

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

The Lord Will Come . . . Perhaps Today . . . Behold, I Come Quickly . . . Rev. 22:7

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Why Will Things Get Worse?

Introduction

One of the blessings due to the corona virus pandemic is people being made aware of the fragility of human life, of getting the virus and possibly dying. The thought coming to the minds of many is, "If I die where shall I spend eternity?" It is not sufficient to say, "I hope I will be in heaven". For instance, if I was going to Australia I would not blindly get on the first aircraft I saw and hope it would take me there. Neither would I ask another fellow traveler. I would go to someone from the airline who could tell me with assuredness. When it comes to where I shall spend eternity I do not want to listen to others who are not sure where they are going. I would want to listen to the Authoritative one, the Lord Jesus, who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, No man cometh unto the Father but by me" (Jn. 14:6). It is irrelevant if it is a pastor, a minister, an archbishop, a cardinal or the head the church. They are going by what they have been told, but have they been told the truth? Jesus is the Truth and it is through He alone that any individual can be saved and sure of eternal bliss.

Why does God send judgment in Revelation?

When anyone reads the book of Revelation they may have noticed pieces of furniture are mentioned: a throne (ch. 4:2); the Altars (ch. 8:3, 5); the temple of God with emphasis on the "ark of His testament" (Rev. 11:19). There is a reason for each of them. The God we worship is the Source of love. A characteristic of love is to warn of judgement. God goes even further than just warn of judgment but specifically explains why the judgment will come and what forms it will take. This He will do in Revelation 6:1-20 by the use of the furniture.

- a) In chapter four there is the Throne of the Moral Absolute (ch. 4:8) to whom is ascribed the descriptive clause "Holy, Holy, Holy". He is also the Creator of the Universe where we read, "Thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure (will) they are and were created" (Rev. 4:11). Man in arrogance and foolishness rebels against God's ownership and character determining how to get to heaven and preserve the planet. How foolish they are when they think the preservation of the planet depends on them. Let it be clear, God has decreed that it is the Lord who shall fold them as a vesture, "And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: they shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail" (Heb 1:10-12). Furthermore, when one believes the Bible there has yet to be a 1000 years reign of the Lord, therefore, the earth will still be here until at least 3020!!
 - i) God informs us that the Lord will take the "book" (Rev. 5:1-7) which is the declaration and judicial judgments before any of the judgements are started? Why is this? I suggest it is to press upon the human heart that God is not a flaming God who cannot wait to vent His judgment on man. The judgments of God are manifestations of His righteousness because He is the creator of this world which man is destroying (making so corrupt) (Rev. 11:18). Humanity has wrong priorities. It is good to protect

creation but the more vital thing is to not corrupt the earth with abominations. That is what man is doing and God will not permit that indefinitely. Ultimately, there is nothing left but to destroy it. Illustration: I have a car bought with my own money. I would be perfectly righteous in expecting you to pay if you damaged it. Man is damaging God's creation, causing it to be a foul smell, a rottenness to Him, therefore, because it is His He has a right to punish those who destroy another's property and to destroy it Himself. The book of Revelation is the callings of His love in seeking to have man repent and turn while the opportunity for mercy is available.

ii) Furthermore, the God of love in explicitly informs humanity in Revelation of what certain judgments will be. For instance, if we think the present pandemic is bad, we have seen nothing yet. In one future judgment one-third of humanity will die (Rev. 9:15, 18). With today's (2020-11-22) population of 7800,000,000,000 it means 1950,000,000,000 people will die! Again, in another judgment one-third of the population will die and that means another 1950,000,000,000 will die. Earth's population will be 3900,000,000,000! Why are the judgments of God so severe? Sometimes it takes a major catastrophe to awaken individuals to realize that it is foolishness to fight and rebel against God, and man ought to prepare to meet God. As I say, we have not seen anything yet.

b) The next piece of furnishings are the two altars which, in the Old Testament, were for two reasons:

i) The brazen altar was for the sacrifices by which sins were covered and man was made acceptable to God.

ii) The golden altar was where the priest prayed for God's spiritual blessings.

