

THE
WRATH
OF THE
LAMB

The Judgment Seat
of Christ



Volume 7 of 7

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FOREWORD

The 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.

We 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-for-all 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 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

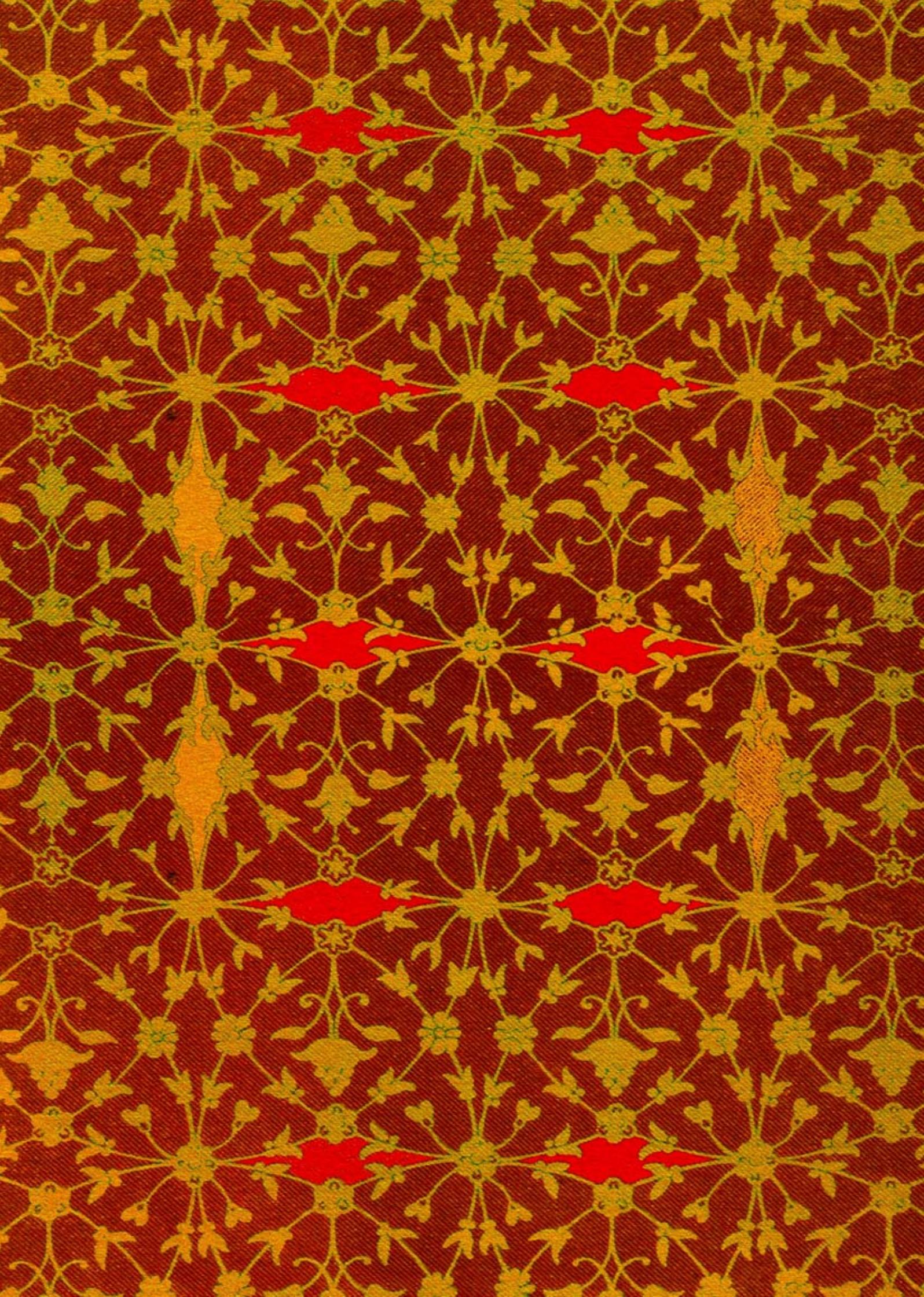
The Hebrew Tanakh – re-ordered as the Christian Old Testament – promised that One would come from God to bring peace, righteousness and justice to the earth. It also described God bringing both salvation and judgment to its peoples. This Anointed and Chosen One is called Mashiach in Hebrew (which we 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!

The 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.

Most 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’. **But Jesus said, “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.”** [a name/title for Messiah (Christ) – Daniel 7: 13].

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. When the ‘year’ of grace has ended, then the time of God’s judgment will be revealed – a time of God’s wrath for all who deny, reject or ignore his Holy One. 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.



I looked when he opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.

And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves 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 who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!

For the great day of his wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

REVELATION 6: 12 - 17



And moreover, because the Preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yes, he pondered and sought out *and* set in order many proverbs. The Preacher sought to find acceptable words; and *what was* written *was* upright— words of truth. The words of the wise are like goads, and the words of scholars are like well-driven nails, given by one Shepherd. And further, my son, be admonished by these. Of making many books *there is* no end, and much study *is* wearisome to the flesh.

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgement, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.

