



ARE WE READY?

Luke 12:35-48

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Romans 8:18-25

Is God Your Greatest Treasure?

- Genesis 15:1; 17:7-8; Psalm 73:25-26; 36:7-9; Jeremiah 2:12-13

25 September 2022

Feast of Trumpets - Will We Be Left Behind? (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

- For those who have watched the moon - how many times did it remind you to be eagerly waiting for Christ's return. (Heb 9:28; Rom 8:25; Philip 3:20-21)
- For those who did not watch the moon - how many times did you think about Christ's return. (Matthew 7:21-23) Note the word "many" in Matthew 7:22.
- We groan for and eagerly await what we treasure the most.
- Are we preparing (purifying) ourselves for His return! (1 John 3:2-3; 2 Cor 7:1)
- Christ is coming for His **slaves** (those *totally* committed and submissive to Him as Lord) and who are *eagerly waiting for Him!* (Luke 12:37; Matt 25:21)
- *Those who do not watch, groan or prepare themselves will be left behind - and there will be MANY!* (Matthew 7:21-23) Why? Because they do not believe God! (1 John 5:9-10)
- Christ is coming for His Church like a thief in the night when many will not expect it! (Matt 24:43; 1 Thess 5:2, 4; Revelation 16:15)

Remembering What GOD HAS DONE for His People

- Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose for saving His people from their sins so that they will spend all eternity praising Him. (Ephesians 3:10-11; Matthew 1:21; Titus 2:14; Hebrews 7:25)

We Start in Eternity Past

- We learned that God has an ETERNAL Plan/Purpose.
 - Unchangeable
 - Perfect
 - Precise
- The plan includes **EVERYTHING** that will ever happen! Every action, thought and word is planned by God to fulfill His purpose!
(Lamentation 3:37-38; Psa 33:9-11; Prov 16:9; 19:21; 21:30; Isaiah 46:9-10; Daniel 4:35; Eph 1:11; James 4:13-16)
- GOD's PURPOSE: To create a people for Himself who will praise and glorify Him throughout all eternity. (Isaiah 43:7; 48:9-11; Prov. 16:4; Rom 11:36)
- A Bride is promised to the Son. (Eph. 1:4; 1 Pe. 1:20; 2 Tim. 1:9; Titus 1:2)

- An EVERLASTING COVENANT (Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 8:10-12)
 - Between Father and Son
- A covenant made by a God who does not change and cannot lie.
- A covenant solely dependent on the works of God, the Father and the Son.
 - God gives His Son His people. The Son and God's people become ONE. (John 6:37-40; 10:28-29; 17:2, 6, 8-9, 11, 24)
 - Become a SURETY for God's people. (Hebrews 7:22)
 - Glorify God by magnifying His Law. Live a perfect life *for His people*. (Isa 42:21)
 - Pay the penalty for God's people's sins. (Matt 20:28; Mark 10:45; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Titus 2:14; Eph 1:7)
- Stipulations of the everlasting covenant *when* Christ fulfills the requirements of the covenant . . .
 - **GOD PROMISES** to all for whom Christ died:
 - ① **I WILL** write my Law on their minds. (1 John 5:20; 1 Cor 2:16; 1 John 2:34)
 - ② **I WILL** write my Law on their hearts. (Psalm 119:47, 48, 97; 112:1; 119:16)
 - ③ **I WILL** be their God. (Psalm 145:15 contrasted with Eph 2:11-12)
 - ④ **I WILL** make them My people. (1 Peter 2:9; Eph 1:4)
 - ⑤ **I WILL** cause them to know Me. (John 17:3; Matt 11:25-27; Jer 24:7)
 - ⑥ **I WILL** be merciful toward them. (1 John 4:10; Romans 3:25)
 - ⑦ **I WILL** remember their sins no more. (Isaiah 43:25; Psalm 103:12)

Then We Stepped into Time: Creation

- Created for Himself and His pleasure. (Rom 11:36; Prov 16:4; Rev 4:11; Col 1:15-17;)
- Husband and Bride motif introduced. (Genesis 2:22-24)
- Sin ("apparent" failure) enters in – but God makes a promise: Genesis 3:15 - The Messiah would come through a woman.
- Sin abounds but God makes a promise. (Genesis 3:6; 3:15; 6:5)
 - The Messiah would come through Abraham. (Gen 12:1-3; **Gal 3:8**, 16, 19, 28, 29)
 - Same promise given to Isaac and Jacob.
 - The Messiah would come through the Jews. (Deut 18:15-20; Matt 1:1)
 - That promise extends to all who will believe. (Galatians 3:22, 29)
- King and Priest motif introduced - Melchizedek. (Genesis 14)

God Made Himself Known through One Nation (Deuteronomy 7:1-10)

- God builds a nation and makes a promise: Exodus 19:5-6
- Sin abounds (Joshua, Judges, 1 Samuel).