1. Today the Lord holds open the way to have sins forgiven but it will not always be open. God is not to be played with. When an individual now, in the past, or in the future rejects the completed work of the Lord, then the forsaking of God will be known by them in eternity. At Calvary Christ suffered, enduring the Hell that was my due so that I would have eternal life. To reject that sacrifice, to intimate by human endeavours the work of the Lord is not sufficient, will incur His fierce wrath. Thousands will languish in Hell eternally because they thought their little bit with the addition of the sacrifice of the Lord would secure Heaven. Wrong! There is no little bit of mine. Salvation is 100 percent Christ alone. God will in fierceness judge present life and eternity for the rejection of the finished work of His Son.

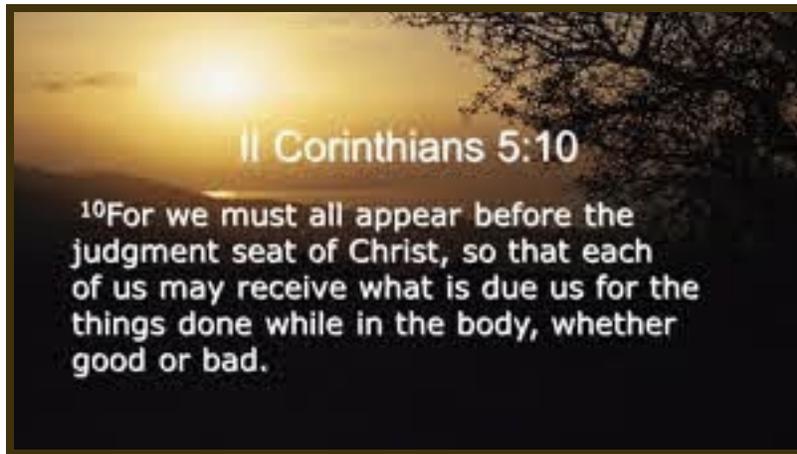
2. How foolish for an individual to reject the full spiritual blessings of God, blessings which money, fame or prestige could never buy. The spiritual blessings of God are peace with God, sins forgiven, cleansed from all guilt before God, the assurance of escaping the horrors of eternal Hell and the assurance of eternal salvation. What a dreadful awakening for the Christ rejector when that moment comes and they stand before a Holy and Righteous God. In dreadful solemnity of the Supreme Court of Heaven the judging begins. One after another the books are opened and then the Book of Life. The individual will stand in the dock knowing their name is not in that book, waiting and knowing the condemnation that is about to fall, then to hear those awful words, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire" (Matt. 25:41). There was a time when they made the decision to reject God's offer of salvation, leaving God no option but to accept their decision and they then reap the consequences of it.

c) The next piece of furniture is the ark (Rev. 11:19). In this case, by the ark God is specifying certain sins of humanity. In the ark was the tables of the law which allows no failure. As one reads Revelation thirteen and understands that there will be on earth (and possibly is here today) an individual who will be given the power of Satan and his seat of authority (Rev. 13:2). This individual proclaims himself to be God and sits in the temple of God (2 Thess. 2:4). He is so satanically possessed as he seeks to displace God and who is to worshipped. This is not the government to be worshipped but an evil man who hates God and all that has to do with God. The world will be a sphere of complete blasphemy ruled by a blasphemous government (Rev. 17:12-13) who surrender all authority to this man (Rev. 17:12, 13) and of whom blasphemy is a major characteristic (Rev. 13:6). An image is made of him (Rev. 13:14) which all must bow down to. Man, instead of obeying God's law and acknowledging God's moral correctness, will obey the henchmen of this evil man and worship his image. In the law God said, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them" (Ex. 20:3-5). At the end of Revelation the angel speaks very firmly to John saying, "Worship God" (Rev. 22:9). The angel continues by which he indicates an unchangeable condition, "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" (Rev. 22:11). On those who refuse to worship God but worship a sinful and evil man, God's judgment will fall.

Conclusion

In the Old Testament God said, “O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!” (Deut. 32:29). The heart of God is pleading with all tenderness of heart and yearning that the reader of this paper would stop and consider their own latter end. Wisdom indicates and encourages the individual to throw down the rebelliousness and with haste grasp the offer of salvation and escape the wrath of God coming on this earth, but also the damnation of Hell for all eternity.

***“O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!”
(Deut. 32:29)***



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