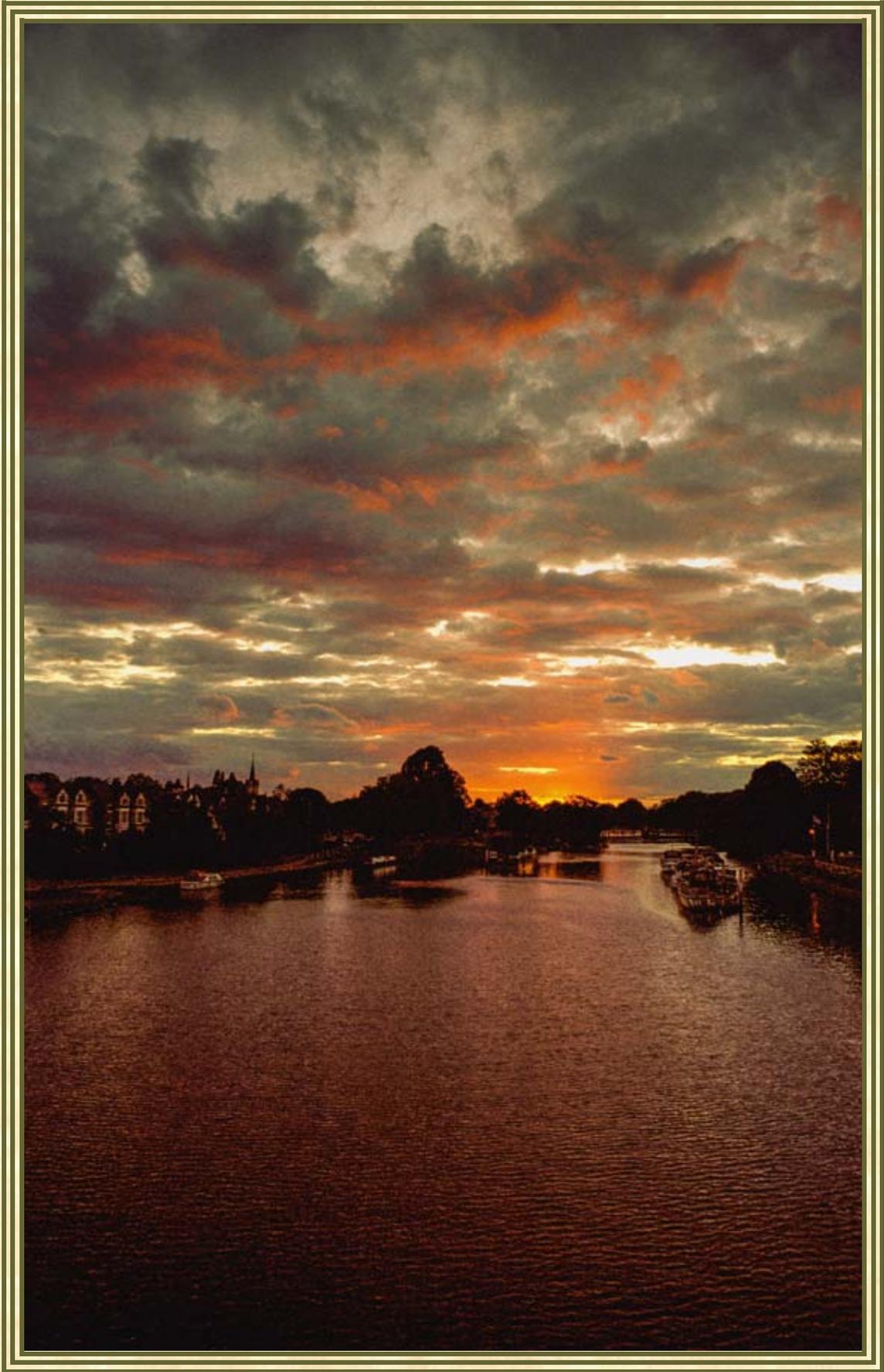
ECCLESIASTES 12: 9 – 14

“Most 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.

I can of myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and my judgement is righteous, because I do not seek my own will but the will of the Father who sent me."

JOHN 5: 25 – 30



And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come.

Again, he sent out other servants, saying, "Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle *are* killed, and all things *are* ready. Come to the wedding." But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated *them* spitefully, and killed *them*.

But when the king heard *about it*, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding." So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding *hall* was filled with guests.

But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment [the righteousness of Christ]. So he said to him, "Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?" And he was speechless.

Then the king said to the servants, "Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few *are* chosen."

MATTHEW 22: 1 – 14



Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to him. For 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. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences. For we do not commend ourselves again to you, but give you opportunity to boast on our behalf, that you may have *an answer* for those who boast in appearance and not in heart. For if we are beside ourselves, *it is* for God; or if we are of sound mind, *it is* for you. For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if one died for all, then all died; and he died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died for them and rose again.

II CORINTHIANS 5: 9 – 15

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. For 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.

HEBREWS 9: 22 – 28A

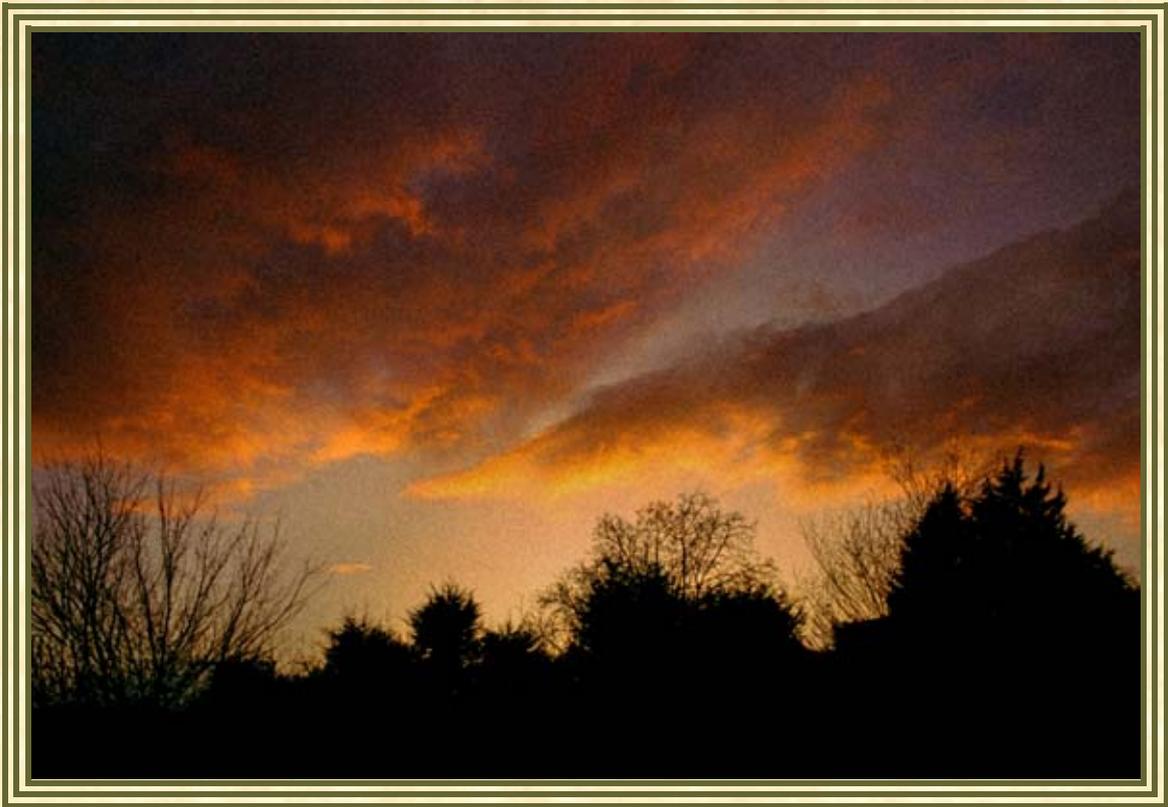


I charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure 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. I have 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 4: 1 – 8

Why 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.'" Now 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



Arise, O LORD, in your anger; lift yourself up because of the rage of my enemies; rise up for me *to* the judgement you have commanded! So the congregation of the peoples shall surround you; for their sakes, therefore, return on high. The LORD shall judge the peoples; judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, and according to my integrity within me. Oh, let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end, but establish the just; for the righteous God tests the hearts and minds. My defence *is* of God, who saves the upright in heart.

God *is* a just judge, and God *is* angry *with the wicked every day*. If he does not turn back, he will sharpen his sword; he bends his bow and makes it ready. He also prepares for himself instruments of death; he makes his arrows into fiery shafts. Behold, *the wicked* brings forth iniquity; yes, he conceives trouble and brings forth falsehood. He made a pit and dug it out, and has fallen into the ditch *which* he made. His trouble shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down on his own crown. I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness, and will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High.

PSALM 7: 6 – 17

The nations have sunk down in the pit *which* they made; in the net which they hid, their own foot is caught. The LORD is known *by* the judgement he executes; the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Meditation. Selah [interlude]

The wicked shall be turned into hell, *and all the nations that* forget God. For the needy shall not always be forgotten; the expectation of the poor shall *not* perish forever. Arise, O LORD, do not let man prevail; let the nations be judged in your sight. Put them in fear, O LORD, *that* the nations may know themselves *to be but* men. Selah

