORD MAKES THE EARTH EMPTY</u>, and MAKES it waste, <u>and TURNS UT</u> <u>UPSIDE DOWN</u>, and <u>SCATTERS abroad THE INHABITANTS thereof</u>. 2 And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the taker of usury, so with the giver of usury to him. 3 <u>The land shall be utterly emptied</u>, <u>and utterly spoiled</u>: for the LORD hath spoken this word. 4 <u>The earth mourneth</u> <u>and</u> <u>fades away</u>, the world languisheth <u>and</u> fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish. 5 <u>The earth also is defiled</u> under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, <u>and</u> broken the everlasting covenant. 6 <u>Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth. and they that dwell</u> <u>therein are desolate</u>: <u>therefore</u>, the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left."

Jeremiah the prophet is called to sound an alarm and warn people about the coming destruction that will take place on earth one day. Little did Jeremiah know that God in His mercy has patiently waited and held back his vengeance and destruction upon the earth for thousands of years. Jesus taught that "no man", including Jeremiah or any of the prophets who preached about this day would know when God would cause the heaven and the earth to pass away. **No one except God knows when this day will come upon the earth**.

Mark 13:32

"32 But of **THAT DAY and** *that* **hour knows no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son. but the Father**."

Ecclesiastes 9:12

"12 For man also knows not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and <u>as the birds that are</u> <u>caught in the snare; so *are* the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falls suddenly upon them."</u>

Here is what the prophet Jeremiah was shown about that great day of the LORD. It is interesting to note that Jeremiah preached for forty years and not one soul believed him or the message that God revealed to him about the world coming to an end.

Jeremiah 4:19-31

"19 My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. 20 **Destruction upon destruction is cried; for <u>the whole land is spoiled</u>: suddenly are my tents spoiled,** *and* **my curtains <u>in a moment</u>.**

- 21 How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet?
- 22 For **my people** *is* **foolish, they have not known me:** they *are* sottish children, and they have none understanding: **they are wise to do evil. but to do good they have no knowledge**.
- 23 I beheld the earth. and. lo. it *was* without form. and void: and the heavens. and they *had* no light.
- 24 I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly.
- 25 **<u>I beheld</u>**, and, lo, there *was* no man</u>, and all the birds of the heavens were fled.
- 26 **I beheld. and. lo. the fruitful place was a wilderness. and all the cities thereof were broken down AT THE PRESENCE IF THE LORD.** *and* **by his fierce anger**.
- 27 For thus hath the LORD said, **The whole land shall be desolate: yet will I not make a full end**. 28 For this shall **the earth mourn, and the heavens above** *will* **be black**: because **I have spoken** *it*. **I have purposed** *it* **, and will not repent. neither will I turn back from it**.

The whole city shall flee for the noise of the horsemen and bowmen; they shall go into thickets, and climb up upon the rocks: **EVERY CITY** *shall be* **forsaken**, and **not a man dwell therein**.

30 And *when* thou *art* spoiled, what wilt thou do? Though thou clothest thyself with crimson, though thou deckest thee with ornaments of gold, though thou rent thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair; *thy* lovers will despise thee, they will seek thy life.

31 For **L have heard a voice as of a woman in travail, and the anguish as of her that bringeth forth her first child, the voice of the daughter of Zion**, *that* bewaileth herself, *that* spreadeth her hands, *saying*, Woe *is* me now! for my soul is wearied because of murderers."

It is evident throughout both the Old and New Testaments, that we are warned about a specific day when God shall judge the earth and everyone in it.

Chapter Three

Is the Rapture Going to Happen?

There is much confusion among many Christians in many different Church denominations and Churches worldwide when it comes to the subject of the "rapture". With so many different opinions and views on this subject, it has become difficult for many to know what to believe about the rapture.

We will take a real close look at what "*THE BIBLE*" teaches on this subject using only the scriptures to reveal to us prophetic truths found only in the scriptures!

Before we dig into this topic, I will first explain the term "rapture" which is widely used among many Christians worldwide. This term is used to describe an event that many Pastors and Bible teachers in various ways describe a day when Jesus Christ will come from heaven and physically "remove" or "take" his followers from the earth, physically take them into heaven to live and be with the Lord forever and ever. To live for an eternity with God, -e.g. The Lord Jesus Christ.

The teaching of the rapture is preached among many with many different views on how, or when this event will take place. The most popular view on this subject is what many today are calling the " Premillennial doctrine" teachings that teach Jesus will come from heaven and secretly remove His followers - "the Church" from the earth and take them to heaven, while others who did not accept or follow Jesus will be "*left behind*" here on the earth living and wondering what happened to their loved ones who have "disappeared" from the earth when the rapture takes place. In the Premillennial doctrine teaching, they claim that when "*the rapture*" takes place, it will start the beginning of an evil dictator or leader on earth called "The Antichrist" who rules the entire world and will dominate and control the world for a short time enforcing what is called "The Mark of The Beast". Some say this evil dictator will control the world for three-and-a-half years, and others say a seven-year period of time during which the world will experience great tribulations and distress of nations worldwide. They also claim that "AFTER" the rapture of the Church has taken place, and God's people are removed from the earth, those "left behind" who do not take the mark of the beast will be saved and Jesus will come one more time in what they call the second coming of Jesus who comes and saves them who were able to resist the Antichrist and not take the mark of the beast. This Premillennial doctrine teaching also claims that those who are Christian will be on earth during the tribulation period because they claim the church is "raptured" and removed from the earth in the rapture before the tribulation period starts and those who are left behind will have to endure the Antichrist dictatorship while the Christians are in heaven.

This Premillennial doctrine teaching is nothing more than **further from the truth** as you will see as you study and learn the actual prophecies that the Bible teaches.

In theory, anyone who has read the Bible can relate to all of the teachings about a "Premillennial" rapture because the Bible does speak about an Antichrist, a time called the tribulation in both the book

of Daniel and Revelation known as the tribulation period. The Bible does also speak about the mark of the beast, and of course, the Bible does also teach that Jesus will return one day to receive his followers -- "*the body of Christ*" *aka* The Church in what many are calling – THE RAPTURE.

On the surface, one could easily agree and adhere to this "Premillennial" teaching and never question its validity to verify if that is what the Bible teaches concerning the rapture or the second coming of Jesus.

The problem with the Premillennial rapture is that it not only is false, but it promotes a false sense of security and contradicts everything that the Bible teaches concerning the rapture and The Second Coming of Jesus. For instance, anyone can take all the "facts" about an event in a story, then twist facts to make it appear as if something else is taking place by misrepresenting and misplacing the "timeline" of events while still using the same characters and events in the story.

For example, let us say a person named Jessie stole an automobile and then robbed a liquor store. There are two facts in this story, and one character named Jessie, and a car was stolen, also a liquor store. Those are the facts in this hypothetical story. Now let us say someone changed this story by simply changing the "timeline" of events by saying "*Jessie robbed the liquor store then stole a red car to get away*." This is exactly what many bible prophecy teachers have done, they have taken facts, and twisted, the actual events by not looking at the facts and placing them in the "proper" timeline of events. They also add to the "story" as in the example, a car is mentioned but no red car was mentioned. Twisting scripture is a complete error, we must allow only the stated "*facts*" as it is written to reveal the truth to us when we study the prophetic events about the rapture!

The Bible has something to say about this in 2 Peter 1:20 "**Knowing this first. that no prophecy of the scripture is of any "private" interpretation**."

What God is revealing in 2 Peter 1:20 is that we must not take any portion of scripture to make it fit what we want it to say, but we must take whatever prophecy we are studying and allow other scriptures about the prophecy to reveal to us a timeline of events. In other words, if we come across a "fact" spoken of in prophecy, we must consider all other scriptures and allow only "*the scriptures*" to reveal to us what God is teaching. There can be no contractions in our understanding of scripture when we study biblical prophecy or our interpretation of it will be incorrect. I will give you one more example of this and then show you the truth found in the scriptures. In Matthew 5:5 Jesus prophesied these words "Blessed *are* the meek: **for they shall inherit the earth**."

And in 1 Thessalonians 4:17 "Then we which are alive *and* remain **shall be caught up together with them in the clouds**, **to meet the Lord in the air**: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

Reading both of these verses anyone can come to only one conclusion. One person can say we will all never leave this earth because Jesus said the meek inherit the earth, and another person can say that we all will leave the earth because it said in the scriptures that we will meet the Lord in the clouds and be

taken into heaven. This is how religious organizations have been created. They take one or a few verses in the Bible and make it read what they want or believe it is saying never considering all the other scriptural facts to form a true timeline of events.

Anyone can take any of those two biblical facts and make an entire religion or denomination out of it and make say what "they" believe is correct by changing the storyline. One can say we will never go to heaven because Jesus said the <u>meek inherit the earth</u> and totally ignore the other verse about meeting Jesus in the air. Another person can take another religious viewpoint and say we will never live on earth because the book of Thessalonians teaches, <u>we will be taken up to meet Jesus in the clouds</u> and be with him forever, *etc*.

The truth is that both verses are correct and true, but we have to study prophecy to understand that God has a "prophetic – timeline" in which ALL scripture on prophecy will come to pass! We MUST allow God to speak to us using only the Bible to reveal the prophetic timeline of events. We must never come to our conclusions or form our own opinions when we study and read any Bible prophecies found in the scriptures. We should never become narrow-minded with the word of God!

There is an old saying here in America, "*They can't see the trees because of the forest*", The same is true when we study biblical prophecies!

The most prominent teachings on the rapture today are the per-millennial teachings that cause more damage to people's faith because it uses "biblical prophecy facts" totally out of biblical context to paint a false image in the minds of people worldwide about how the rapture will take place <u>according to the scriptures</u>. This false teaching teaches the following false doctrine that the Bible never taught, here is why the per-millennial dispensation view is a biblical error in their teachings:

- 1. It promotes the secret rapture of the Church.
- 2. It offers people a false second chance to make it into heaven.
- 3. It gives people a false hope of salvation when Jesus returns.
- 4. It sends people to Hell because it creates a lukewarmness among Christians.

Let us look at and compare it to scripture. Let's us allow only <u>the scriptures to interpret to us what will</u> <u>happen at the rapture</u> of the Church.

Fact #1. There is no secret rapture where Jesus returns, and the world is unaware or knows that Jesus returned. The scriptures teach that "**every eye**" will see Jesus at his triumphant return.

Revelation 1:7 "Behold, he [*Jesus Christ*] comes with clouds; and "EVERY EYE" SHALL SEE **HIM**, and they *also* which pierced him: and **all kindred's of the earth shall wail because of him**. Even so, Amen."

