

Session 2: Positive Trends, People and Events in the End-Times

I. DAY OF THE LORD: THE 2 EXTREMES RELATED TO JESUS' RETURN

¹¹ *For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; who can endure it? (Joel 2:11)*

⁵ *I will send you Elijah...before...the great and dreadful day of the LORD. (Mal. 4:5)*

- A. The great Day of the Lord refers to the unusual events (positive and negative) that suddenly begin to escalate in the final 3½ years before Jesus returns. It is one of the prominent themes in the Scripture that is mentioned nearly 100 times (Is. 2:10-22; 4:1-6; 11:1-15; 13:6-9; Ezek. 13:5; Joel 1-3; Amos 5:18-20; Zeph 1:7, 12, 14-18, 20; Zech. 14:1-4; Mal. 4:5; 1 Thes. 5:2-3; 2 Thes. 2:2-3; 2 Pet. 3:10; Rev. 6:17).
- B. It is “His Day” because it is a unique time frame in which Jesus acts in the earthly arena in great power for His people and against His enemies. He openly shows Himself as the warrior King who aggressively confronts sin.
- C. The 2-fold nature of the day of the Lord is seen in the great blessing it releases for those who call on Jesus and it is terrible in judgment for those who refuse Him.
 - 1. ***It will be a great Day*** to those who call on Jesus' name because they will experience the greatest outpouring of the Spirit in history (Joel 2:28-32).
 - 2. ***It will be a very terrible Day*** to the rebellious who will witness the most severe outpouring of God's judgments ever seen (Rev. 6-20). Jesus' judgments will shake all that can be shaken on earth (Hag. 2:6-8; Heb. 12:26).

II. THE GREAT DAY OF THE LORD: 10 POSITIVE TRENDS

- A. The greatest outpouring of the Spirit in history will be released just before Jesus' Second Coming. In this great revival, the Holy Spirit will release the miracles that were seen in the book of Acts and the book of Exodus combined and multiplied on a global scale and will result in the following ten positive trends.
- B. First, the End-Time Church will be victorious and full of God's glory (Eph. 4:13; 5:26-27; Mt. 16:18; Jn. 17:21-26; Acts 2:17-21; Rev. 7:9; 12:11; 15:2; 19:7-8; 22:17). The Church will live in purity or without spot (compromise) as they walk out Sermon on the Mount lifestyles (Mt. 5-7).

²⁷ *That He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish (compromise). (Eph. 5:27)*

² *I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the Beast (Antichrist)...standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. (Rev. 15:2)*

C. Second, the End-Time Church will be unified and will receive the commanded blessing.

²¹ *That they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. (Jn. 17:21)*

¹ *Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwelt together in unity!...³ For there the LORD commanded the blessing-- Life forevermore. (Ps. 133:1-3)*

D. Third, is the Great Ingathering of souls with over 1 billion new souls (Mt. 24:14; Rev. 5:9).

⁹ *A multitude...no one could number of all nations...out of the Tribulation... (Rev. 7:9, 14)*

⁶ *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... (Rev. 14:6)*

E. Fourth, the salvation of Israel will occur as the Church provokes Israel to jealousy by standing with her in affliction and operating in the power of God (Rom. 11:12-15). The Church will mature by obeying Jesus' leadership in standing with Israel (Mt. 25:31-46).

²⁶ *And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob..." (Rom. 11:26)*

F. Fifth, the spirit of prophecy will operate in the Church and rest on every believer (Acts 2:17; Jer. 31:9; 23:20; Dan. 11:33-35; Isa. 26:9; Rev. 11:3-6; 18:20; Mt. 17:11; Mal. 4:6).

¹⁷ *It shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy...¹⁸ I will pour out My Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹ I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath...²⁰ The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. (Acts 2:17-20)*

1. The Lord will send Elijah to the earth to prophesy before Jesus' Coming.

⁵ *I will send you Elijah the prophet before...day of the LORD. (Mal. 4:5)*

2. The Two Witnesses will prophesy with great power for 3½ years during the Tribulation.

³ *I will give power to my Two Witnesses, and they will prophesy 1,260 days...⁶ These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire. (Rev. 11:3-6)*

G. Sixth, the bridal paradigm of the Kingdom will be established worldwide in the Church. For the first time in history, the Spirit will universally emphasize our spiritual identity as Jesus' Bride. This new perspective will lead to the saints having courageous love for Jesus.

