SHALL REIGN FOR EVER AND EVER

Behold, I Am Coming



Volume 6 of 7

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FOREWORD

'he Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments (essentially the Hebrew Tanakh and B'Rit Hadashah) reveal God's viewpoint regarding this world: namely, that all its peoples, the earth itself, and the whole Cosmos are all corrupted and fallen from the perfection that he originally intended as their Creator. And the cause of this fall was us - humanity! The Bible is clear that God created a first man and woman (Adam and Eve) to be the 'progenitors' of the human race. They were given charge over a creation that was 'very good' in God's eyes, and a simple command to show their love and obedience to their Maker - but they chose wilfully to rebel against God and disobey his clear instruction to 'not eat' one specific thing. As the LORD God warned, so it was: in the moment they rebelled, sin and death entered them (spiritual death instantly, then being followed by physical later). And the whole created order was handed over by them to a state of corruption and decay. The human race is descended from the loins of Adam, and thus we all have inherited his rebellious and disobedient nature. The Word of God declares bluntly, "There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; they have together become unprofitable; there is none who does good, no, not one." [Romans 3: 10 – 12] It would be a very bleak prospect for humanity if that assessment of us was God's final word on the matter. We could have no hope at all. But there is good news! He chose instead to set in motion a 'rescue operation' for humanity. However, because he is absolutely holy and just, his plan of redemption could not contravene his own nature; it must fulfil his own standard of holiness, justice and righteousness. Therefore without any 'help' from fallen man, who could do no good works to merit God's salvation, the Most High commenced a step-by-step plan to provide a means of rescue for Man. It began with God calling out of the nations a people for himself, to set over them his anointed King.

Ve tend to like immediate solutions and instant gratification, but God's intricate plan of redemption stretches over millennia, much of it being built on one (righteous) person at a time carrying out the task given them through the power of God's Holy Spirit. The Canon of Scripture reveals this story of redemption that culminates in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, coming to this earth – first as Saviour then as Judge. Salvation was purchased by Christ at his first coming as Saviour of the world. But God's righteous anger against continued human rebellion will be meted out by the Son of God at his second coming as Judge of the whole earth. In between these two momentous events is the Church Age in which we live – the 'acceptable year of the LORD' – a time of grace in which God is 'not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.'

Throughout the Scriptures, God reveals to us his purpose and plan. The Law, the Prophets, the writings – and the New Testament written during the apostolic era – bring into focus the true meanings of the following:

Redemption – from the moment humanity fell into a state of sin and death, and even before Creation, God purposed to redeem a holy people – to buy them back out of bondage – through the substitutionary death of his Son on our behalf [see Genesis 3: 15].

Atonement – that since 'the wages of sin is death' and 'the life is in the blood' therefore death is the only appropriate judgment for sin. Thus, the shedding of innocent blood for sin, as pictured by God through the Jewish sacrificial system, could be made on behalf of sinners, in order for them to be forgiven by God and come into his holy presence without being instantly condemned. The only innocent man who could pay the price for (all) human sin was Jesus Christ. **Incarnation** – that God the Son, the second person of the divine trinity, set aside his eternal glory and entered the world as a man, born of a virgin. Thus he was not corrupted by Adam's fall. Therefore God's divine nature and uncorrupted human nature were perfectly in harmony in Jesus of Nazareth, who was a perfect man.

Substitution – because he lived a perfect, sinless life as a man always in obedience to the will of God the Father, the Son of God was slain on behalf of humanity as the sacrificial Lamb of God. He bore the punishment for the sins of the whole world, in our place. His blood was shed and his life given on behalf of others. All the Old Testament sacrifices pointed to this once-forall sacrifice.

Propitiation – that the death of his Son nailed to a Roman cross was sufficient to appease God's wrath and take the judgment due to all others. Everyone who looks to the Lord Jesus as their propitiation receives God's forgiveness.

Justification – that God the Father declares righteous (not guilty of their sins against God and man) everyone who trusts in the finished work of Jesus Christ on their behalf.

Imputation – that the perfect righteousness of the Lamb of God is imputed to everyone who put their faith in Jesus Christ. God the Father no longer imputes a believer's sins to him, but sees them clothed in his Son's spotless righteousness. **New Birth/Life in Christ** – that everyone who believes that Jesus Christ has died and risen for them receives the free gift of eternal life – God's very life inside them (the Holy Spirit).