Does this sound like Jesus will sneak back to earth secretly and people are not aware of His return? **No**, it does not! How did the pre-millennial false teachings of a secret rapture ever conclude that Jesus was going to sneak back to earth and no one except those in the "rapture" is aware that Jesus has arrived? The answer is found in 2 Peter 3:10 where they mistakenly misquote the context of what it is revealing to us. 2 Peter 3:10 is revealing the timing, not the actions of what Jesus' return will be like, it will be like when a thief comes to break into a home, he comes "<u>unexpectedly</u>." The word "**as**" in the verse is not telling us how Jesus returns, but what it will be like when Jesus does return.

2 Peter 3"10 "But **the day of the Lord will come "<u>AS" a thief in the night</u>; <u>in the which, the heavens</u> <u>shall pass away with a great noise</u>, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, <u>the earth also and</u> <u>the works that are therein shall be burned up</u>."</u>**

Fact #2. The pre-millennial false teaching teaches that when Jesus sneaks back to earth and snatches away Christians to take to heaven in the rapture, many will be *left behind* here on earth to endure the forty-two-month or a seven-year tribulation period so they can have a "second chance" to work out their salvation. This doctrine is false for many reasons, but for now, look at that same verse in 2 Peter 3:10 and ask yourself will there still be people on earth when Jesus "raptures" his church? The answer is <u>NO</u>, they perish if they did not make in the rapture when Jesus Christ returns.

2 Peter 3"10 "But **the day of the Lord will come** "<u>AS</u>" a thief in the night; in the which, the heavens shall pass away with a GREAT NOISE, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, "the EARTH also" and the works that are therein shall be BURNED up." – The Earth is on fire.

The truth is that if a person does not make it in the "rapture", they are left on earth not to try to resist the Antichrist or endure the tribulation period but are left here on the earth to be "**burned up**" by fire. Another important point I will make but not go into great detail about is the fact that the Bible only uses the word Antichrist "four" times in scripture. In all four times, the scripture makes mention of an "Antichrist" it portrays the Antichrist as **ALREADY** being here on the earth even in the Apostle John's Day about two thousand years ago. The "Antichrist" is a past and present problem.

1 John 2:18 "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that Antichrist shall come, **EVEN NOW are there MANY ANTICHRISTS** ; whereby **we KNOW that it is the last time**."

Now ask yourself this, If the "Antichrist" ruler is coming after the rapture as the pre-millennial doctrine teaches, then why does it contradict what the "Bible" says about the Antichrists (*plural or many*) as already being here around two thousand years ago when 1 John was written? This automatically debunks the pre-millennial false teachings! 2 Thessalonians 2: "Let no man deceive you by any means: for **that day shall not come**, **except there come a falling away first**, **and that man of sin be revealed**, **the son of perdition 4** Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."

That man of sin mentioned in 2 Thessalonians 2 are the many Antichrists who oppose God, the<u>son of</u> **perdition are the** ones who know God and have fallen away from God. Not a one world ruler called the Antichrist.

Fact 3. The pre-millennial teaching promotes a false hope of a second chance leading many astray as to what the Bible teaches concerning the rapture of the Church. **The Bible does not separate the rapture and the second coming of Jesus** to make them "two separate" events. The Bible teaches that when the "rapture" takes place, **that "IS" the second coming of Jesus Christ**. How can we know this for certain? Simply read what Jesus said himself in John 14:3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, **Lwill come again** and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also."

This event called the rapture is the second coming of Jesus! Notice in John 14:3 Jesus said "I WILL COME AGAIN" implying a **ONE-TIME** return of Jesus Christ. Jesus did NOT say "I WILL COME AGAIN AND AGAIN" – This will be a **ONE-TIME** global event when Jesus appears in the clouds of heaven to receive his followers whom the Bible calls The Bride of Christ, *e.g.* – The Church.

Now let us look at what the Bible teaches about "The Second Coming of Jesus Christ." The Bible NEVER uses the word "RAPTURE" as many do today. The word rapture never appears in the Bible when speaking about the second coming of Jesus. This is a word that many use to promote an event where Jesus removes his followers from the earth. While this is true that Jesus "WILL" remove his followers from the earth one day, we must look closely at how this event will accurately take place in Bible prophesy. God has given us "prophecies" written in the scriptures so we can know the truth about events surrounding the rapture!

Jesus taught that we shall know the truth, and the "truth" will make us free! This is true even when we study any prophecy written in the Bible! Prophecies found in the Bible "foretell" future events!

A believer in Jesus Christ can come to a **full revelation and come a full understanding** of what will take place when Jesus returns. Jesus said this in John 16:13 "Howbeit **when he, the Spirit of truth, is come**, **<u>He will guide you into</u> "<u>ALL TRUTH</u>": for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear,** *that* **shall he speak <u>and he will show you things to come</u>."**

The word rapture came into the Church world by interpretation of the words "**caught up**" used In the Apostle Paul's writing to the Thessalonian Church of the first century.

1 Thessalonians 4:17 "Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be "*caught up*" together with them in the clouds, **to meet the Lord in the air**: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

The words caught up in the original Greek is ἁρπαγησόμεθα or harpagēsometha which means "<u>will be</u> caught away." In the Greek Strong's Concordance, the word used is <u>harpazó: to seize, catch up, snatch</u> away.

<u>Strong's Concordance</u> **harpazó: to seize, catch up, snatch away** Original Word: ἀρπάζω Part of Speech: Verb Transliteration: harpazó. Phonetic Spelling: (**har-pad'-zo**). **Definition: to seize, <u>catch up</u>, snatch away**. **Usage:** I seize, snatch, and obtain by robbery.

Nowhere in the scriptures does it ever use the word "*rapture*", We can define the words "*catching away*" of the believers of Jesus Christ who meet the Lord in the clouds using the word rapture only by its interpretation. There is nothing wrong in using the modern word "*rapture*" to depict the event the Bible calls "**harpazó: to seize. catch up. snatch away**" because the Webster English Dictionary describes the word rapture as follows.

- 1: an expression or manifestation of ecstasy or passion.
- **2 a:** a state or experience of being carried away by overwhelming emotion
- **b**: a mystical experience in which the spirit is exalted to a knowledge of divine things
- **3 often capitalized:** <u>the final assumption of Christians into heaven during the end-time</u> according to Christian theology.

Webster Dictionary Source: <u>https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/rapture</u>

This "RAPTURE" event will indeed take place one day, people will leave this earth in what many are calling the rapture, but we must understand the true biblical prophetic events that take place leading to this "rapture-event", and we must also understand the events that will unfold when the rapture does take place. Many are deceived by Hollywood movies, and false teaching and many books written about this event called the rapture. We only need to look at the scriptures for <u>ALL</u> truth!

To understand how God will remove His people in a rapture, *aka* the "*catching away*" of His people from this earth when Jesus returns, we have to **take a close look at the scriptures** to get an accurate timeline of prophetic events that lead to the *before-and-after* events so we can understand what will happen, and also take a look at the events that will unfold **the day** that Jesus does return.

In Mathew 24 the disciples of Jesus were also curious about how the end of the word will occur. They asked Jesus when will the end come. Jesus did not answer their specific question about "**when**" the end of the world will occur, but rather told them about prophetic events that lead up to the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Jesus broke it down for the disciples into these seven categories in Matthew chapter twenty-four. Within each category, there are several events that Jesus prophesied about His second coming. Jesus gives an exact **sequential timeline** of **prophetic events** that "MUST" unfold leading up to His return.

- 1. Temple Destruction Foretold.
- 2. False Christs.
- 3. Witnessing in All Nations.
- 4. The Abomination of Desolation.
- 5. The Return of Jesus Christ.
- 6. The lesson of the Fig Tree.
- 7. And Be Ready at Any Hour for Jesus to Return Again!

Let us read the entire chapter of Matthew 24:

Temple Destruction Foretold - Also. read (Mark 13:1-9; Luke 21:5-9).

1 And Jesus went out and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to *him* for to show him the buildings of the temple. **2** And Jesus said unto them, **See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you. There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down**.

3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, **Tell us**, **when shall these things be? And what shall** *be* **the " SIGN" of thy coming, and of the end of the world ? 4** And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed that no man deceive you**.

NOTES: The Roman army destroyed the temple in Jerusalem in 70 AD thus fulfilling the prophecy of Jesus. Jesus also warned about mass **global worldwide deceptions** that will take place in the world before His return.

False Christs Arise

5 For **many shall come in my name. saying. I am Christ. and shall deceive many**. **6** And ye shall hear of **wars and rumors of wars**: see that ye be not troubled: for **all these** *things* **MUST come to pass. but the end is not yet**. **7** For **nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom**: and there shall be **famines**, and **pestilences**, and **earthquakes**, **in divers places**. **8** All **these are the beginning of sorrows**.

NOTES: We already know that throughout the last few thousand years there have been many who have claimed to be Jesus Christ. We also know that wars have always existed throughout the ages, but Jesus is pinpointing a time when "nation shall rise against nation, and kingdoms against kingdoms. The world experienced this during the first and second world wars. Jesus also speaks about food famines which we know exist even in the world today. Jesus spoke about the time of pestilence. The world has already experienced pestilences-[*plagues*] throughout the ages in various isolated places, but the world

Until recently has never experienced a "worldwide pestilence" like we had when the Corona virus affected the entire world simultaneously at once. As far as earthquakes are concerned, the world has always had them, but only until the last one hundred years or so, earthquakes have increased in magnitude and frequency. Jesus said that this is only the "*beginning of sorrows*" that would take place in the world before His return.

Witnessing the Gospel Message to All Nations Also,

read (Mark 13:10-13; Luke 21:10-19).

9 Then **shall they deliver you up to be afflicted** and **shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.10** And **then shall many be offended**, and **shall betray one another**, **and shall hate one another**. **11** And **many false prophets shall rise**, **and shall deceive many**. **12** And **because iniquity shall abound. the love of many shall wax cold**. **13** But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. **14** And **this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations: and then shall the end come**.

NOTES: In this section or category, we learn of followers of Jesus Christ being hated, killed, and afflicted simply because they follow Jesus. This is nothing new to us today, we know that out of all the religions in the world today, Christianity is the worse hated. And we also know that many Christians throughout the world have and are experiencing persecution because of their faith in Jesus Christ. Next, Jesus mentions "offenses" in many people. We see that happening today. You can just mention Jesus to some folks, and they immediately become offended. Jesus spoke of a time when people would betray one another, we see that already happening by just looking at how people interact with one another in most cases. Jesus mentions "false prophets" or people who foretell lies using even the Bible. Many do this today. There are over thirty thousand" different denominations that claim to preach and teach the truth of the Bible, but many are leading many down the wrong path. Jesus also said **the love of many will wax cold**. This is exactly the lifestyle of many in the world today. Many lack empathy one toward another, and distrust has grown in the world, even among Christians. And finally, Jesus said "**this gospel of the kingdom**" shall be preached **THEN** the **END WILL COME**. The end of preaching the gospel of the Kingdom will take place one day, this event will usher in the second coming of Jesus Christ but first, Jesus also mentions a great abomination taking place just before His return.