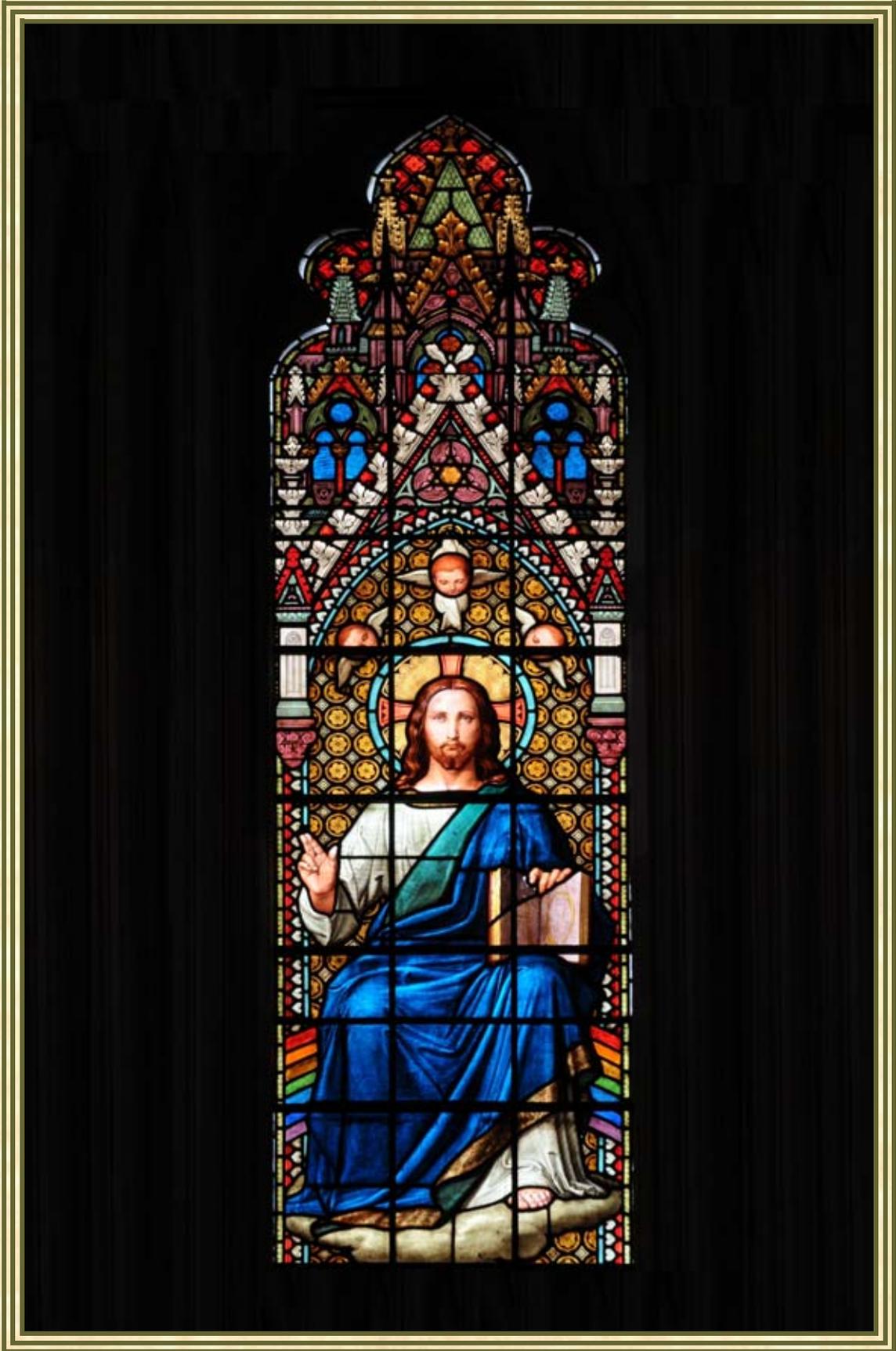
PSALM 9: 15 – 20



The Mighty One, God the LORD, has spoken and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its going down. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God will shine forth. Our God shall come, and shall not keep silent; a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous all around him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people: "Gather my saints together to me, those who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." Let the heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself *is* Judge. Selah "Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, and I will testify against you; I *am* God, your God! I will not rebuke you for your sacrifices or your burnt offerings, *which are* continually before me. I will not take a bull from your house, *nor* goats out of your folds. For every beast of the forest *is* mine, *and* the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field *are* mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you; for the world *is* mine, and all its fullness. Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? Offer to God thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High. Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

But to the wicked God says: "What *right* have you to declare my statutes, or take my covenant in your mouth, seeing you hate instruction and cast my words behind you? When you saw a thief, you consented with him, and have been a partaker with adulterers. You give your mouth to evil, and your tongue frames deceit. You sit *and* speak against your brother; you slander your own mother's son. These *things* you have done, and I kept silent; you thought that I was altogether like you; *but* I will rebuke you, and set *them* in order before your eyes. Now consider this, you who forget God, lest I tear *you* in pieces, and *there be* none to deliver: whoever offers praise glorifies me; and to him who orders *his* conduct *aright* I will show the salvation of God."

PSALM 50: 1 – 23



Give to the LORD, O families of the peoples, give to the LORD glory and strength. Give to the LORD the glory *due* his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before him, all the earth. Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns; the world also is firmly established, it shall not be moved; he shall judge the peoples righteously." Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and all its fullness; let the field be joyful, and all that *is* in it. Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice before the LORD. For he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad! Clouds and darkness surround him; righteousness and justice *are* the foundation of his throne. A fire goes before him, and burns up his enemies round about. His lightnings light the world; the earth sees and trembles. The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.

Let all be put to shame who serve carved images, who boast of idols. Worship him, all *you* gods. Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your judgements, O LORD. For you, LORD, *are* most high above all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods. You who love the LORD, hate evil! He preserves the souls of his saints; he delivers them out of the hand of the wicked. Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart. Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holy name.

PSALMS 96: 7 – 13 & 97: 1 – 12



“For behold, in those days and at that time, when I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; and I will enter into judgement with them there on account of my people, my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; they have also divided up my land. They have cast lots for my people, have given a boy *as payment* for a harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they may drink. Indeed, what have you to do with me, O Tyre and Sidon, and all the coasts of Philistia? Will you retaliate against me? But if you retaliate against me, swiftly and speedily I will return your retaliation upon your own head; because you have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my prized possessions. Also the people of Judah and the people of Jerusalem you have sold to the Greeks [Gentiles], that you may remove them far from their borders. Behold, I will raise them out of the place to which you have sold them, and will return your retaliation upon your own head. I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the people of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans, to a people far off; for the LORD has spoken.”



Proclaim this among the nations: "Prepare for war! Wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near, let them come up. Beat your ploughshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears; let the weak say, 'I am strong.'" Assemble and come, all you nations, and gather together all around. Cause your mighty ones to go down there, O LORD. Let the nations be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; for the winepress is full, the vats overflow—for their wickedness *is* great."

Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD *is* near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will diminish their brightness. The LORD also will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; the heavens and earth will shake; but the LORD will be a shelter for his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. So you shall know that I *am* the LORD your God, dwelling in Zion my holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, and no aliens shall ever pass through her again."

JOEL 3: 1 – 17



The great day of the LORD *is near; it is near and hastens quickly.* The noise of the day of the LORD is bitter; there the mighty men shall cry out. That day *is* a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of devastation and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet and alarm against the fortified cities and against the high towers. "I will bring distress upon men, and they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD; their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like refuse." Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD'S wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy, for he will make speedy riddance of all those who dwell in the land. Gather yourselves together, yes, gather together, O undesirable nation, before the decree is issued, *or* the day passes like chaff, before the LORD'S fierce anger comes upon you, before the day of the LORD'S anger comes upon you! Seek the LORD, all you meek of the earth, who have upheld his justice. Seek righteousness, seek humility. It may be that you will be hidden in the day of the LORD'S anger.

ZEPHANIAH 1: 14 – 2: 3

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe to *those who are* wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! Woe to men mighty at drinking wine, woe to men valiant for mixing intoxicating drink, who justify the wicked for a bribe, and take away justice from the righteous man! Therefore, as the fire devours the stubble, and the flame consumes the chaff, *so* their root will be as rottenness, and their blossom will ascend like dust; because they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

ISAIAH 5: 20 – 24



There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. His delight *is* in the fear of the LORD, and he shall not judge by the sight of his eyes, nor decide by the hearing of his ears; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his loins, and faithfulness the belt of his waist.

ISAIAH 11: 1 – 5

“For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgement to the Son, that all should honour the Son just as they honour the Father. He who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father who sent him. Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes in him who sent me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgement, but has passed from death into life. Most 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. I can of myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and my judgement is righteous, because I do not seek my own will but the will of the Father who sent me.”

