



The King is Coming

Bible Study Pathways

Lesson 14

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A Story to Ponder...

During World War II, believing that the Nazi occupation was only temporary, resistance fighters in the country of France fought hard and relentlessly against the enemy. They believed that any day, the Allied forces would arrive and rescue France from the Nazi oppressors.

But as time went on and the weeks turned into years, some of the freedom fighters began to lose hope that the Allies would ever come. Some of the freedom fighters stayed firm and continued to fight the Nazis, but some gave up and found it much easier to cooperate with the enemy, making friends with them and in some cases, even betraying their fellow countrymen into the enemy's hands in exchange for money or other favors.

Suddenly, when least expected, the Allied forces arrived in France. It is known as D-Day. The country of France was liberated and the enemy was defeated. Those freedom fighters that had stayed faithful to their duty were treated as the heroes. But those who had turned traitors were publicly humiliated and executed.

We are also in a world war, but this war ends with the destruction of the whole planet. Yet, we have been given assurance that our rescue is coming, and instructed to stay faithful.



Matt. 24:3 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?



When the disciples asked what would be the sign of His coming, Jesus began listing all the different signs that would be happening in both the physical world and the political world that would signal that His coming was near. He states that there will be increases in wars, diseases, earthquakes, crime, and trouble of all kinds.

See Matt. 24; Luke 21:7-36



Revelation 1:7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. (Acts 1:9-11)



The Bible says that Christ is coming with _____ and that it won't be secret because every _____ will _____ him.



1 Thess. 4:16-17 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: 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. (Daniel 12:2)



Not only will every eye see Him, but it says that as He comes down, there is the sound of the trumpet – so it will be loud as well. We also see that at this time the righteous who are dead, sleeping in the graves, are resurrected. This verse also tells us that Christ isn't landing on the planet, but that all the righteous are "caught up" to meet Him "in the air".



Matt. 28:2-4 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.



According to the Bible, when a celestial being comes down from heaven, the earth _____ and the bright _____ that accompanies him causes the wicked to fear and become as _____ men.



In fact, an earthquake marked the hour that Christ died on the cross, and another earthquake marked His resurrection. If the earth shakes whenever Jesus makes a major move involving planet earth, will we see this same reaction when Jesus Christ returns to the earth again?



Rev. 6:12-17 ... and, lo, there was a great earthquake; ...And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. 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; 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: For the great day of his wrath is come; ...



Revelation declares that there will be a great _____ and the sky will split apart like a scroll being rolled up and the _____ and _____ will be moved and there will be great _____ among the wicked inhabitants of earth.



2 Thess. 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

Heb. 12:26-29 ...Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain...For our God is a consuming fire.



So we see that the light and glory that accompanies the King will destroy the wicked. But how do the righteous react to this event? _____



Isaiah 25:9 And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.




As the earth is reeling from the mighty earthquake, the trumpet of God is sounding, and the wicked are frantically seeking to hide, and the righteous are rejoicing in His salvation - Christ calls the righteous dead to awaken and there is a mighty resurrection of all the innumerable company of God's people who have died throughout history.



1 Cor. 15:51-55 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality...



The Bible says that the righteous dead are raised _____ and that those who are still living are _____ in a moment - this is where we are given _____ as a gift from God.

In future lessons, we will study more thoroughly what the Bible says happens next.  **Rev 20:4-6** ... and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. **John 14:2-3** In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

CONCLUSION

Let us all stay faithful to God so that when Jesus Christ comes, we can be among the number who declares "this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us!" And while we wait let us be "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;" Titus 2:13