The Abomination of Desolation

Also, read (Mark 13:14-23; Luke 21:20-24).

15 When ye, therefore, shall see the abomination of desolation, <u>spoken of by Daniel the prophet</u>, stand in the holy place, (whoso reads, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take anything out of his house:
18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! 20 But pray ye that your flight is not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 21 For then shall be great tribulation. such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time. no. nor ever shall be.

22 <u>And except those days should be shortened. there should no flesh be saved</u>: but for the elect's sake, those days shall be shortened. 23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here *is* Christ, or there; believe *it* not. 24 For <u>there shall arise false Christs</u>, and <u>false prophets</u>, <u>and shall show great signs and</u> <u>wonders</u>; insomuch that, <u>if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect. 25 Behold, I have told you before</u>.

NOTES: In this section, we are told that an "**abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet**" will take place on earth and will lead to worldwide tribulation and worldwide religious deceptions before Jesus Christ returns. This abomination will introduce the rise of many false Christs and false prophets who will show great *signs and miracles on earth* that deceive many, possible even God's people. These false Christ and false prophets doing these miracles will lead many astray into thinking it is Jesus Christ is the one who is doing all the false signs and false wonders, but in reality, it will NOT be Jesus Christ, but i<u>t will be Satan</u> who has possessed these false Christ and false prophets. This will be the final worldwide deception that takes place before Jesus returns. By the way, if you research the latest world news in Israel, the Jewish religion has recently claimed that their long-awaited Messiah or "Christ" has recently appeared and has even preformed great healing miracles already. Following all these great deceptions, Jesus Christ will return but first, these many false Christ and false prophets will deceive billions of people worldwide.

The Return of Jesus Christ. - The Son of Man is Jesus Christ Also,

read (Mark 13:24-27; Luke 21:25-28).

26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, *he is* in the secret chambers; believe *it* not. 27 For as the lightning comes out of the east, and shines even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 28 For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

29 <u>Immediately "AFTER" the tribulation of " THOSE DAYS</u>" shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: **30** <u>And "THEN" shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven</u>: and <u>then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn. and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory</u>. **31** And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

NOTES: Following the abomination that causes desolation we learn that Jesus speaks about a time when false Christ and false prophets will try to promote a message that deceives many people. Their false message is that Jesus Christ has returned and is walking on the earth again doing "great" miracles, but it will not be Jesus Christ performing those lying wonders, it is what the Bible calls the FALSE PROPHET who is inspired by the devil to preform those miracles.

This is very important to understand because when we study Bible prophecy, we learn that at the second coming of Jesus, his feet never touch the earth at the second coming – (*THE RAPTURE*) of

the Church, Jesus only appears in the clouds of heaven! Jesus' feet will one day touch this earth, but only after the one-thousand-year millennial reign. Keep in mind that in Matthew 24 we are told by Jesus that false Christ and false prophets will promote a false Messiah that will do great "signs and miracles" on the earth. Jesus said, **Believe Them NOT.** This false Messiah will be preaching as thou Jesus was over here, or over there on the earth and billions will be deceived because they did not understand the prophecies about the "abomination that causes desolation" spoken of by Daniel the prophet in the Old Testament.

Jesus reveals the swiftness with which he will return. Jesus said "For <u>as the lightning comes out of the</u> <u>east, and shines even unto the west</u>; <u>so shall also the coming of the Son of man be</u>" Jesus' return will happen suddenly and as quickly as a flash of lightning.

Revelation 19:17 "And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all *men, both* free and bond, both small and great."

Revelation 19:17 confirms when Jesus mentions dead bodies in which the birds of the air will gather to eat the flesh of those laying in the streets. Matthew 24:28 "**For wheresoever the carcass is. there will the eagles be gathered together**." In verse 29 we see Jesus describing this time of great worldwide distress or tribulation. Jesus prophesied that there would be many dead bodies, carcasses everywhere laying in the streets, **a time of great perplexity** worldwide. Earthquakes, Wars, Famines, Pestilence, Deceptions, *etc*.

Please notice also that the rapture of the Church has not happened yet because in verse 29 Jesus said great tribulation with perplexity takes place **then** in verse 30, **Jesus returns**!

Matthew 24:29 <u>Immediately "AFTER" the tribulation of " THOSE DAYS</u>" shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: **30** <u>And "THEN" shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven</u>: and <u>then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory</u>.

Yes, contrary to the popular false Pre-millennial teachings that falsely teach that Christians will secretly rapture out of the earth and will not be here during the tribulation period is a complete lie and causes spiritual and mental complacency in the minds of God's people, and causes them to not prepare or "watch" for the second coming of Jesus, or understand the tribulation because in their minds they believe they won't be here during the tribulation period. The Church will be here during the tribulation period and "**THEN**" after the tribulation period the end comes and Jesus returns.

Ask yourself this question if you are unsure about the Church being here during the tribulation period. How can the gospel be preached and shared with the world if the Church is taken in the rapture before the tribulation happens? Didn't Jesus say that "this gospel will be preached, <u>then the end will come</u>?" Look at verse 14 again, "And <u>this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations: and THEN shall the end come</u>."

In verse 30 we learn that when Jesus appears and returns in the clouds, this is where the Church will meet Jesus, in the clouds, something takes place on the earth. The first thing that takes place is **the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.** They are mourning because those who do not make it in the rapture will be left on the earth and only perish by fire falling from heaven at the coming of Jesus.

What I find to be interesting is that the most quoted verse in the Bible, John 3:16 is not understood even by most who profess to be Christian. The Bible clearly states that those who do not repent of their sins, accept, and believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior, and obey and follow in the will of God will "**PERISH**" at the second coming of Jesus Christ.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that **he gave his only begotten** Son, that whosoever believes in him **should not "PERISH"**, but have everlasting life."

Does God want anyone to perish? The answer is unequivocal NO.

2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering toward us, **NOT willing that any should PERISH**, but that **ALL should come to repentance**." God has given us a prophetic timeline to follow, this is a clear biblical timeline leads to the second coming of Jesus Christ. *aka* THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH.

The lesson of the Fig Tree

Also, read (Mark 13:28-31; Luke 21:29-33).

Matthew 24:32 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; <u>When his branch is yet tender and puts forth</u> leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: 33 So likewise ye, when ye shall "see all these things, know that it is "NEAR", even at the doors ". 34 Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass, till all these things are fulfilled. 35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. **NOTES:** Jesus has given us a parables so we can understand more about the second coming of Jesus. In this parable, we are given an earthly illustration picturing a fig tree, to sum up, all that Jesus prophesied about in the entire chapter of Matthew 24. Jesus uses an example of a fig tree, its branches, and its leaves to describe the fulfillment of everything he said that will take place before his arrival at the second coming. He said when its branch is yet tender and puts forth leaves the time of Jesus' return is at the very door.

Be Ready at Any Hour

Also read (Genesis 6:1-7; Mark 13:32-37; Luke 12:35-48).

36 But of "THAT DAY" and "HOUR" knows "NO MAN", no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. 37 But "AS" the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. **38** For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage UNTIL the " DAY " that Noah entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came. and took THEM ALL AWAY; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 40 Then shall two be in the field; the **one shall be taken, and the other left**. **41** Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 42 Watch, therefore: for ve know not what hour your Lord doth come. 43 But know this, that if the good man of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. 44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man comes. 45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? 46 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he comes shall find so doing. 47 Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods. **48** But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delays his coming; **49** And shall begin to smite his fellow-servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; 50 The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looks not for him , and in an hour that he is not aware of , 51 And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

NOTES: Jesus said **NO ONE EXCEPT GOD KNOWS WHEN JESUS WILL RETURN**. Many people have tried to guess when Jesus will return and have failed. Throughout the past centuries, many false prophecies by many who have tried to set a date when Jesus will return have FAILED. They also have failed because Jesus clearly said that <u>no one will know when Jesus will return</u>. The focus of Jesus' teaching is about being ready for the rapture, not trying to set a date or hour for His second coming.

In verse 37 Jesus compares his return to the days of Noah. 37 **"But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."** What Jesus was teaching is that we all need to look and study what happened back in the days of Noah before the flood and learn from the events that happened and in Noah's day because at the Second Coming of Jesus Christ will be "**AS**", or "*like*" it was in the days of Noah several thousand years ago, many perished because they were not ready to meet God, if they would have simply believed the message that God revealed to Noah, and would have feared the LORD, they would have been aboard the ark. The Bible says Noah was *a preacher of righteousness*.

Jesus was teaching that His second coming or the events that took place in Noah's day somewhere around 1000 BC will be a similitude of what will happen when Jesus returns, the only difference is that in Noah's day, the flood waters caused all to perish on the earth, and when Jesus Christ returns it will not be with a worldwide flood, but with fire and brimstone falling out of the sky and burning up the entire earth and all who are left on the earth that do not make it to heaven on the day the rapture.

We have to learn about what took place on Noah's day. Let's look at some of the prophecies to understand what took place in the days of Noah and compare them to the prophecies about the second coming of Jesus Christ. Lot is also mentioned in Luke 17.

A man by the name of Lot was Abraham's nephew and is also mentioned by Jesus in Luke chapter seventeen.

Luke 17:

28 Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot: they did eat. they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they build; 29 But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. 30 Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

Genesis 19:

24 Then <u>the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven</u>; **25** And <u>he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.</u>

Lot's wife looks back, she must have not believed God would destroy Sodom & Gomorrah

26 But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

27 And Abraham got up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD: **28**And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, <u>the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace</u>.

29 And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

God takes no pleasure in people who begin to follow Jesus then turn back.

John 6:66 "From that *time* **many of his disciples went back** and walked no more with him. **67** Then said **Jesus unto the twelve**, **Will ye also go away**?"

On the next several pages I categorize a summary of what took place in Noah's day then compare the events that happened in Noah's day and compare the events to the prophetic events prophesied in scripture about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Let's take a close look at some of the events that took place back in Noah's day and compare those events to what is prophesied in scripture about our day today and the future events that will take place Jesus Christ returns. There are many similarities in both past, present and future events that are going to unfold.

"Many people today are the same today, as they were in Noah's day"

SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPARISON OF SIMILAR PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS

This comparison will help us understand what Jesus meant when He said it "WILL" be like it was in the days of Noah before the flood. Scriptures shown are events that took place around 3000 years ago in Noah's day, also prophetic events that will take place at the Second Coming of Jesus.

The earth had never experienced or seen rain fall from heaven during Noah's Day.