JOHN 15: 22 – 30



Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and he will destroy its sinners from it. For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be darkened in its going forth, and the moon will not cause its light to shine. "I will punish the world for *its* evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. I will make a mortal more rare than fine gold, a man more than the golden wedge of Ophir. Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth will move out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts and in the day of his fierce anger.

ISAIAH 13: 9 – 13

For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions *are* with us, and *as for* our iniquities, we know them: in transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood. Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. So truth fails, and he *who* departs from evil makes himself a prey. Then the LORD saw *it*, and it displeased him that *there was* no justice. He saw that *there was* no man, and wondered that *there was* no intercessor; therefore his own arm brought salvation for him; and his own righteousness, it sustained him. For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak. According to *their* deeds, accordingly he will repay, fury to his adversaries, recompense to his enemies; the coastlands he will fully repay.

ISAIAH 59: 12 – 18



○ **Jerusalem, wash your heart from wickedness, that you may be saved.** How long shall your evil thoughts lodge within you? For a voice declares from Dan and proclaims affliction from Mount Ephraim: "Make mention to the nations, yes, proclaim against Jerusalem, *that* watchers come from a far country and raise their voice against the cities of Judah. Like keepers of a field they are against her all around, because she has been rebellious against me," says the LORD. "Your ways and your doings have procured these *things* for you. This *is* your wickedness, because it is bitter, because it reaches to your heart." O my soul, my soul! I am pained in my very heart! My heart makes a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because you have heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. Destruction upon destruction is cried, for the whole land is plundered. Suddenly my tents are plundered, *and* my curtains in a moment. How long will I see the standard, *and* hear the sound of the trumpet? "For my people *are* foolish, they have not known me. They *are* silly children, and they have no understanding. They *are* wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge."

JEREMIAH 4: 14 – 22

“○ **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 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."

MATTHEW 23: 37 – 24: 2



O LORD, I have heard your speech *and* was afraid; O LORD, revive your work in the midst of the years! In the midst of the years make *it* known; in wrath remember mercy. God came from Teman, the Holy One from Mount Paran. **Selah** His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. *His* brightness was like the light; he had rays *flashing* from his hand, and there his power *was* hidden. Before him went pestilence, and fever followed at his feet. He stood and measured the earth; he looked and startled the nations. And the everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills bowed. His ways *are* everlasting. I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction; the curtains of the land of Midian trembled. O LORD, were *you* displeased with the rivers, *was* your anger against the rivers, *was* your wrath against the sea, that you rode on your horses, your chariots of salvation? Your bow was made quite ready; oaths were sworn over *your* arrows. **Selah** You divided the earth with rivers.

The mountains saw you *and* trembled; the overflowing of the water passed by. The deep uttered its voice, *and* lifted its hands on high. The sun and moon stood still in their habitation; at the light of your arrows they went, at the shining of your glittering spear. You marched through the land in indignation; you trampled the nations in anger. You went forth for the salvation of your people, for salvation with your Anointed. You struck the head from the house of the wicked, by laying bare from foundation to neck. **Selah** You thrust through with his own arrows the head of his villages. They came out like a whirlwind to scatter me; their rejoicing was like feasting on the poor in secret. You walked through the sea with your horses, through the heap of great waters.

HABAKKUK 3: 2 – 15



“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to his temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, he is coming,” says the LORD of hosts. “But who can endure the day of his coming? And who can stand when he appears? For he *is* like a refiner’s fire and like launderer’s soap. He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; he will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the LORD, as in the days of old, as in former years. And I will come near you for judgement; I will be a swift witness against sorcerers, against adulterers, against perjurers, against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans, and against those who turn away an alien—because they do not fear me,” says the LORD of hosts.

MALACHI 3: 1 – 5

“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up,” says the LORD of hosts, “that will leave them neither root nor branch. But to you who fear my name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in his wings; and you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves. You shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I do *this*,” says the LORD of hosts. “Remember the Law of Moses, my servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, *with the* statutes and judgements. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”

MALACHI 4: 1 – 6



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

Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened. Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here *is* the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe *it*. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand.

Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, he is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, *he is* in the inner rooms!' do not believe *it*. For 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.

Immmediately 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. And he will send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

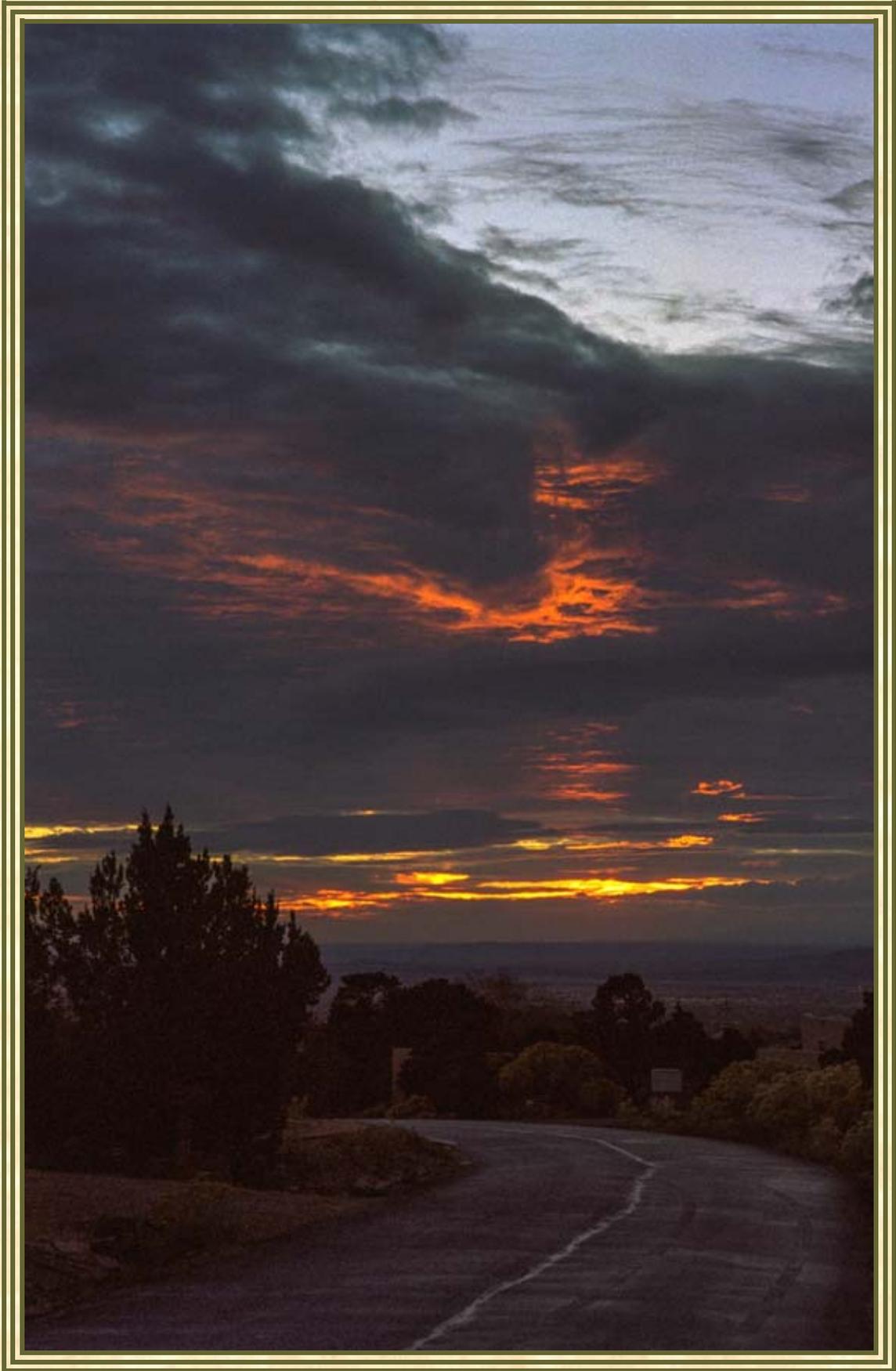
Now learn this parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer *is* near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.