Grace – We do nothing ourselves to earn, deserve or merit salvation. As the apostle Paul said, 'For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.' [Ephesians 2: 8, 9]. Jesus when asked, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" answered, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him who he sent." [John 6: 28, 29]. Salvation is a free gift, given by God to those who do not deserve it.

Resurrection – as prophesied in The Scriptures, the Messiah could not be held down by death because he had no sin of his own. Therefore, he arose in a changed body after three days in the grave, and was seen by many reliable witnesses. Christ's resurrection confirmed that his death on the cross on behalf of others was accepted by the Father as a sacrifice for their sins.

Repentance – turning to God and away from going our own way, by acknowledging Jesus Christ as Saviour and submitting to him as Lord of a believer's life, in accordance with all the saints of all the ages.

Sanctification – that those who believe in Jesus Christ will be transformed more and more into Christ's likeness each day by the Holy Spirit at work in them.

Hope – Scriptural 'hope' is without uncertainty, and is described by the apostle Paul in Romans, chapter 8, as follows; 'Not only *that*, but we also who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance.'

Glorification – Everything pertaining to this fallen created order is corrupted by sin; all is temporal and will pass away when Christ dismisses it. God has prepared new glorified bodies for his people that will be immortal, incorruptible, no longer subject to sin and decay, suitable for everlasting life in the new heaven and new earth.

Judgment – All those who reject, ignore and dismiss the sacrifice of God's Beloved on their behalf will not, after they die, stand justified before God. They will be eternally punished because they are sinners and did not believe in the name of Jesus Christ – the one means of salvation prepared by God. They will experience eternal separation of their rebellious spirit from God (the second death). There is no need for anyone to undergo this indescribable punishment, for God 'takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked' [Ezekiel 33: 11] and is 'longsuffering, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.' [II Peter 3: 9].

God's glory – Everything that exists, including the plan that he is now unfolding in Creation, will ultimately be to God's glory. The consummation of everything will demonstrate God's absolute holiness, his ultimate power, his unsearchable wisdom, his unequalled creativity, his infinite love, his unfailing mercy, his unchanging determination to redeem humanity, his Son's right to rule over all, his spotless righteousness and his irrefutable justice as Judge of heaven and earth.

INTRODUCTION

'he Hebrew Tanakh – re-ordered as the Christian Old Testament

 promised that One would come from God to bring peace,
 righteousness and justice to the earth. It also described God bringing both salvation and judgment to its peoples. This
 Anointed and Chosen One is called Mashiach in Hebrew (which
 we translate as Messiah in English). According to the inspired
 Old Testament writers, Messiah would both suffer as God's
 Servant and rule over Israel and the nations as God's King – a
 duality that traditional Judaism was and is unable to
 accommodate. Messiah would come as a light to the Gentiles
 and restore Israel to a right relationship with God, living under
 his Kingship in the Promised Land. There were strong
 indications that Messiah would be God, the LORD himself, yet
 also a man!

'he New Testament (B'Rit Hadashah in Hebrew) was written in Greek, with Messiah being translated as Christos (Christ in English). According to its inspired writers, Messiah (Christ) came into the world, as prophesied in the Tanakh, not clothed in power and glory to execute God's vengeance on his enemies and restore Israel to an exalted position immediately, but rather clothed in ordinary human flesh in the form of a servant. He was born into poverty and lowliness as Jesus (Heb. Yeshua, a form of Joshua) of Nazareth. His name means 'Saviour' or 'God is Salvation'. Jesus announced he had come to bring 'the acceptable year of the LORD', a time of Jubilee - freedom from slavery, and not the day of God's vengeance [Isaiah 61: 1 - 3]. This current era from his birth to the present day, is still a time of God's grace during which rebellious humanity has been given a way to receive everlasting life rather than judgment/condemnation, and come into the presence of a holy and just God.