Genesis 1:6-8 "And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. **7** And God made the firmament and divided the waters which *were* under the firmament from the waters which *were* above the firmament: and it was so. **8** And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second, day."

Genesis 7:11-12 "In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and **the windows of heaven were opened**. 12 **And the rain was upon the earth** forty days and forty nights."

The earth today has never seen a global event in which fire falls and rains down from heaven upon the earth.

Luke 17:28-30 "Likewise also **as it was in the days of Lot**; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built. 29 But **the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone** from heaven and **destroyed them all.** 30 **Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed**."

1 Corinthians 3:13 **"Every man's work shall be made manifest: for <u>the day shall declare it.</u> <u>because it shall be revealed by fire</u>; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is."** Noah is not given an exact day or hour as to when God will flood the earth, but God does tell him to prepare an Ark and get ready for the flood waters that will come.

Hebrews 11:7 "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, **moved with fear**, **prepared an ark to the saving of his house**; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."

Many living today do not know or understand that God will once again one day destroy the earth again as He did in the days of Noah.

Matthew 24:38 For as **in the days that were before the flood** they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage **until the day that Noah entered into the ark**, 39 <u>And KNEW</u> <u>NOT **until the flood came**</u>, and took them all away; <u>so shall also the coming of the Son of man be</u>."

We are not given an exact day or hour, as to when Jesus will return or when this earth will pass away.

Matthew 24:36 "But of **that day and hour knoweth no man.** no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. 37 **But as the days of Noah were**, **so shall also the coming of the Son of man be**.

Jesus will return when people are not expecting or aware that Jesus will return.

Matthew 24:51-50 "**The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for** *him.* **and in an hour that he is not aware of**, 51 And shall cut him asunder, and appoint *him* his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

God showed Noah the sin in the world that provoked God to anger.

Genesis 6:5 "And **GOD** saw that the <u>wickedness of man was great in the earth</u> and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually."

God reveals to us in the New Testament as to why He will bring judgment upon the earth.

2 Thessalonians 1:6 "Seeing *it is* a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, <u>when the Lord Jesus shall be</u> revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) IN THAT DAY."

God sends an angel to shut the door to the Ark that Noah prepared for the saving of his family then floods the earth.

Genesis 7:13 **"In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark**; 14 They, and every beast after his kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth after his kind, and every fowl after his kind, every bird of every sort. 15 And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein *is* the breath of life. 16 And <u>they that went in. went in male and female of all flesh</u>, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in."

God will shut the door of salvation when the Gospel has been preached to all the world then fire burns the earth.

Matthew 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

Matthew 13:30 "Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers [*angels*], Gather **<u>ye together first the tares</u>** - [*the ungodly*], **<u>and bind them in</u> <u>bundles to burn them</u>**: but gather the wheat - [*the godly*] into my barn."

Old Testament also prophets foretold that God would bring judgment on the earth once again, many prophecies point to the judgment of God at the second coming of Jesus Christ.

The Prophet Malachi sums up for us what happens on <u>THE DAY</u> the Lord returns. This event has not happened yet but will one day when Jesus Christ returns.

Malachi 4:1 "For, behold, **the day cometh**, **that shall burn as an oven**; and **all the proud**, yea, and **all that do wickedly**, **shall be stubble**: and **"THE DAY"** that cometh **SHALL BURN THEM UP**, **saith the LORD of hosts**, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings, and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. 3 And ye shall tread down the wicked; **for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do** *this***, saith the LORD of hosts."**

In the New Testament book of Timothy, we are told to pay close attention to doctrine *e.g.* teachings from God found in the scriptures. We are to "<u>CONTINUE</u>" in the teaching of Jesus, and in doing so we will obtain salvation. 1 Timothy 4:16 "<u>Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine</u> - [*teaching*]. <u>Continue</u> in them, <u>for in doing this YOU WILL SAVE BOTH YOURSELF AND THOSE WHO HEAR YOU</u>."

Only a few people were on board the ark when the flood waters began. Noah and his family. (8 *people were saved*)

Genesis 6:8 "Noah, however, found favor in the eyes of the LORD."

Genesis 7:13 "In the selfsame day entered **Noah**, and **Shem**, and **Ham**, and **Japheth**, the sons of Noah, and **Noah's wife**, and **the <u>three wives</u> of his sons** with them, into the ark."

As in the days of Noah, only a few will be saved at the second coming of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 3:20 "Which sometime were disobedient when once the long-suffering of <u>God waited</u> <u>in the days of Noah</u>, while the ark was a preparing, <u>wherein few, that is, eight souls were</u> <u>saved by water</u>."

Luke 13:23 "Then said one unto him, Lord, **are there few that be saved**? And he [*Jesus*] said unto them, 24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: **for many**. **I say unto you, will seek to enter in. and shall not be able**."

Luke 9:62

"And Jesus said unto him, no man having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God"

We all will appear before the judgment seat of God. 2 Corinthians 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad."

Noah's Ark is lifted above a very high mountain on the earth.

Genesis 8:4 "And **the ark rested** in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, **upon the mountains of Ararat**."

God preserved Noah and his family on top of Mount Ararat located in Turkey is approximately 12,780 feet high reaching even into the clouds.

At the rapture of the Church, God's people be *caught away* in the air to meet Jesus in the clouds of heaven.

1 Thessalonians 4:17 "Then <u>we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with</u> them in the "CLOUDS", to meet the Lord in the AIR : and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me - [*Jesus Christ*]. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not *so*, I would have told you. <u>I go</u> to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, <u>I will come again, and</u> **RECEIVE YOU UNTO MYSELF: that where I am. there ye may be also**. 4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know."

After the flood in Noah's day, everything and everyone on earth perished except Noah and his family.

Genesis 7:23 "And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; **and they were destroyed from the earth**: **and Noah only remained alive. and they that were with him in the ark**. 24 And the waters prevailed upon the earth a hundred and fifty days."

After the rapture, the only ones that keep living are the saved ones who meet the Lord Jesus in the clouds at the rapture and are taken into heaven at the return of Jesus Christ the LORD.

1 Thessalonians 5:3 "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; <u>then SUDDEN</u> <u>DESTRUCTION cometh UPON THEM</u>, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."

Luke 17:36 "Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left."

Noah was saved by a wooden ark.

Genesis 7:7 "And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood."

God offers all salvation by what Jesus did for us by dying on a wooden cross.

Acts 2:23 "He [*Jesus*] was delivered up by God's set plan and foreknowledge, and you, by the hands of the lawless, put Him to death by nailing Him to the cross."

Noah ate and drank the wine - (unfermented wine) after the flood.

Genesis 9:21 "And he [*Noah*] drank of the wine and was drunken, and he was uncovered within his tent."

Christians will sit at the table with Jesus to eat and drink the fruit of the vine in heaven to celebrate their arrival to heaven on the day of the rapture.

Matthew 26:29 "But I [*Jesus*] say unto you, <u>I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the</u> <u>vine, until that day when I drink it new with YOU in my Father's kingdom</u>."

Revelation 19:9 "And he saith unto me, Write, **Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb**. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God."

Revelation 3:21 **"To him that overcomes will I grant to sit with me in my throne**, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. 22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

So much more can be said about the account found in the scriptures of Lot and Noah's day and the events that will unfold at the second coming of Jesus – **The Rapture**! It will be both a "*great*" and "*terrible*" day when Christ Jesus returns. It will be as it was in the days Noah. It will be a great day for those who have placed their trust in Jesus Christ, and it will be a terrible day for those who have rejected Jesus Christ while living on earth. Those who do not obey and follow Him will be greatly disappointed and filled with great regret. Many, including many professing Christians will say on that day, "*Lord-Lord*" and will not enter into heaven, they will not be spared of the coming wrath and judgment of God according to the scriptures.

According to Jesus, many professing "Christians" are in danger of missing the rapture and will find themselves burning on this earth when Jesus returns.

Matthew 7:22 "**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 <u>IN YOUR NAME done many wonderful works</u>? 23 And then will **Lprofess unto them**, **Lnever knew you: depart from me. ye that work iniquity**."

Before Jesus returns the world will experience great distress and perplexity. God will allow all the world to experience great perplexity, only to awaken those who are still spiritually asleep.

Luke 21:25 "And <u>there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars</u>; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; 26 <u>Men's hearts failing</u> them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. 27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift, up your heads: for your redemption draweth nigh."

Daniel 12:1

"And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and <u>there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same</u> time: and <u>at that time thy people shall be delivered – [delivered by the rapture that will take place</u> <u>], every one that shall be found written in the book.</u> 2 And <u>many of them that sleep in the dust of</u> the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame <u>and everlasting contempt – [</u> this is the resurrection of the Just and the Unjust <u>]</u>. 3 And <u>they that be wise shall shine as the</u> **brightness of the firmament**; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever. But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and <u>seal the book, even TO THE TIME OF THE END</u>: many shall run to and fro, and <u>knowledge shall be increased</u>."

A bold prayer for every believer to pray is to ask God to show us if we will be in the rapture or not. God will reveal us if the life we now live is pleasing to Him or not. If not, we can all receive forgiveness of our sins by asking God to forgive us then turn away from a life of sin.

Chapter Four

Do people continue living on earth after Jesus returns?

When Jesus Christ returns will it be a time of peace and safety on earth? According to the Holy Bible, the answer is **NO**. Not one person will remain alive and keep living on earth **the day Jesus returns at His second coming**. The Bible is very clear that no person is left living on earth when Jesus Christ makes his triumphant return on **the day of the Lord**.

With over 1,500 bible passages in the Old Testament, and one out of every 25 verses in the New Testament mentioning Jesus Christ as Messiah and King that will return to earth one day. We have a sufficient record in the scriptures to understand what will happen on the earth the day Jesus returns.

A GREAT DIVIDE WILL TAKE PLACE

This is what Jesus said in Matthew 25: 31 "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And **before him shall be gathered all nations** : **and he shall "separate" them one from another**, **as a shepherd divides** *his* **sheep from the goats**: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left."

Zechariah 14:1 "Behold, **the day of the LORD comes**, and thy spoil **shall be divided** in the midst of thee. 2 For **I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle**, and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished, and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. 3 **Then shall the LORD go forth. and fight against those nations**, as when he fought in the day of battle.

The book of Revelation confirms all these events that are prophesied in the Old Testament. During what the bible calls the sixth seal, a judgment from God takes place on the earth when Jesus returns.

Revelation 6:14 "And the **heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together**, and **every mountain and island were moved out of their places. NOTE:** [*a great earthquake*]. 15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free **man, hid, themselves** in the dens and, in the rocks of the mountains; 16 **And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us**, and **hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne**, and from the wrath of the Lamb: 17 For **the great day of his wrath, is come**; and **who shall be able to stand**?"