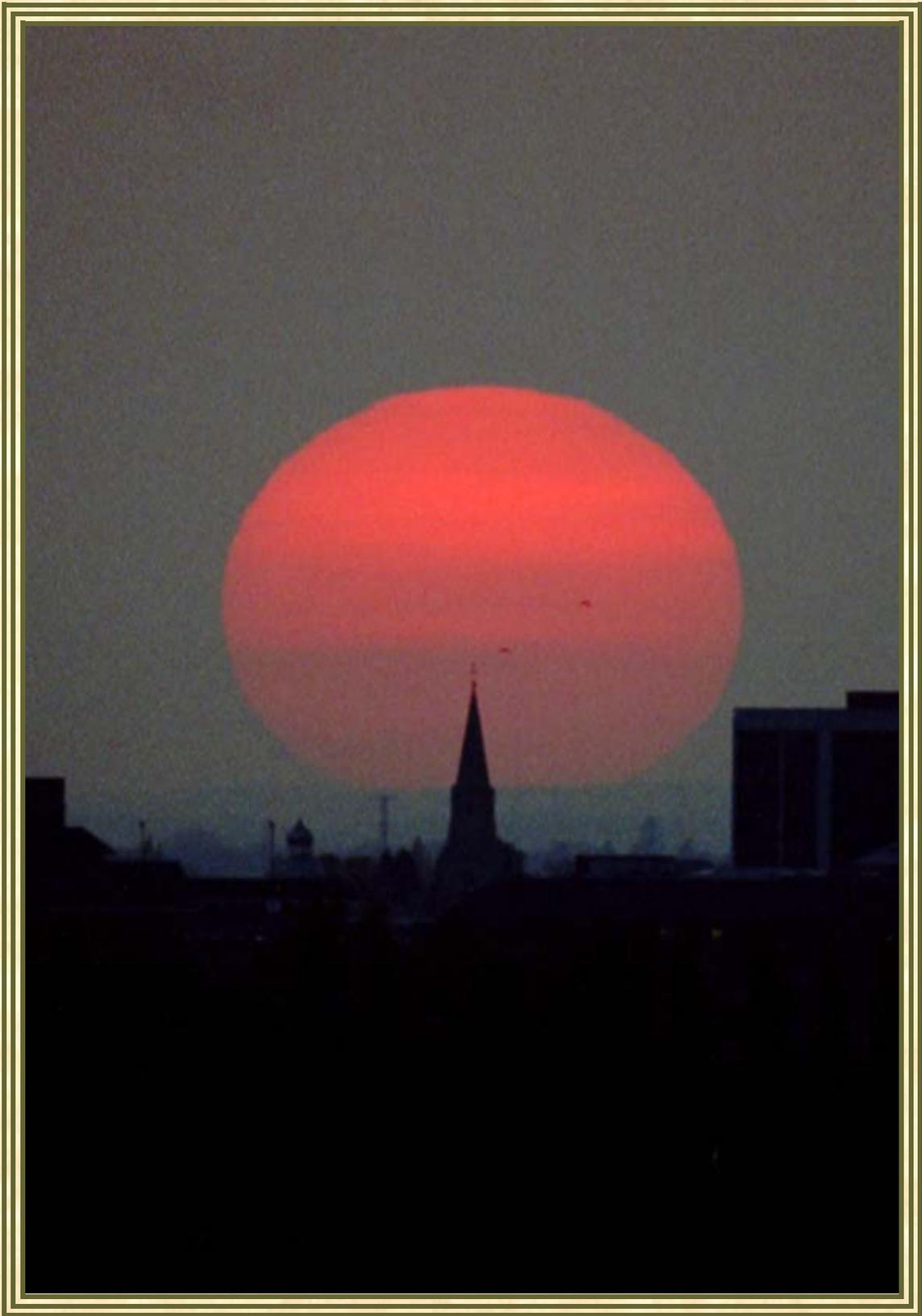
Then two *men* will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two *women* will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would 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. Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' and begins to beat *his* fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for *him* and at an hour that he is not aware of, and will cut him in two and appoint *him* his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

MATTHEW 24: 1 – 51



Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing him asked that he would show them a sign from heaven. He answered and said to them, "When it is evening you say, '*It will be fair weather, for the sky is red*'; and in the morning, '*It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.*' Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot *discern* the signs of the times. A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah." [3 days in Sheol] And he left them and departed. Now when his disciples had come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread. Then Jesus said to them, "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "*It is because we have taken no bread.*" But Jesus, being aware of *it*, said to them, "O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread? Do you not yet understand, or remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you took up? Nor the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many large baskets you took up? How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? —*but* to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." Then they understood that he did not tell *them* to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees. When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" So they said, "Some *say* John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter [Gk. Petros/stone], and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades [death] shall not prevail against it."



“For in those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be. And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake, whom he chose, he shortened the days. Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here *is* the Christ!’ or, ‘Look, *he is* there!’ do not believe it. For 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. Now learn this parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see these things happening, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. *It is* like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning—lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!”

MARK 13: 19 – 37



Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven. But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute *you*, delivering *you* up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. Therefore settle *it* in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put *some* of you to death. And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But not a hair of your head shall be lost. By your patience possess your souls. But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. And 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."

LUKE 21: 10 – 28



John [the Baptist] answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before him.' He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. He must increase, but I *must* decrease. He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all. And what he has seen and heard, that he testifies; and no one receives his testimony. He who has received his testimony has certified that God is true. For he whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into his hand. He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

JOHN 3: 27 – 36

“Him [Jesus] God raised up on the third day, and showed him openly, not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, *even* to us who ate and drank with him after he arose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is he who was ordained by God *to be* Judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets witness that, through his name, whoever believes in him will receive remission of sins." While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

ACTS 10: 40 – 45

A



“When 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?’ And 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.’

Then he will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave me no food; I was thirsty and you gave me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take me in, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'

Then they also will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, *that* he said to his disciples, "You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified." Then the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders of the people assembled at the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and plotted to take Jesus by trickery and kill *him*. But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people."