The first believers in Jesus Christ – who witnessed his resurrection from the dead and ascension back to heaven – were all Jewish. The new believers during the next few years and decades were similarly Jewish. But soon the gospel of salvation by grace was sent to the non-Jewish peoples too.

ost people today deny that God entered the world as a man born of a woman, in order to redeem humanity and reconcile us to himself by his sacrificial death on our behalf. The world and its religions generally reject the fact that no amount of 'good works' can earn anyone a way into God's heaven. While in the world as a man, Jesus of Nazareth always retained the divine nature of eternal God – even though he chose to set aside his glory. He became the propitiation for God's righteous anger against human rebellion and sin. Israel wanted their Messiah to be a conquering King who would restore the land to them immediately and rule the nations with a rod of iron – not someone who would say, 'My kingdom is not of this world' and be brutally nailed on a Roman cross to die a 'sinner's death'.

The inspired writers of the New Testament unveil Jesus Christ as the promised Messiah who lived and died on the earth as a man, but who rose from the dead on the third day, according to The Scriptures. He will return again to the earth to reveal his almighty power and eternal glory.

Petween our Lord's first and second coming is the 'Church Age' – a mystery period that the Old Testament did not reveal. The Scriptures reveal that the One who was pierced (crucified) for us will step back on to the earth at God's appointed time, put down all unrighteousness and judge the Earth and Cosmos that he originally created, and then create a new heaven and a new earth characterised by righteousness. And the world will not be ready for the King's return for he will come unexpectedly 'as a thief'! His instruction to us is to, "Watch!"



And he said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Now when he had spoken these things,

while they watched, he was taken up, and a cloud received him out of their sight.

And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw him go into heaven."

ACTS 1: 7 – 11



ilate [the Roman governor] then went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" They answered and said to him, "If he were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered him up to you." Then Pilate said to them, "You take him and judge him according to your law." Therefore the Jews [the religious leaders] said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death," that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which he spoke, signifying by what death he would die.

Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now my kingdom is not from here."

Pilate therefore said to him, "Are you a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears my voice."

Pilate said to him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in him at all."

JOHN 18: 29 – 38





or our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to his glorious body, according to the working by which he is able even to subdue all things to himself. Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved. I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names *are* in the Book of Life. Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand.

PHILIPPIANS 3: 20 – 4: 5

e are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgement of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power, when he comes, in that Day, to be glorified in his saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

II THESSALONIANS 1: 3 – 10



Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under *her* wings, but you were not willing! See! Your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you shall see me no more till you say, 'Blessed *is* he who comes in the name of the LORD!'"

Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and his

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disciples came up to show him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not *one* stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." Now as he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign of your coming, and of the end of the age?" And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these *are* the beginning of sorrows.

Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come." MATTHEW 23: 37 – 24: 14





'he next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, and cried out: "Hosanna! 'Blessed *is* he who comes in the name of the LORD!' The King of Israel!" Then Jesus, when he had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt." His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about him and *that* they had done these things to him.

JOHN 12: 12 – 16

et not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in me. 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 to myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know." Thomas [one of the 12 disciples] said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going, and how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also; and from now on you know him and have seen him."

JOHN 14: 1 – 7

ow Pilate [the Roman governor] wrote a title and put *it* on the cross. And the writing was: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, *and* Latin. Therefore the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'He said, "I am the King of the Jews."/" Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

JOHN 19: 19 – 22



hy do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, *saying*, "Let us break their bonds in pieces and cast away their cords from us." He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall hold them in derision.

Then he shall speak to them in his wrath, and distress them in his deep displeasure: "Yet I have set my King on my holy hill of Zion." "I will declare the decree: the LORD has said to me, 'You *are* my Son, today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will give *you* the nations *for* your inheritance, and the ends of the earth *for* your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; you shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel."

ow therefore, be wise, O kings; be instructed, you judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish *in* the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all those who put their trust in him.

PSALM 2: 1 – 12



'he LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool." The LORD shall send the rod of your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of your enemies! Your people *shall be* volunteers in the day of your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, you have the dew of your youth.

The LORD has sworn and will not relent, "You *are* a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." The Lord *is* at your right hand; he shall execute kings in the day of his wrath.

He shall judge among the nations, he shall fill *the places* with dead bodies, he shall execute the heads of many countries. He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; therefore he shall lift up the head.

PSALM 110: 1 – 7

A Psalm of David



hich of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers, who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept *it*."