Matthew 25:

"31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: **32** And **before him shall be gathered all nations**: and **he shall separate them one from another**, <u>as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats</u>: **33** <u>And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left</u>. **34** Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

35 For I was hungry, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: **36** Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. **37** Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee hungry, and fed *thee*? or thirsty, and gave *thee* drink? **38** When saw we thee a stranger, and took *thee* in? or naked, and clothed *thee*? **39** Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? **40**And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me.

THIS GREAT DIVIDE TAKES PLACE AT THE RAPTURE AND THE UNFAITHFUL ARE CURSED

Matthew 25:

41 Then shall he - [*Jesus*] say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: **42** For I was hungry, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: **43** I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. **44** Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? **45** Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye did *it* not to one of the least of these, ye did *it* not to me. **46** And **these shall go away <u>into everlasting punishment</u>: but the righteous into life eternal**."

Chapter six of the book of Revelation reveals the order in which things begin to unfold leading to the great judgment and wrath of God upon the earth just before the arrival of Jesus Christ who will come to judge mankind and separate what Jesus called "*the sheep from the goats*", – the righteous from the wicked, the saved from the unsaved. This is the final order of events that lead to <u>the day</u> of the Lord.

- 1. The First Seal: Rider on a White Horse.
- 2. The Second Seal: Worldwide War.
- 3. The Third Seal: Worldwide Famine.
- 4. The Fourth Seal: Massive Deaths on earth.
- 5. The Fifth Seal: Christian Martyrs.
- 6. The Sixth Seal: Great Terror on the earth.
- 7. The Rapture of the Church!

After THE SIXTH SEAL of the book of Revelation have taken place on the earth, JESUS CHRIST WILL BE REVEALED FROM HEAVEN WITH HIS MIGHTY ANGELS TO RAPTURE HIS CHURCH, AND REMOVE THE RIGHTEOUS FROM THE EARTH, AND TO JUDGE THE WORLD.

The very moment that Jesus removes His followers from the earth, sudden destruction comes upon the earth and all the unrighteous and wicked persons are left behind on the earth at the return of Jesus. It will be too late for them as it was in the days of Noah, they all perished.

The wrath of God will be poured out on the ungodly, the unbelieving, and on all false prophets who taught and preached that people will have a second chance when Christ Jesus returns. Luke 17:26-27 "Just as it was in the days of Noah. so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man: 27 They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, UNTIL THE DAY that Noah entered into the ark. and the flood came and DESTROYED THEM ALL."

In Noah's day, the flood waters destroyed all of them, none of them had a "second chance" to escape judgment by the flood waters God sent to earth. Genesis 7:23 "<u>And every living thing on the face of the earth was destroyed. MAN and livestock. crawling creatures and birds of the air: they were blotted out from the earth, and only Noah and those with him in the ark remained."</u>

1 Thessalonians 5:3 "For <u>when they shall say. Peace and safety: then sudden destruction comes upon</u> <u>them</u>, <u>as travail upon a woman with child</u>; and <u>THEY SHALL NOT ESCAPE</u>." In the New Testament we are also warned about false teachers and false prophets. 2 Peter 2:1 "But <u>there were false</u> prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies. even denying the Lord that bought them. and bring upon themselves swift destruction."

Proverbs 24:22 "For their calamity shall rise suddenly; and who knows the ruin of them both?" When reading these prophecies, it does not sound like people will have a second chance to believe in Jesus Christ, nor will anyone continue to live on the earth when Jesus Christ returns. It sounds more like God is seriously angry and deals with all the wickedness and unbelief of people. - They PERISH according to the scriptures.

Judgment day begins the very day Jesus appears in the clouds of heaven – AT THE RAPTURE. Revelation 1:7 "Behold, he comes with clouds; and **every eye shall see him**, and they *also* which pierced him: and <u>all kindred's of the earth</u> " **SHALL WAIL** " because of him. Even so, Amen."

The heavens will roll back like a scroll. The eastern sky will split in two wide-open and the firmament that has block our view of heaven since creation will be removed and all upon the earth will see Jesus Christ returning with great power and great glory to bring the final judgment of God upon all who are left behind on the earth.

When Jesus appears in the clouds, all the graves will open, God will gather even the ashes of all that have died before the return of Jesus, and He will cause all that are in the graves to "*come forth*" and live again only to face God in the final judgment. When the graves are all opened, they will either be taken up in the "R A P T U R E" into the clouds to be with Jesus for eternity, or face the final last judgment of God, after Jesus Christ has removed His followers from the earth. Those left behind will face the fire and brimstone that befalls them and will also have to bow their knees to God and confess that Jesus Christ was and is indeed the Lord before their final judgment and perish.

EVERY KNEE WILL BOW BEFORE THE FINAL JUDGMENT IS PASSED

Romans 14:11 "For it is written, *As* I live, saith the Lord, **EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME. and every TONGUE SHALL CONFESS TO God**. 12 So then **every one of us shall give an account of himself to God**."

THE RESURRECTION OF ALL THE DEAD

John 5:25 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. 26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he, given to the Son to have life in himself; 27 And **hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man**. 28 <u>Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which "ALL " that are in the graves shall hear his voice</u>, 29 <u>And shall " COME FORTH "; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation</u>."

THE APOSTLE PAUL ALSO PREACHED TWO RESURRECTIONS OF THE DEAD

Acts 24:15 "And have hope toward God, which they, themselves also allow, **that there shall be a resurrection of the dead. BOTH of the JUST and UNJUST**."

THE RESURRECTION OF THE RIGHTEOUS OCCURS AT THE RAPTURE

1 Thessalonians 4:13 "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep-[*the dead*], that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 **For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again. even so. them also which sleep in Jesus will God** "**BRING**" with him. 15 For **this we say unto you by the word of the Lord**, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For **the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout. with the voice of the archangel. and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 THEN we which are alive** *and* **remain shall be caught up together with them IN THE CLOUDS. to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord**. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

The righteous believers in Jesus Christ are saved and spared of the wrath that befalls the unbelieving and wicked persons who are left on earth. The righteous are taken into heaven by the power of God and His angels who take us to meet the Lord in the *literal* clouds of heaven! We then are taken to heaven where God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ dwells! The Holy City – New Jerusalem in heaven!

These powerful angels are with Jesus when He returns, these angels are prepared to war against all those who while living on the earth mocked and rejected Jesus Christ. As the angels gather all the wicked people from the earth, the wicked will try to resist their arrest but will not be able to resist the power of the host of angelic beings. They are the army of God, and they will prevail.

Revelation 19:11 "And I saw heaven opened , and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True. and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns, and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he, himself. 14 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And "THE ARMIES" – [the holy angels of God] which were IN HEAVEN followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 And out of his mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And he hath on his vesture and, on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

JESUS COMES WITH GREAT POWER

Mark 13:24 "But in those days, "**AFTER**" **that tribulation,** the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, 25 And the stars of heaven shall fall, and <u>the powers that are in heaven shall</u> **be shaken**. 26 And "**THEN**" **shall they** "**SEE**" **the Son of man coming IN THE CLOUDS** with **GREAT POWER and glory**. 27 And <u>then shall he - [*Jesus*] send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds. from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven." - *This is the Rapture of the Church!*</u>

WEEPING & GNASHING OF TEETH BEGINS WHEN THE WICKED SEE JESUS RETURN Matthew 24:30 "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn. and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." - Fear grips the wicked and unbelieving.

Matthew 13:40 "As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; SO, SHALL IT BE at THE END OF THIS WORLD. 41 The Son of man shall SEND FORTH HIS ANGELS, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; - [Sin & Lawlessness] 42 And SHALL CAST THEM INTO A FURNACE OF FIRE : THERE SHALL BE WEEPING AND GNASHING OF TEETH. 43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear."

Why will the unbelieving and wicked weep and gnash their teeth when they see Jesus appear in the clouds at the second coming of Jesus? Because they were NOT ready to meet Jesus, they lived their lives in unbelief and did not take God at his word. Many even try to convince and beg God into letting them escape the wrath that is about to come upon them. They see the heavens literally on fire, they see the rapture take place and know that they will perish as soon as God "*rains*" down fire upon the earth, <u>but it is too late for then, even as it was in the days of Noah</u>.

2 Peter 3:10 "But **the day of the Lord will come** as a thief in the night; **in the which, the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up**."

Jesus taught that a tree is always known by the "FRUIT" it produces

Matthew 7:15 "**Beware of false prophets**, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 **Ye shall know them by their fruits**. Do men gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree brings forth good fruit, **but a corrupt tree brings forth evil fruit**. 18 A **good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit**, **neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit**. 19 **Every tree that brings not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire**. 20 **Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them**.

Jesus was teaching that we should all pay close attention to the "fruit" people's lives produce especially when they are telling you things about God. Only those who have "good fruit" can produce truth found in scripture and are doing the will of God by warning people of how it will really be like on the day of the Lord. Jesus strongly warns us about last days deceptions and false prophets. A prophet in scripture always knows the will of God and "foretells the future" as God has shown them. The things they prophecy always 100% of the time come to pass. A false prophet will only tell a person what they want to hear, and their "prophecies" never come to pass.

Not everyone who professes to be a Christian will be in the rapture and go to heaven

Matthew 7:21 Not everyone that saith unto me. Lord. Lord. shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but HE THAT DOES THE WILL OF MY FATHER which is in heaven. 22 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? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew vou: depart from me, ve that work iniquity."

Only people who "**DO THE WILL OF GOD**" are taken to heaven at the rapture when Jesus returns.

The Apostle Peter who walked and talked with Jesus during the first century had this to say. 1 Peter 4:18 "And **if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear**?"

Are you and I ready to meet Jesus when He returns? This is the most important question all of mankind must ask themselves, no matter what their marital status, educational status, religious status, business status, national or geographic status, political status, social status, and socioeconomic status. - **It will not matter to God on the day of Judgment**, the Lord will judge the living and the dead.

Chapter Five

What happens on earth at the return of Jesus Christ?

The last and final event that takes place on the earth just before Jesus returns "**AFTER**" **the great tribulation** that will cause worldwide wars between all nations, epic proportion of pestilence and diseases, severe earthquakes, and high death toll rates due to worldwide distress and food famines in the earth. Jesus called this "*the beginning of sorrows*" before the earth pass-away when Jesus Christ returns. The entire earth will go completely dark prior to Jesus appearing in the clouds of heaven.

The earth sun and moon will withdraw their light. All of the stars in heaven will fall [*meteor-showers*], and the heavens will be pitch black without any light. After it is burned, God will restore the earth as it was before He spoke the world into existence. The entire surface of the earth will be dark and void as it was in Geneses 1:1 "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth. **2** And **the earth was without form, and void, and darkness** *was* **upon the face of the deep**. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters."