MATTHEW 25: 31 – 26: 5



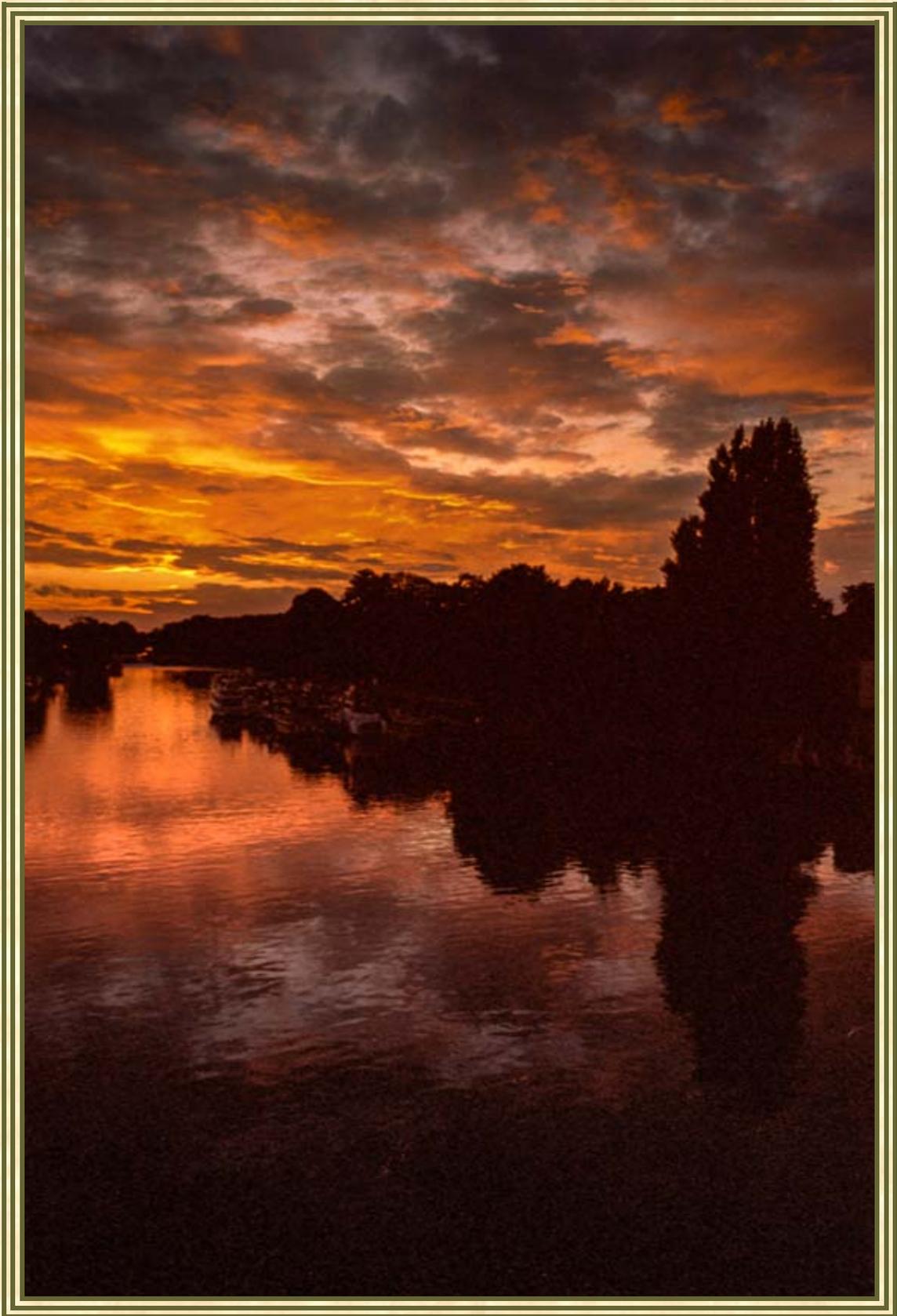
You have rebuked the nations, you have destroyed the wicked; you have blotted out their name forever and ever. O enemy, destructions are finished forever! And you have destroyed cities; even their memory has perished. But the LORD shall endure forever; he has prepared his throne for judgement. He shall judge the world in righteousness, and he shall administer judgement for the peoples in uprightness.

The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And those who know your name will put their trust in you; for you, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you. Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion! Declare his deeds among the people. When he avenges blood, he remembers them; he does not forget the cry of the humble. Have mercy on me, O LORD! Consider my trouble from those who hate me, you who lift me up from the gates of death, that I may tell of all your praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion. I will rejoice in your salvation.

The nations have sunk down in the pit *which* they made; in the net which they hid, their own foot is caught. The LORD is known *by* the judgement he executes; the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Meditation. Selah

The wicked shall be turned into hell, *and* all the nations that forget God. For the needy shall not always be forgotten; the expectation of the poor shall *not* perish forever. Arise, O LORD, do not let man prevail; let the nations be judged in your sight. Put them in fear, O LORD, *that* the nations may know themselves *to be but* men. Selah

PSALM 9: 5 – 20



Their land is also full of silver and gold, and there is no end to their treasures; their land is also full of horses, and there is no end to their chariots. Their land is also full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made. People bow down, and each man humbles himself; therefore do not forgive them.

Enter into the rock, and hide in the dust, from the terror of the LORD and the glory of his majesty.

The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the LORD of hosts *shall come* upon everything proud and lofty, upon everything lifted up — and it shall be brought low — upon all the cedars of Lebanon *that are* high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan; upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills *that are* lifted up; upon every high tower, and upon every fortified wall; upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all the beautiful sloops.

The loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be brought low; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day, but the idols he shall utterly abolish.

They shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, from the terror of the LORD and the glory of his majesty, when he arises to shake the earth mightily.

ISAIAH 2: 7 – 19



“God, who made the world and everything in it, since he is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is he worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed anything, since he gives to all life, breath, and all things. And he has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us; for in him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also his offspring.’ 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 [Jesus Christ] 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.

ACTS 17: 24 – 33

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. For since the creation of the world his invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

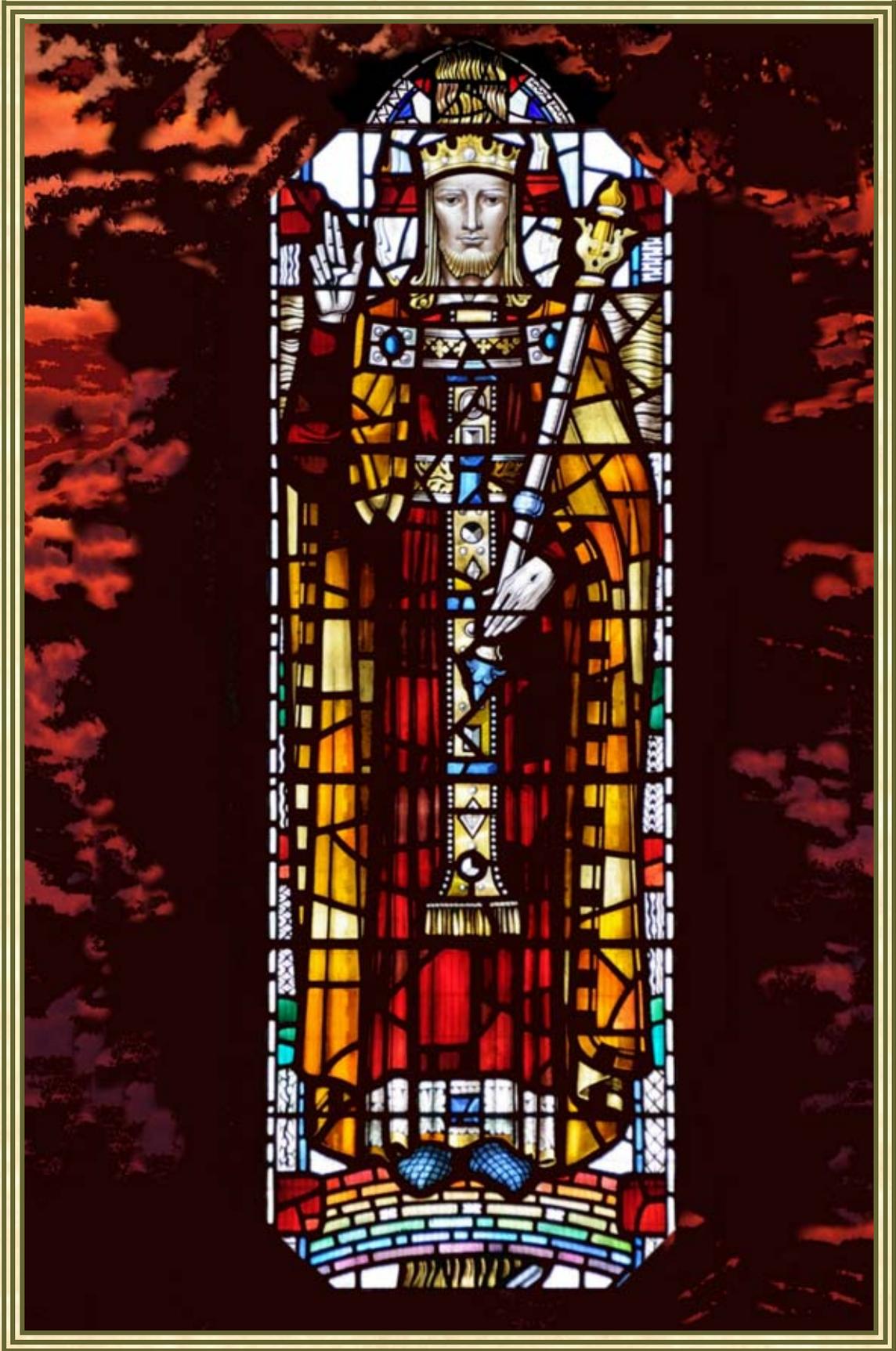
ROMANS 1: 18 – 21



Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practise the same things. But we know that the judgement of God is according to truth against those who practise such things. And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practising such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgement of God? Or do you despise the riches of his goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgement of God, who "will render to each one according to his deeds": eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honour, and immortality; but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; but glory, honour, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God.