Note that the set the set the set of the set

ACTS 7: 52 – 59

^therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to

think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising. Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because he has appointed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by the man whom he has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising him from the dead." And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked, while others said, "We will hear you again on this *matter*." So Paul departed from among them. However, some men joined him and believed, among them Dionysius the Areopagite, a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

ACTS 17: 29 - 34



'hen Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way[Christians], whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It *is* hard for you to kick against the goads." So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" Then the Lord *said* to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one.

Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened L he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." So the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus [later known as Paul the Apostle], for behold, he is praying. And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight." Then Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to your saints in Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of mine to bear my name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him how many things he must suffer for my name's sake."

ACTS 9: 1 – 16



lessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honour, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith-the salvation of your souls. Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when he testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.



o them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they L were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven-things which angels desire to look into. Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy." And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

I PETER 1: 3 – 21



Or there is no partiality with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law [the Mosaic Law given by God on Mount Sinai], and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law *are* just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves *their* thoughts accusing or else excusing *them*) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

ROMANS 2: 11 – 16

• or we know that if our earthly house, *this* tent [our earthly **• body**], is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we who are in *this* tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. Now he who has prepared us for this very thing *is* God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So *we are* always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. For we walk by faith, not by sight. We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to him.

or we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Ii CORINTHIANS 5: 1 – 10





ow may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we *do* to you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

I THESSALONIANS 3: 11 – 13

ut I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep [died in Christ], lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if [since] we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

I THESSALONIANS 4: 13 – 17

B ut concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labour pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others *do*, but let us watch and be sober.

I THESSALONIANS 5: 1 – 6



f then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

D ut now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath,

P malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised [Gentile], barbarian, Scythian, slave *nor* free, but Christ *is* all and in all.

Pherefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender

■ mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. COLOSSIANS 3: 1–17



W

e are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, *which is* manifest evidence of the righteous judgement of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; since *it is* a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to *give* you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power, when he comes, in that Day, to be glorified in his saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.


Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of *his* goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?

A nd now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of his mouth and destroy with the brightness of his coming.

II THESSALONIANS 1: 3 – 2: 8



oreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease. For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory when such a voice came to him from the Excellent Glory: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain. And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.

II PETER 1: 15 – 21

ut, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning *his* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

II PETER 3: 8 – 13



or the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for himself *his* own special people, zealous for good works. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men. For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.

But when the kindness and the love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that having been justified by his grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

TITUS 2: 11 – 3: 7



nd the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, "Do you answer nothing? What *is it* these men testify against you?" But he kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him, saying to him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" Jesus said, "I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven."

MARK 14: 60 – 62

ost assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself, and has given him authority to execute judgement also, because he is the Son of Man. Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear his voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation"

JOHN 5: 25 – 29

esus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered and said, "Who is he, Lord, that I may believe in him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen him and it is he who is talking with you." Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshipped him.

JOHN 9: 35 – 38

esus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from my Father. For which of those works do you stone me?" The Jews answered him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone you, but for blasphemy, and because you, being a man, make yourself God." e who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of his Son. And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

I JOHN 5: 10 – 13

nd to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, 'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and his feet like fine brass: "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the first. Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce my servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds. I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am he who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works. Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden. But hold fast what you have till I come. And he who overcomes, and keeps my works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations-'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels' - as I also have received from my Father; and I will give him the morning star." / "

REVELATION 2: 18 – 28



thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in everything by him in all utterance and all knowledge, even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end, *that you may be* blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God *is* faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

I CORINTHIANS 1: 4 – 9

b ut now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* **has become the first**fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man [Adam] *came* death, by man [Christ] also *came* the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. But each one in his own order: Christ the first-fruits, afterward those *who are* Christ's at his coming. Then *comes* the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when he puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.

or he must reign till he has put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy *that* will be destroyed *is* death. For "He has put all things under his feet." But when he says "all things are put under *him," it is* evident that he [God the Father] who put all things under him is excepted. Now when all things are made subject to him, then the Son himself will also be subject to him who put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

I CORINTHIANS 15: 20 – 28



Il Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

F or the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand.

The fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved his appearing.