- King motif introduced as Jews REJECT God as their king. (1 Samuel 8:5, 7)
- The Kingdom is established and divided. (1 Kings 11-13)
- God makes a promise: the Messiah would come as a KING through the line of David. (2 Samuel 7:12-13)
- God's people sin and refuse to repent. (Jer 6:16-17; 11:11; 16:12; 26:4-6)
- God sends prophets and continues to promise His Messiah. (Isaiah 7:14; 9:6)
- (2 Chronicles 36:14-21) God's people sent into captivity:
 - The northern kingdom (722 BC) by the Assyrians. (2 Kings 17:5-41)
 - The southern kingdom (586 BC) by the Babylonians (2 Chron 36:14-19)
 - God is in full control: see Isaiah 10:5-6 and Jeremiah 25:9
- God sets the Babylonian captivity to 70 years: Jeremiah 25:11-12
- At the end of 70 years Israel returns to the Promise Land. God uses Cyrus the Great! (Isaiah 44:28; 2 Chronicles 36:22-23; Ezra 1:1-2)
- The Messiah would be king and priest. (Zechariah 6:12-13)
- The Messenger of the Covenant would come. (Malachi 3:1)
- Then 400 years of silence.
 - A promise from God: Amos 8:11-12
 - It had been 4000 years since Genesis 3:15 - God's first promise.

The Promise Begins to Come Together in the Fulness of Time

(Galatians 4:4-5)

- God working His plan in history: political, religious and secular.
- Christ comes as KING to "save His people." (Matt. 1:21; 2:2)
- Christ comes as BRIDEGROOM. (Luke 5:35-36)
- Christ pays the price for His Bride (dowry). (1 Cor. 6:20; Acts 20:28)
- ALL is according to God's plan - Acts 2:22-23; 4:28; 1 Peter 1:18-20
- Jesus came to do the Father's will (plan) hour by hour! (John. 12:23; 13:1; Matthew 26:45; Luke 9:51; John 4:34; 5:30; Psalm 40:7-8; 6:38)
- He ascended into heaven *for His people*, presented His own blood, purchased *eternal redemption* for all He died for, sat down at God's right hand and was ordained by God to be His people's priest forever after the order of Melchizedek! (Hebrews 6:19-20; 9:12, 24; 4:14; 5:6)
- The promise of the Bridegroom to His Bride: (John 14:1-3; 1 Thess. 4:16-17).

The Time of Eagerly Waiting: Church Age

- "time of the Gentiles" - Luke 21:24; Romans 11:25
- TODAY: Over 2000 years since Christ; over 6000 years since Genesis 3:15
 - 1000 years is one day to God: 2 Peter 3:8
- (Psalm 110:3) "Your people ("the Body of Christ"; "the Church") will be willing in the day of Your power" - by the power of the Holy Spirit God is transforming sinners into joyful servants (slaves) of Christ/GOD. (Ezekiel 36:26-27; 2 Cor 5:17; **Romans 6:15-22**; Jude 1; Colossians 4:12; etc.)

- People continue to sin but the Gospel is still preached (Matt 24:14).
- Christ's servants now groan and eagerly await for the coming of their Bridegroom to take them home (Romans 8:23-25; Hebrews 9:28; Philippians 3:20-21; Titus 2:11-14).
- The Bridegroom will come for His Bride. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)
 - Believers taken up to heaven by Christ - their Bridegroom.
 - Believers stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:10; Rom 14:10)
 - Judgment of WORKS. (1Cor 3:13-15; 2cor 5:9-10; Heb 4:13; Rom 14:12)

Horrors to Come: The Coming Tribulation (Rev 6 to 19; Nahum 1:1-11)

- Horrors as NEVER before: Matthew 24:21
- Antichrist revealed and deceives the world. (1 Thessalonians 2:8-10)
- SEVEN years of horrible tribulation.
- GOD unleashes His wrath. (From Revelation 6 to Revelation 19)
- Some signs: one world government; one world trade system; one world religion; love growing cold; a great falling away.
- **ALL according to God's plan/eternal purpose: Revelation 17:17**

We Shall Reign with Our King: Millennial Kingdom

- Christ returns to destroy His enemies and establish REAL peace on earth. (Rev 19:11-21)
- Christ reigns for 1000 years from Jerusalem. (Revelation 20:1-7)
- Christ's BRIDE reigns and judges with Christ. (Rev. 20:4; 1 Cor. 6:2; Matt 25:21)

We End with Meditation on Eternity Future

- Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11-15)
- ALL NOT FOUND in the Book of Life are cast into HELL.
- ALL FOUND in the Book of Life - worship God forever.

WHAT MUST WE DO TO BE SAVED?

“Believe on the – Lord – Jesus – Christ and you will be saved”

Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9-10

We Remember Christ's Fulfillment to the Everlasting Covenant

- He came to do the will of the Father. (Hebrews 10:7; John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38-40)
- He came to do and finish the work the Father gave Him. (John 4:34; John 17:2)
- On the cross He said, **“It is finished!”**. (John 19:30)

LET US REMEMBER!