For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, 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: 1 – 16



Then he began to rebuke the cities in which most of his mighty works [miracles] had been done, because they did not repent: "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgement than for you. And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgement than for you." At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from *the* wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in your sight. All things have been delivered to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son wills to reveal *him*."

MATTHEW 11: 20 – 27

Again, do you think that we excuse ourselves to you? We speak before God in Christ. But *we do* all things, beloved, for your edification. For I fear lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I wish, and *that* I shall be found by you such as you do not wish; lest *there be* contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, backbitings, whisperings, conceits, tumults; lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and I shall mourn for many who have sinned before and have not repented of the uncleanness, fornication, and lewdness which they have practised. This *will be* the third *time* I am coming to you. "By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established."

II CORINTHIANS 12: 19 – 13: 1



Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We 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: 2 – 10

See that you do not refuse him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused him who spoke on earth, much more *shall we not escape* if we turn away from him who *speaks* from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now he has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven." Now this, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God *is* a consuming fire.

HEBREWS 12: 25 – 29





If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which he has testified of his Son. He 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.*

Now this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of him. If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin *which does not lead to death*, he will ask, and he will give him life for those who commit sin not *leading to death*. There is sin *leading to death*. I do not say that he should pray about that. All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not *leading to death*. We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.

We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway* of the wicked one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

I JOHN 5: 9 – 20

If you are reproached for the name of Christ, *blessed are you*, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part he is blasphemed, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. Yet if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.

For the time *has come* for judgement to begin at the house of God; and if *it begins* with us first, what will *be* the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now "If the righteous one is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?" Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls *to him* in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

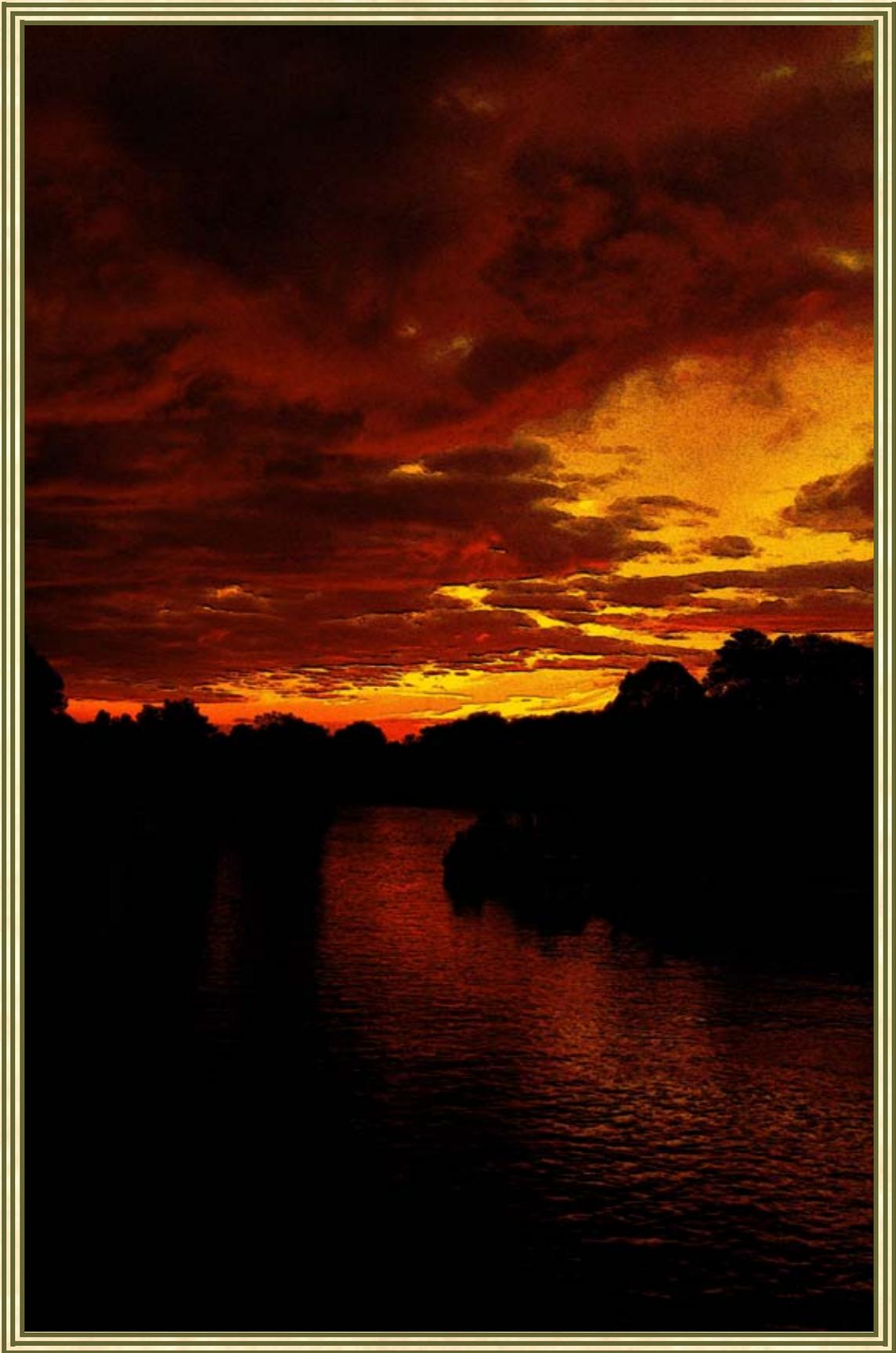
I PETER 4: 14 – 19



For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgement; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, *one of eight people*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned *them* to destruction, making *them* an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; and delivered righteous Lot, *who was* oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented *his* righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing *their* lawless deeds) — *then* the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgement, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. *They are* presumptuous, self-willed.

They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord. But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption, *and* will receive the wages of unrighteousness, *as* those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. *They are* spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, *and are* accursed children.

II PETER 2: 4 – 14



For this they wilfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world *that* then existed perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth *which* are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgement and perdition of ungodly men. But, 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?