II TIMOTHY 3: 16 – 4: 8



• or when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people • according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, "This *is* the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you." Then likewise he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission. Therefore *it was* necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

or Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; not that he should offer himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another — he then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, he has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgement, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for him he will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

HEBREWS 9: 19 – 27



This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be* honour and glory forever and ever. Amen.

I TIMOTHY 1: 15 – 17

- **or we brought nothing into** *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.
- But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
 - **Lurge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and** *before* Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, that you keep *this* commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, which he will manifest in his own time, *he who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom *be* honour and everlasting power. Amen.

I TIMOTHY 6: 7 – 16



ittle children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but *they went out* that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us. But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.

Theorem is a series of the se

These things I have written to you concerning those who try to

▲ deceive you. But the anointing which you have received from him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in him.

A nd now, little children, abide in him, that when he appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before him at his coming. If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who practises righteousness is born of him.

I JOHN 2: 18 – 29





was watching in the night visions, and behold, one like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought him near before him. Then to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed."

DANIEL 7: 13 & 14

e answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked *one*. The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and those who practise lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

MATTHEW 13: 37 – 43

or as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together. Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."

MATTHEW 24: 27 – 31

W atch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed *is* that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing."

MATTHEW 24: 42 – 46

hen the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. And he will set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Then the King will say to those on his right hand, 'Come, you

■ blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; I was naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and take you in, or naked and clothe you? Or when did we see you sick, or in prison, and come to you?'

A nd the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these my brethren, you did *it* to me.'"

MATTHEW 25: 31 – 40

nd the high priest arose and said to him, "Do you answer nothing? What *is it* these men testify against you?" But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to him, "I put you under oath by the living God: tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!" Jesus said to him, "It *is as* you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven."

MATTHEW 26: 62 – 64

or false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand. But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. And then he will send his angels, and gather together his elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven."

MARK 13: 22 – 27

"

Yor as the lightning that flashes out of one *part* under heaven shines to the other *part* under heaven, so also the Son of Man will be in his day. But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: they ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: they ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed *them* all."

LUKE 17: 24 – 29

nd there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

"

hen he spoke to them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away. But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

ut Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, let him follow me; and where I am, there my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, him my Father will honour."

JOHN 12: 23 – 26



"hen a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast [the antichrist] and his image, and receives *his* mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of his indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb [Jesus Christ]. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Here is the patience of the saints; here *are* those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labours, and their works follow them."

Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat one like the Son of Man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him [Christ] who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in your sickle and reap, for the time has come for you to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." So he who sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

REVELATION 14: 9 – 16





ohn, to the churches which are in Asia [modern Turkey]:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To him who loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and has made us kings and priests to his God and Father, to him *be* glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Behold, he is coming with clouds, and every eye will see him, even they who pierced him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of him. Even so, Amen.

Tam the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

REVELATION 1: 4 – 8

Because you have kept my command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God. And I will write on him my new name."

REVELATION 3: 10 – 12



ehold, I am coming as a thief [without warning]. Blessed *is* he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame." And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon. Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"

And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. Now the great city [Jerusalem] was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon [the antichrist's seat of power over the world] was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

REVELATION 16: 15 – 19

hen the seventh angel sounded: and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become *the*

kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever!" And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshipped God, saying: "We give you thanks, O Lord God Almighty, the one who is and who was and who is to come, because you have taken your great power and reigned."

REVELATION 11: 15 – 17



NT

ow I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And he who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed him on white horses. Now out of his mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it he should strike the nations. And he himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he has on his robe and on his thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all *people*, free and slave, both small and great." And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him who sat on the horse and against his army. Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshipped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of him who sat on the horse.

REVELATION 19: 11 – 21A



hen he said to me, "These words *are* faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to show his servants the things which must shortly take place. "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed *is* he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

ow I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. Then he said to me, "See that you do not *do that*. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God." And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still." "And behold, I am coming quickly [suddenly], and my reward is with me, to give to every one according to his work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last." Blessed are those who do his commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practises a lie. "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

REVELATION 22: 6 – 16

Then I saw a great white throne and him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened.

And another book was opened, which is *the Book* of Life.

And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.

Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Then he who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And he said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

REVELATION 20: 11 – 15 & 21: 5