Matthew 24:29 says "Immediately **AFTER the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened. and the moon shall not give her light. and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken**: 30 And **"THEN". shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven**: and then shall **ALL THE TRIBES OF THE EARTH MOURN**, and **THEY shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven** with power and great glory. 31 And he shall send his angels **with a great sound of a trumpet**, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, <u>from one end</u> **of heaven to the other**." After the earth becomes completely dark, anyone who may be still living, those who have come through the "*great tribulation*" will have a short time left to repent of their sins and accept Jesus Christ before Jesus Christ returns appears in the clouds to judge the world and burn it.

During this very dark and short time, many will be wondering where God in all this tribulation is that they are seeing and experiencing. All who are still living during the tribulation will wonder how they have survived even to this point in time, but God has allowed them to live only because it will be their last and final opportunity to receive the only hope that God has offered to all of mankind – His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ the Lord and Savior.

The entire earth will have been shaken to its core, people will either repent of their sins or begin to curse God because of their hardships in their anger and anguish. Those who repent and turn to God will be saved, and those who do not repent will perish.

Revelation 16:10 "And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast, and his kingdom was full of darkness, and they gnawed their tongues for pain, **11** <u>And blasphemed the God of heaven</u> <u>because of THEIR PAINS and their SORES</u>, and <u>REPENTED NOT of their deeds</u>. **12** And <u>the</u> <u>sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates: and the water thereof was dried up</u>, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared."

The earth-shaking are earthquakes that lead to the final event when Jesus appears in the clouds of heaven and removes all who have repented of their sins and have asked God to forgive and save them. The rapture of the Church takes place and all those in right standing before God are taken out of the earth into literally "*the clouds*" far above the earth just before God destroys everything and everyone on earth who has not repented of their sins. God causes a shaking in the entire earth until He finally turns the earth upside-down. God then begins burning the entire surface of the earth including those left behind on the earth who refused to repent of their sins and accept Jesus Christ their only hope of salvation.

THE FINAL LAST HARVEST WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR MANY PEOPLE

Joel 3:13 "Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down: for the press is full, the fats overflow: for their wickedness is great. 14 MULTITUDES, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is NEAR in the valley of decision 15 The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. 16 The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD will be the hope of his people. and the strength of the children of Israel."

Daniel 12:1 "At that time Michael, the great prince who stands watch over your people, will rise, up. **There will be a time of distress. the likes of which will not have occurred from the beginning of nations until that time**. **But** "**AT THAT TIME** " **your people everyone whose name is found** written in the book will be delivered."

THE RAPTURE BEGINS TO HAPPEN...

Revelation 8:5 "Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it to the earth; and **there were peals of thunder**, **and rumblings. and flashes of lightning. and an earthquake**."

Revelation 11:19 "And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightning's, and voices, and thundering's, and an earthquake, and great hail."

CATASTROPHIC DISASTERS BEGIN TO FALL ON THE EARTH

Isaiah 24:1 "Behold, <u>the LORD maketh the earth empty. and maketh it waste. and turneth it upside</u> <u>down. and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof</u>. 2 And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the taker of usury, so with the giver of usury to him. 3 <u>The land shall be utterly emptied. and utterly spoiled: for the LORD hath spoken</u> <u>this word</u>. 4 <u>The earth mourneth and fade</u> <u>s away. the world languishet</u> <u>and</u> <u>fadeth. away the</u> <u>haughty people of the earth do languish</u>. 5 <u>The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof</u>; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, and broken the everlasting covenant. 6 <u>Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth. and they that dwell therein are desolate:</u> therefore, the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left."

These final events will be the last and final warning from God calling people who have made it through the great tribulation to repentance. Then suddenly as it was in the days of Noah, God begins to destroy whatever is left on earth including unrepentant people, they all perish. God causes a great worldwide earthquake and immediately after that it begins to rain down fire, brimstone, and hail weighing 70 to 100 pounds each falling from heaven as the final judgment on the earth destroying everything on earth.

A DEVASTATING AND FINAL EARTHQUAKE ON THE EARTH

Jesus did prophesy in Matthew twenty-four that various strong earthquakes will come upon the earth just as the great tribulation begins then Jesus returns *after* the tribulation. The final earthquake before Jesus returns will shake and destroy everything on earth. All cities worldwide will be utterly destroyed by this final earthquake event. Revelation 16:18 "And there were voices, and thunders and lightning's; <u>and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake.</u> <u>and so great</u>."

THE FINAL AND LAST JUDGMENT THAT PUTS AN END TO THIS WORLD OCCURS

God's Final Judgment of fire is poured out on the Earth.

2 Peter 3:10 "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; **in the which. the heavens shall pass away** with a great noise, and **the elements shall melt with fervent heat**, **the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up**. 11 *Seeing* then *that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness, 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, **wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved. and the elements shall melt with fervent heat**?"

Isaiah 24:19 "The earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is moved exceedingly. 20 The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage, and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it, and it shall fall, and not rise again. 21 And it shall come to pass in that day. *that* the LORD shall punish the host of the high ones *that are* on high, and the kings of the earth upon the earth. 22 And they shall be gathered together, *as* prisoners are gathered in the pit, and shall be shut up in the prison ______. and after many days shall they be visited. 23 Then the moon shall be confounded, and the sun ashamed, when the LORD of hosts shall reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously."

In verse 22 where we read; "*after many days shall they be visited*" is referencing the time after the earth has been burned and has rested for the 1000-year millennium period, this period in time is the millennial reign which is not discussed in this book. I will be writing another book about the millennial reign which will reveal what the earth will look like one thousand years after the rapture occurs. The earth will have been purified and restored by God after the earth has rested for one thousand years. The surface of the earth will be like it was at the beginning when God created Adam before the fall of mankind in the garden of Eden. After the earth is restored, God will bring those who made it at the rapture back to the newly restored earth to inherit the earth fulfilling what Jesus said – The meek inherit the earth!

I will share a glimpse of what the scriptures say about the new earth that we will inherit in the future after 1000 years of living in heaven with the Lord.

Matthew 5:5 "Blessed *are* the meek: for **they shall inherit the earth.**"

The earth that we will inherit that Jesus was speaking of in Matthew is the newly restored earth!

A New Heaven and a New Earth

Revelation 21:1 " And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away, and there was no more sea. 2 And **LJohn saw the holy city. new Jerusalem. coming down from God out of heaven**, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God. 3 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. 6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. 7 **He that overcometh shall inherit all things**; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. 8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

Be looking for my new book soon about the new earth! But for now, I will focus on the topic of this book, *the Second Coming of Jesus Christ!*

You can read about the new earth in Revelation 21 to learn a little more about what the earth will be like AFTER the millennial reign period when the earth is restored.

What did the Old Testament prophets prophesy about the final LAST "**DAY**" on earth? What did they say about the final and last Judgment on earth? Let us read what the scriptures teach what they said about judgment day and what God will do on the earth when Jesus returns.

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY ABOUT THE LAST DAY ON EARTH

Jeremiah 7:18 "The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead *their* dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger. 19 Do they provoke me to anger? saith the LORD: *do they* not *provoke* themselves to the confusion of their own faces? 20 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; **Behold, mine anger, and my fury shall be poured out upon this place. UPON MAN , and upon beast, and on the trees of the field, and upon the fruit of the ground: and IT SHALL BURN , and shall not be quenched**."

Amos 9:5 "And **the Lord GOD of hosts** *is* **he that toucheth the land, and it shall melt, and all that dwell therein shall mourn**: and it shall rise up wholly **like a flood**; and shall be drowned, as *by* the flood of Egypt."

Zephaniah 1:2 "**I will utterly consume all** *things* **from off the land**, saith the LORD. 3 **I will consume man and beast**; I will consume the fowls of the heaven, and the fishes of the sea, and the stumbling-blocks with the wicked; and **I will cut off man from off the land**, saith the LORD."

Malachi 4:1 "For, behold, "<u>the day cometh" that shall BURN as an oven</u>; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: <u>and the day that cometh</u> <u>SHALL BURN THEM UP</u>, <u>saith the LORD of hosts</u>, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch."

Isaiah 51:6 "Lift, up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath for **the heavens shall vanish away like smoke. and the earth shall wax old like a garment. and they that dwell therein SHALL DIE in like manner**: **but my salvation shall be forever. and my righteousness shall not be abolished**."

Isaiah 13:13 "Therefore **I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place**, **in the WRATH OF THE LORD of hosts, and "IN THE DAY" of his FIERCE ANGER**."

Hosea 7:13 "Woe unto them! for they have fled from me: destruction unto them! because they have transgressed against me: though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against me."

Isaiah 2:19 "<u>Men will flee to caves in the rocks and holes in the ground, away from the terror of the</u> LORD and, from the splendor of His majesty, when He rises to shake the earth."

What is prophesied in the New Testament about the final day on earth.

2 Peter 2:12 "But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not: and shall utterly perish in their, own corruption; 13 And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, *as* they that count it a pleasure to riot in the daytime. Spots *they are* and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceiving's while they feast with you; 14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: a heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: 15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam *the son* of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet."

Jesus said this about His Second Coming.

Luke 12:49 "**I** - [*Jesus*] **am come TO SEND FIRE ON THE EARTH**; and what will I, if it be already kindled?"

Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth "SHALL" pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

2 Peter 3:13 "Nevertheless **we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth**, wherein dwelleth righteousness." - **NOTE:** This the new heaven and new earth is only after the millennial reign.

Revelation 21:1-5

"1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God. 4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful."

Jude 1:7 "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, **are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire**."

2 Thessalonians 1:9 "Who **shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord**, and, from the glory of his power."

Romans 9:22 *"What* if God, willing to show *his* wrath, and to make his power known, endured **with much long-suffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction**."

2 Peter 3:7 "But <u>the heavens and the earth, which are now</u>, by the same word <u>are kept in store,</u> " **RESERVED** " unto fire against THE DAY OF JUDGMENT and perdition of ungodly men."

2 Peter 3:9 **"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise**, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish**, **but that all should come to repentance**."

BOTH THE PSALMS AND PROVERBS ALSO PROCLAIMS ABOUT THE WICKED AND UNBELIEVING BEING REMOVED FROM OFF THE FACE OF EARTH FOREVER.

Psalms 1:6 "For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish."

Psalms 37:38 "But <u>the transgressors shall be destroyed</u> together: <u>the end of the wicked shall be cut</u> <u>off</u>."

Proverbs 2:22 "But **the wicked shall be cut off from the earth**, and **the transgressors shall be rooted out of it**."