II PETER 3: 5 – 12

Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgement on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against him." These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling *words*, flattering people to gain advantage. But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

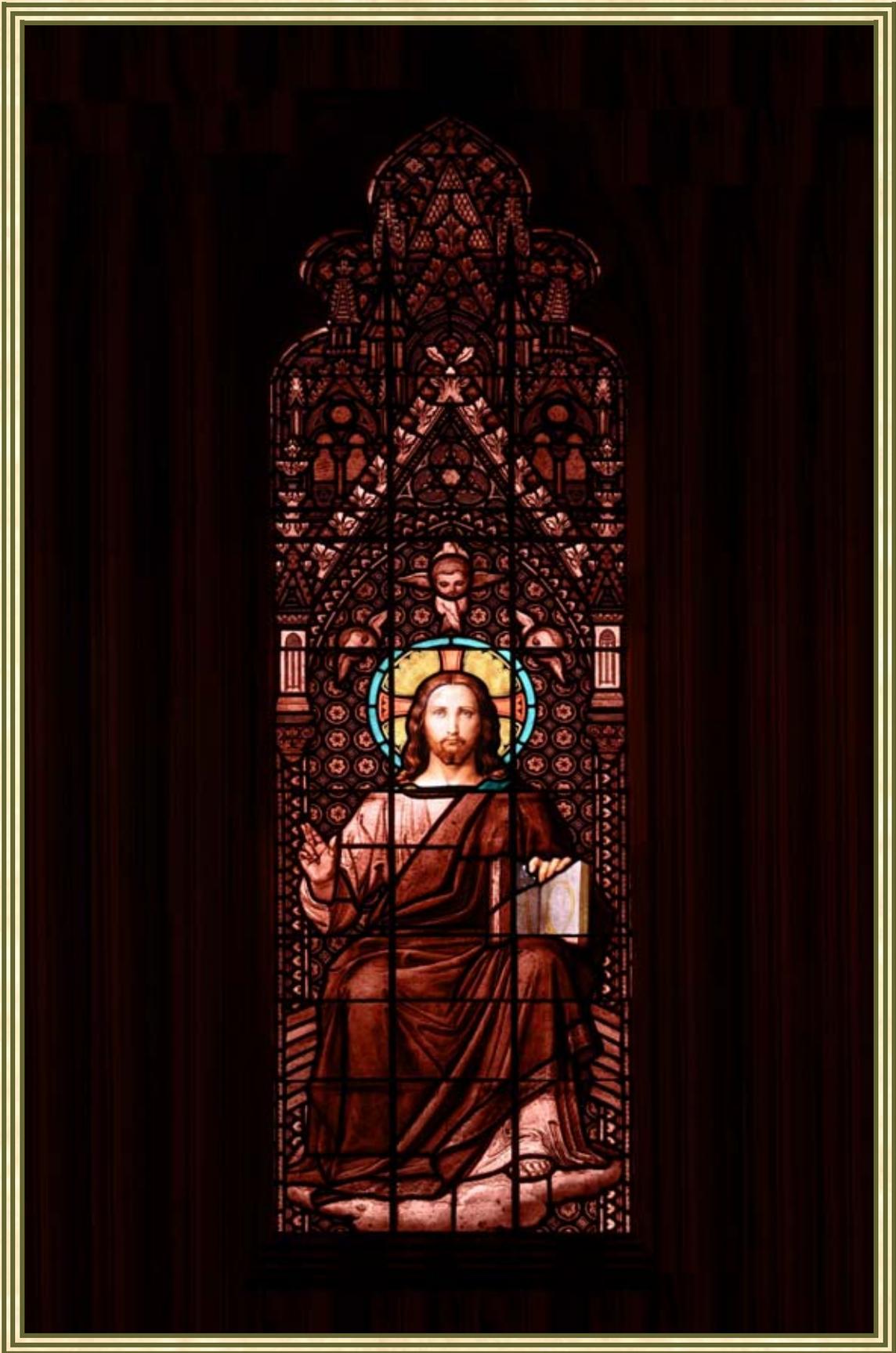
JUDE: 14 – 19



The faithful *man* has perished from the earth, and *there is no one* upright among men. They all lie in wait for blood; every man hunts his brother with a net. That they may successfully do evil with both hands—the prince asks *for gifts*, the judge *seeks* a bribe, and the great *man* utters his evil desire; so they scheme together. The best of them *is* like a brier; the most upright *is sharper* than a thorn hedge; the day of your watchman and your punishment comes; now shall be their perplexity. Do not trust in a friend; do not put your confidence in a companion; guard the doors of your mouth from her who lies in your bosom. For son dishonours father, daughter rises against her mother, daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; a man's enemies *are* the men of his own household. Therefore I will look to the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me. Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; when I fall, I will arise; when I sit in darkness, the LORD *will be* a light to me.

I will bear the indignation of the LORD, because I have sinned against him, until he pleads my case and executes justice for me. He will bring me forth to the light; I will see his righteousness. Then *she who is* my enemy will see, and shame will cover her who said to me, "Where is the LORD your God?" My eyes will see her; now she will be trampled down like mud in the streets. *In* the day when your walls are to be built, *in* that day the decree shall go far and wide. *In* that day they shall come to you from Assyria and the fortified cities, from the fortress to the River, from sea to sea, and mountain *to* mountain. Yet the land shall be desolate because of those who dwell in it, and for the fruit of their deeds.

MICAH 7: 2 – 13







Then 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.

The nations were angry, and your wrath has come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that you should reward your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear your name, small and great, and should destroy those who destroy the earth."

Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of his covenant was seen in his temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

REVELATION 11: 15 – 19



Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth — to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people — saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to him, for the hour of his judgement has come; and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water." And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast 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.

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 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. Then another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe." So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw *it* into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.

REVELATION 14: 6 – 20



Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, the one who is and who was and who is to be, because you have judged these things. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due." And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* your judgements."

Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give him glory.

Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.

Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.



And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. "Behold, I am coming as a thief. 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 [Heb. Mount Megiddo]. 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!"

REVELATION 16: 4 – 17

And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit *as* queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.' Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong *is* the Lord God who judges her."

REVELATION 18: 4 – 8



After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honour and power *belong* to the Lord our God! For true and righteous *are* his judgements, because he has judged the great harlot ['Babylon' - the world's final false religious, political & economic system] who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and he has avenged on her the blood of his servants *shed* by her." Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!" And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshipped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!" Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants and those who fear him, both small and great!" And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God." And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See *that you do not do that!* I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

REVELATION 19: 1 – 10



Now 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. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

REVELATION 19: 11 – 21

Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field." He 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: 36 – 43



God *is* jealous, and the LORD avenges;
the LORD avenges and *is* furious. The LORD
will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he
reserves *wrath* for his enemies; the LORD *is* slow
to anger and great in power, and will not at all
acquit *the wicked*.

The LORD has his way in the whirlwind and in
the storm, and the clouds *are* the dust of his feet.
He rebukes the sea and makes it dry, and dries up
all the rivers. Bashan and Carmel wither, and the
flower of Lebanon wilts. The mountains quake
before him, the hills melt, and the earth heaves at
his presence, yes, the world and all who dwell in
it. Who can stand before his indignation?

And who can endure the fierceness of his anger?

His fury is poured out like fire,
and the rocks are thrown down by him.

The LORD *is* good, a stronghold in the day of
trouble; and he knows those who trust in him.

But with an overflowing flood he will make an
utter end of its place, and darkness will pursue his
enemies. What do you conspire against the
LORD? He will make an utter end *of it*.

Affliction will not rise up a second time.

"Blessed are you, LORD God of Israel,
our Father, forever and ever.

Yours, O LORD, *is* the greatness, the power and
the glory, the victory and the majesty;
for all *that is* in heaven and in earth *is yours*;
yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are
exalted as head over all.

Both riches and honour *come* from you, and you
reign over all.

In your hand *is* power and might; in your hand *it*
is to make great and to give strength to all.

Now therefore, our God, we thank you and
praise your glorious name. But who *am* I, and
who *are* my people, that we should be able to
offer so willingly as this?

For all things *come* from you, and of your own
we have given you. For we *are* aliens and pilgrims
before you, as *were* all our fathers; our days on
earth *are* as a shadow, and without hope.

O LORD our God, all this abundance that we
have prepared to build you a house for your holy
name is from your hand, and *is* all your own."





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