Psalms 94:23 "And he **shall bring upon them their own iniquity. and shall cut them off in their own wickedness: yea . the LORD our God shall cut them off**."

Psalm 92:7 "When the wicked spring as the grass, and **when all the workers of iniquity do flourish:** *it is that* **they shall be destroyed forever**:"

Psalms 9:5 "**Thou hast rebuked the heathen, thou hast destroyed the wicked**, **thou hast put out their name forever and ever**."

Proverbs 10:30 "The righteous shall never be removed: but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth."

You can read the entire Psalms and Proverbs; you will never find one verse that teaches that the wicked live forever on the earth. All you will find is that they "perish" and are uprooted out of God's earth for an eternity then cast into an eternal fire.

The Bible never taught that those who are not saved, the unbelieving and wicked who commit iniquity live forever, THEY PERISH. – They are condemned to hell as Jesus taught in scripture.

Jesus never preached that an unbeliever is granted eternal life. Only believers live for an eternity in heaven. The true reality is that the unbelievers perish which means they die. How will they die one might ask, they die at the second coming of Jesus Christ when God destroys them by fire. It will be a very painful death for the wicked when Jesus Christ returns. Then one thousand years later they stand before God only to face a "SECOND DEATH" which is HELL where they will live for an eternity.

John 3:16

"16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, <u>that whosoever believeth in him</u> <u>SHOULD NOT PERISH</u> . but have everlasting life.

John 3:17

17 For **God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world**; **<u>but that the world through him</u>** <u>might be saved</u>."

When Jesus came to earth the first time, He did not come to condemn anyone but He came to offer them salvation so they can escape the wrath of God on the day of judgment!

Chapter Six

When will the second coming of Jesus happen?

Just in the last few centuries, many claims have been made by many people, and religious cults who have falsely prophesied about "The Day" Jesus Christ will return. Those false prophets wasted their time trying to figure out on what day Jesus Christ would return. Through their deception, many innocent people were deceived simply because they did not understand, study and learn what Jesus said about His second coming.

WHAT DID JESUS PROPHECY ABOUT HIS SECOND COMING

- 1. Matthew 24:4 "And Jesus answered and said unto them, **<u>Take heed that no man deceive you</u>**."
- 2. Matthew 24:26 "Wherefore **if they shall say unto you, Behold, He** [*Jesus*] **is in the desert go not forth: behold** *he is in the secret chambers; believe it not.*"
- 3. Matthew 24:36 "But of **that day and hour knows no man**, no, **not the angels of heaven, but my Father only**."

Jesus prophesied that "many" people "*falsely prophesying*" would deceive others about His return, knowingly or unknowingly, intentionally or unintentionally.

The following list and statements below about false prophets are not intended to offend anyone, any religious group, or individual person, but <u>only to reveal historically recorded facts</u> of people who have attempted to set a date or time when Jesus would return. I am certain that the faith of all those people that believed their false prophecies were hindered because they were lied to and deceived into believing that Jesus Christ would return on a certain day. All the false prophets who prophesied falsely have tried to set a date or time frame for the second coming of Jesus. All their prophecies have failed.

You can only imagine how these innocent people's faith in Jesus was probably destroyed or made shipwrecked. Or how it may have taken a lot of time to recover from all the lies. Some probably permanently lost their faith in Jesus by the damage caused by all the liars who made an attempt and tried to proclaim a set date when Jesus Christ would return.

Here are just a few of those false prophets that over the centuries deceived many and ruined the faith of many people who were trusting or seeking God.

A documented historical public list of false prophets' names and/or organizations who have completely ignored the teachings of Jesus concerning the second coming of Jesus is provided by *wikipedia.org*.

AD. 70

The Jewish sect called the Essenes believed the Jewish revolt against Roman rule was the battle that would usher in the second coming of the Messiah.

AD. 500

Several predictions, including those by Hippolytus of Rome, Sextus Julius Africanus, and Irenaeus, predicted the return of Jesus that year. One of them, according to Wikipedia, was based on the measurements of Noah's Ark.

AD. 1000

Pope Sylvester II was only one of many who thought the date would mark the end of the world. Some rioted; some went to Jerusalem believing the second coming of Jesus Christ was about to take place.

AD. 1260

Joachim of Flore the Italian mystic determined that the New Millennium would begin between 12001260 AD.

AD. 1504

In 1500, the painter Sandro Botticelli thought the Devil was loose and that he was living in the Tribulation, but that it would last only three and a half years.

AD 1524

A group of very specific London astrologers calculated that London's world flood on this date, commencing the end of the world. Some 20,000 Londoners sought higher ground.

AD. 1525

Thomas Muntzer predicted that 1525 would mark the beginning of the Millennium.

AD. 1533

Michael Stifel a German monk, mathematician, and strong supporter of Martin Luther calculated that Judgment Day would begin at 8:00 AM on October 19th. 1533 AD.

AD. 1694

John Mason a Calvinist priest, poet, and hymn writer, along with Johann Heinrich Alsted who was a Calvinist minister believed that Jesus would return, and the world would end in 1694.

AD. 1757

Emanuel Swedenborg reported that the Last Judgment had taken place in the spiritual world in 1757. His claim presented this not as a prediction, but as an eye-witness account.

AD 1770

In the late 1700s, Ann Lee of the United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing also known as the Shakers believed that the second coming of Christ would be through a woman.

AD. 1964

In the 1950s there was a movement within the Seventh-day Adventist Church that Jesus Christ would come around October of 1964. Then in The Great Disappointment the "Millerite movement" that followed by a Baptist preacher named William Miller who proclaimed that Jesus Christ would return to the Earth by 1844 which he called the Second Advent.

AD. 1988

Hal Lindsey Published a book, The Late Great Planet Earth, suggesting Christ would return in the 1980s, probably no later than 1988.

AD. 1994

Harold Camping, general manager of Family Radio and Bible teacher, published a book and predicted that Christ's return was likely pointing to 1994.

AD. 1999

A fundamentalist preacher by the name "Of Jerry Falwell" predicted in 1999 that the Second Coming of Jesus Christ would probably be within 10 years, in 2009.

AD. 2000

The Founder of the Black Hebrew Israelite religion named "Frank Cherry" predicted the end would occur in AD. 2000.

AD. 2000

A pastor by the name of "Ed Dobson" predicted the end would occur in his book *The End: Why Jesus Could Return by AD. 2000.*

AD 2000

The leader of the True and Living Church of Jesus Christ of Saints of the Last Days named "James Harmston" predicted the Second Coming of Christ would occur on April 6th, 2000.

AD. 2012

Televangelist "Jack Van Impe" has, over the years, predicted many specific years and dates for the Second Coming of Jesus, but has continued to move his prediction in later years. Many of these dates have already passed, and he recently pointed to 2012 as the year for the second coming.

AD. 2015

Mark Biltz an American Pastor began teaching that Christ's return would correspond with the 28th, of September 2015 during a lunar eclipse. His idea, known as the "Blood Moon Prophecy", attracted attention from a Pastor by the name of "John Hagee" who stopped short of claiming Christ would return on that precise date.

CreditstoHistoricalSourcesProvidedBy:https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Predictions_and_claims_for_the_Second_Coming#Past_predictions

There are so many more false predictions by many other "*false prophets*" not mentioned in this list that have made attempts in setting a date or time for the second coming of Jesus Christ, they have <u>ALL</u> failed in their predictions because Jesus Christ has already told us that "<u>NO MAN KNOWS THE DAY OR</u> <u>THE HOUR</u>" - Read Matthew 24:36 again!

Jesus taught that people should not waste time trying to guess "**when**" He will return, but rather spend their time focusing on being "**READY**" for the second coming of Jesus! To be ready to meet JESUS when he returns!

Matthew 24:42 "Watch, therefore: **for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come**. 43 But know this, that if the good man of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, **he would have watched** and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. 44 **Therefore be ye also ready**: **for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man comes**."

Jesus uses the analogy of a thief breaking into a house. What Jesus was teaching is that His return will be "as" a thief going to break into a home. A thief does not call or advise ahead of time that he is coming. This analogy is a warning by Jesus to prepare for the second coming because, in the forty-fourth verse, Jesus said **Therefore BE YE ALSO READY**: **for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man comes** - Jesus is emphasizing **readiness**, and **awareness** when he said to **watch** for His second coming! Jesus never taught that we or anyone should ever try to figure out what "day or year" Jesus would return. This would have contradicted Jesus' statement about no one ever knowing the day or hour of His return. The focus Jesus taught was **being ready to meet Him** so that when he does return, we can be saved from the wrath that is coming upon the earth. Luke 3:7 "Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, **O generation of vipers. who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come**? 8 **Bring forth. therefore. fruits worthy of repentance**, and begin 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. 9 And now also the ax is laid unto the root of the trees: **every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and "CAST INTO THE FIRE**."

Jude 1:23 "And others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh."

Get Ready To Meet Jesus!

Chapter Seven

What are the signs the Rapture is near?

Although we are never told in scripture the day and hour when Jesus will return, we are however told about certain "*signs*" that do reveal that the second coming of Jesus is very near, even at the door!

Jesus had this to say to the religious people of his day during his earthly ministry.

Interpreting the Present Time

Luke 12:54 "And he [*Jesus*] said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There comes a shower, and so it is. 55 And when *ye see* the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat, and it comes to pass. 57 *You* hypocrites, **ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth: but how is it that ye do not discern this time**?"

Jesus also taught in scripture about a house that was well built upon a solid foundation could withstand the test of time when tempestuous weather strikes the house. Throughout scripture, we are taught that anyone who is a follower of Jesus Christ is called the house in which God dwells.

Acts 17:24 "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands." Also in scripture, we are told that the "*stone that the builders rejected*" is Jesus Christ – [Luke 20:17]. So when we read about this analogy that Jesus gives about a house and a stone, he is referencing his followers, and the Lord Jesus Christ. Here is the parable Jesus told the people during his earthly ministry.

Matthew 7:24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, <u>may be compared</u> to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it floods came, and the winds built his house on the sand the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house, and it fell — and great was its fall."

The fall of the house that was built on "sand" is teaching us about a person who does not have a strong foundation in Jesus Christ or take heed to his prophetic teachings about the return of Jesus Christ.

These important "*signs*" and "*parables*" that Jesus gives us in scripture are given to us so we can all understand "<u>the times</u>" leading up to the second coming of Jesus Christ. They are also given so we as followers of Jesus Christ can know what to expect in both world events, and especially Bible prophecy!

These teaching about the second coming of Jesus are so we can understand what events will take place and to be ready to meet the Lord and not to fear when we see these prophetic events begin to unfold. Jesus makes a few more important points or "*signs*" in the gospel of Matthew chapter twenty-four.

Matthew 24:12 "And **because iniquity shall abound**, **the love of many shall wax cold**. 12 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. 14 And <u>THIS GOSPEL of the kingdom shall be</u> **preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations: and then shall the end come**."

So how should we interpret those signs? The answer is self-explanatory, when we see iniquity [*Lawlessness & Sin*] increasing, and abounding in the world, we know that the love of many people will grow and wax and become cold. - This is one of the signs given in the scriptures.

Another example is that when the gospel has been preached as a witness to all the world, we can see this as another sign, that the end will be next to follow.

Now let us look closely at more of the signs, I will categorize them sequentially in the order as it is given to us in scripture by Jesus...

Matthew 24:5-8

- 1. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ. and shall deceive many.
- 2. And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet.
- 3. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. 4. And there shall be famines
- 5. And pestilences.
- 6. And earthquakes, in diverse places.
- 7. All these *are* the beginning of sorrows.

We can see that many of all these signs have, and are being fulfilled in even in our day, we can know by the fulfillment of all the events prophesied that end is not yet, but yes, it is very, very close.

Matthew 24:9-14

- 1. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. [*Great persecution against Christians worldwide*].
- 2. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. [when *Indifference and Self-Contentedness takes place in the world*].
- 3. And many false prophets shall rise and shall deceive many. [*Deception everywhere*].
- 4. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. [Sin & Hate].
- 5. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. [*Enduring The Times*].
- 6. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come. [*Worldwide Preaching ushers, the end of the world*].

Looking at all these signs we can truly say that Jesus is at the door, we are very close to the return of Jesus Christ. All of those signs are already on the earth today and are increasing even more. But they must come to full fruition on the earth, then the end of the world comes according to scripture. How can we know that Jesus was referring to the end of the world when He said – "*then the end will come*? The answer is found in the same chapter twenty-four of Matthew. His disciples asked Jesus, when the end of the "world" would come, then Jesus answers in dialog with the disciples and tells them the all the "**SIGNS**" that must and will take place leading to the end of the world.

Matthew 24:1-5

"1 And Jesus went out and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to *him* for to show him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. 3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, **the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, <u>when shall these things</u> be?** And <u>what shall be the SIGN of THY COMING</u>, and OF THE END OF THE WORLD? 4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that "NO MAN" deceive you.

Like many in the world today, the disciples wanted to know the answer to those exact questions, and Jesus revealed it to them and us by giving us prophetic events that will happen! Many of these signs have already been fulfilled.

They asked Jesus three important questions.

- 1. when shall these things be.
- 2. What *shall be* the sign of your coming?
- 3. and of the end of the world?

Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you was the first sign, then Jesus gave a lot more of the signs that must follow and take place leading to the end of the world, Then the Second Coming of Jesus Christ puts an end to all things on the earth!

All these signs are given to us so we are not caught unaware or unprepared for what is and will happen on earth. As we've already read in scripture, our focus should first and foremost – **<u>BE READY AND</u> <u>WATCH</u> because Jesus Christ the LORD is coming again!**

Be Ready!

Chapter Eight

What is the significance of the second coming for us today?

This book was not written to create a panic or fear about the second coming of Jesus Christ, but rather it was written to expose the so many lies that cause *spiritual complacency* and *confusion* about the "rapture" and the "*end-of-the-world*", at "*The Second Coming of Jesus*." – When properly understood, we can be at peace knowing the truth! <u>Truth makes one free</u>!

John 8:32 "And YOU SHALL KNOW the TRUTH, and THE TRUTH shall make you free."

The God of the scriptures is a loving merciful God and Father, He is to be reverenced with a holy fear that should lead us all to repentance, and a personal relationship with God – *Jesus*!

The teachings about the second coming of Jesus Christ found in this book are to shed scriptural truths in bible prophecy for the edification and enrichment of your biblical knowledge concerning the triumphant return of the Lord Jesus Christ!

When we look back at biblical history, we can learn that as it was in Noah's day, many did not believe or take God seriously when God said that going to destroy everything on the earth including unrepentant man.

When Jesus came to earth at His first coming, many including religious people that Jesus ministered to did not believe His message of repentance they not only rejected Jesus Christ as the Messiah, they crucified Him because they did not want to listen to the hard warnings and teaching that Jesus taught about the judgment of God that will come upon the earth. When we stop and think about this, nothing has changed because many today are the same as those of the first century when Jesus walked on this earth and preached in person to them. Timothy has much to say about this for our day.

2 Timothy 4:3 "**For the time will come when they <u>will not endure sound doctrine</u>**; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;"

When Jesus returns at the second coming, many will immediately learn that they too have been deceived and will not be spared of the wrath that will come upon the earth because they refuse to take heed to what the Holy Spirit of God who is teaching us in the scriptures. Many fail to repent and believe the gospel. The very first sermon that Jesus taught and preached to his followers while on earth is found in the gospel of Mark.

Mark 1:15 "And saying, **The time is fulfilled**, **and the kingdom of God is at hand : repent ye, and believe the gospel**."

Understanding the important significance of these biblical prophecies concerning the return of Jesus Christ is the most important message we all must come to understand in order to make it into the Kingdom of heaven. When we truly understand the prophecies about the second coming of Jesus, we will be able to prepare not only for what is going to happen on earth at the coming of Jesus but prepare our daily lives by turning away from all iniquity, and all evil deeds. The Bible clearly states **that without holiness. no one will see God.** Hebrews 12:14 **"Follow peace with all men. and holiness. without which no man shall see the Lord**." Jesus also told his disciples to pray that they be delivered from evil. Matthew 6:13 "And lead us not into temptation but **deliver <u>US</u> from evil**: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

The Bible also states that in the "*last days*," God will "purify many" and many will be tried. Some will understand, and some will not understand the message of the gospel.

Daniel 12:8-10

8 And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, **what shall** *be* **the end of these** *thinas*?

9 And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for <u>the word are closed up and **sealed till the time of the end. 10** <u>Many shall be purified</u>, and made white, and tried; <u>but the wicked shall do wickedly</u>: and <u>none of the wicked shall understand</u>; but <u>the wise shall understand</u>.</u>

No religion or method of man will be able to save us when the wrath of God is being poured out upon the earth unless we all have repented and turned away from evil. Only Jesus Christ and His shed blood on the cross can save us! In closing the final chapter of this book, I will share a few more important scriptures that relate to the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 3:20 "Behold, I [*Jesus*] stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come into him and dine with him, and he with Me." Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for **there is no other name under heaven given among men. whereby we must be saved**."

Revelation 22:10-17

"10 And he saith unto me. Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand 11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. 12 And, <u>behold, I come quickly: and my reward is with me. to give every man according as his work shall be</u>. 13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. 14 <u>Blessed are they that do his commandments</u>, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. 15 For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. 16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star.17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that hears say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will let him take the water of life freely."

Matthew 7:21-23

"21 Not everyone 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. 22 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? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

Trying to convince God with empty words to allow us into heaven will mean nothing on that day. Only the shed blood of Jesus Christ who died for our sins and our faith in God and His word can transform our life and character to live in complete obedience to Christ Jesus the LORD who grants us access to the very throne room of God our heavenly Father in heaven!

I will close this book with a question that Jesus Christ asked in the gospel of Luke...

Luke 6:46 "But WHY do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and NOT DO the things which I say?"

Jesus was telling his followers that we all do <u>His will</u> and obey the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Conclusion

A few words of encouragement from the author.

God would that all come to the knowledge of the truth concerning the return of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the only hope for all of humanity, and the only way to God the Father in heaven.

Take these steps and make peace with God.

- 1. Believe in your heart, and accept Jesus Christ as your Lord Savior, and you will be saved.
- 2. Pray to God the Father aloud, in the name of Jesus Christ to forgive you of your sins and to count you worthy of all His promises and blessings found in the scriptures.
- 3. Walk with God daily, avoid doing evil, and trust Jesus for salvation no matter what.
- 4. Trust in the prophecies written in Bible as the truth because it is the inspired word of God.
- 5. Allow God to change your life and begin doing His will as God shows you through the Bible.
- 6. Look forward to the rapture and be ready to meet Jesus Christ at His Second Coming.
- 7. Pray and read the Bible every single day.

Matthew 7:14 "Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leads unto life, and few there be that find it."

Prayer for Salvation:

Pray this prayer aloud and Jesus will come into your life to save and forgive you of all your sins ...

Dear heavenly Father, I ask you to forgive me and wash away all my sins. I believe you sent your Son Jesus Christ to save the entire world. I believe that you sent Jesus into this world to save my soul from all your judgments that will come upon this earth. I now accept Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Savior. I ask you Lord Jesus to cleanse and forgive me of all sins and deliver me from all evil in my life. I now receive your forgiveness and make my peace with you Lord Jesus. Fill me with your Holy Spirit, teach and help me to walk in obedience to your word and will every day. Thank you, Father, for opening my spiritual eyes, and saving my soul this day! I look forward in meeting Jesus face-to-face at the rapture! In the mighty and powerful name of JESUS CHRIST, I pray. - Amen.

Congratulations if you've prayed this prayer! The angels of God in heaven are rejoicing right now because you repented of your sins and received Jesus Christ, you are now on your journey to heaven at the second coming of Jesus Christ! Now go and become a disciple of Jesus and learn all that Jesus taught and said by reading the bible and praying daily.

Luke 15:10 "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repents."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Author of this book is a Pastor, Bible Teacher, and Prophetic Minister who has studied the scriptures for thirty-nine years since the printing of this book. This book is a brief compilation of the studies on biblical prophecies surrounding actual events that will unfold at the second coming of Jesus as taught and prophesied in the Holy Bible.

This book intends to only reveal what the Bible teaches concerning prophecies about the second coming of Jesus. It is not intended to proselytize anyone reading this book or convert anyone to any religion, but rather that this book will help the reader to come to the knowledge of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, and to use this book in their personal or group studies on biblical prophecy so they can prepare their lives to meet the Lord at His return!

If you have enjoyed reading this book and studying the biblical prophecies about the second coming of Jesus, please let Pastor Joel Martin know that you have enjoyed reading this book by making contact via our website.

You may order additional copies of this book, or in bulk discounts, so you can share it with your friends and family. Contact our Church via our website: **https://OpenHeavenChristianChurch.com**

Many blessings to you and your family! Again, thank you for purchasing and taking the time to read this biblical study book on prophecy.



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Page 5. Does the Bible tell us that Jesus will return?

Page 8. Will people have a second chance at the Second Coming of Jesus?

Page 13. Is the Rapture Going To Happen?

Page 32. Do people continue living on earth after Jesus returns?

Page 39. What happens on earth at the return of Jesus Christ?

Page 46. When will the second coming of Jesus happen?

Page 50. What are the signs the Rapture is near?

Page 53. What is the significance of the second coming for us today?

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