¹⁷ *The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come!" (Rev. 22:17)*

1. The Bridal paradigm refers to the “bridal perspective or view” of the kingdom of God. We see the Kingdom through the eyes of a wholehearted Bride with loyal devoted love.
 2. The essence of the Bridal message is the revelation of Jesus’ emotions (desire, affections) and commitments to us as a Bridegroom God. We will experience the deep things of His heart (emotions, affections). As sons of God, we are in the position to experience **God’s Throne** as heirs of His power (Rev. 3:21; Rom. 8:17). As the Bride, we are in position to experience **God’s heart**. If we do not feel loved and in love, then we more easily compromise, lack courage and become spiritually bored.
- H. Seventh, the worship and prayer movement will be mature and will operate in great authority (Lk. 18:7-8; Mt. 21:13; Rev. 5:8; 8:3-5; 22:17; Is. 62:6-7; 25:9; 27:2-5, 13; 30:18-19; 42:10-13; Joel 2:12-17). The “bowls of prayer” will be full in heaven before Jesus releases the seven seals of judgment on the earth in the End-Times.
- ⁸ When He (Jesus) had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. (Rev. 5:8)***
- I. Eighth, there will be supernatural provision of food and water, etc. God will manifest His provision like He did in the Exodus. God provided all the needs of His people as they journeyed through the wilderness. He caused food to fall from the sky and He brought water from a rock.
- ¹⁵ As in the days when you came out of...Egypt, I will show them wonders. (Mic. 7:15)***
- J. Ninth, there will be supernatural direction by prophetic revelation (Jer. 31:9) as the Lord directs His people to safety, to provision (food, water), to reconnect in relationships (in times of chaos), and to be at the right place to escape earthquakes, bombs, or the ambush of the enemy.
- ⁹ They shall come with weeping, and with supplications I will lead them. I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters, in a straight way in which they shall not stumble... (Jer. 31:9)***
- K. Tenth, there will be supernatural protection (pockets of mercy). The “Goshen Principle” (Ex. 8:22-23; 9:4-6, 26; 10:23; 11:7) was seen in the time of the plagues of Egypt. God did not allow His judgments to touch Goshen, where His people lived as slaves. Israel’s livestock did not die (Ex. 9:4-6), they had no hail (Ex. 9:26), no swarms of flies (Ex. 8:22) and had light (Ex. 10:23).
- ²² I will set apart the land of Goshen, in which My people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there...²³ I will make a difference between My people and your people. (Ex. 8:22-23)***
- ⁷ I also withheld rain from you...I made it rain on one city, I withheld rain from another city. One part was rained upon, and where it did not rain the part withered. ⁸ So two or three cities wandered to another city to drink water... (Amos 4:7-8)***
1. There will be pockets of mercy which refer to areas where God’s people are protected from God’s judgment (Rev. 7:2-3; 9:4; Ezek. 9:4-6).

³ ***Seek the LORD, all you meek of the earth...it may be that you will be hidden (protected) in the day of the LORD's anger (judgments) (Zeph. 2:3).***

2. God's judgments can be minimized or averted in various regions by prayer and obedience. The disaster zone can become place of blessing (revival center).

¹² ***Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting...13 so rend your heart...return to the LORD, for He is gracious... and He relents from doing harm. 14 Who knows if He will turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him? (Joel 2:12-14)***

3. God will save those who live near Him and call on His name.

⁵ ***You shall not be afraid of the terror by night...6 nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction...at noonday. 7 A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. (Ps. 91:5-7)***

III. THE PRIMARY POSITIVE PEOPLE AND EVENTS IN THE END-TIMES

- A. ***Jesus' Second Coming to establish His Millennial Kingdom*** is the ultimate prophetic theme in the End-Times (Rev. 19:11-21; Zech. 14; 1 Thes. 4-5; Matt. 24; Lk. 21; Mk. 13).

1. Jesus will physically appear in the sky to all the people of the earth when He returns to permanently live on the earth. He will sit on a Throne as King and rule over all other kings (Rev. 19:15-16). He will establish His Kingdom on earth for 1,000 years. This is referred to as the Millennial Kingdom (millennium is Latin "mille" for a thousand).

⁶ ***They shall be priests of God....and shall reign with Him a 1,000 years. (Rev. 20:6)***

2. Jesus will establish righteousness in every sphere of life (political, economic, educational, agricultural, family, media, arts, environment, social institutions, etc; (Is. 2:1-4; 9:6-9; 11:1-16; 51:1-8; 60-62; 65:17-25; Ps. 2; 110; Mt. 6:10; 17:11; 19:28; 28:19; Acts 3:21).

- B. ***The Rapture of the Church*** occurs as Jesus "catches up" all believers in the sky. The Rapture will not be a secret event, but a dramatic one witnessed by all believers and unbelievers and occurs at the end of the Tribulation (1 Thes. 4:13-5:11; Rev. 11:15-18). The Church will go through the Tribulation in victory and great power. The timing of the Rapture as being before the Tribulation is an error. I honor the godliness and wisdom of many who hold the pre-tribulation Rapture view, but see it is a serious mistake that will leave many unprepared for the great pressure that is surely coming.

- C. ***The Two Witnesses*** (Rev. 11:3-6) are two prophets who will preach with great power for 3½ years during the Great Tribulation. They do great miracles like Moses and Elijah did (Mal. 4:5).

- D. ***144,000 sealed Jewish believers*** (Rev. 7:4-8; 14:1-5) are prophetic singers who will preach the gospel in power during the last 3½ years. They will be supernaturally sealed or protected by the power of God so that they can not be harmed. Other believers (Gentiles) will also be supernaturally protected by God from harm (Rev 9:4; Ezek 9:6).

- E. **The Marriage supper of the Lamb** and the rewards for each believer occur in context to the Second Coming and the Rapture (Rev. 19:7-10).
- F. The **New Jerusalem** will descend to earth on two occasions (at the time of the Second Coming and then after the Millennial Kingdom). Jesus, as a man will use the keys of the Kingdom to call forth the New Jerusalem to descend to the earth. Our residence in our resurrected bodies will be in the New Jerusalem, but our governmental role takes place on the earth.
¹⁰ ***He (angel)...showed me the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven... (Rev. 21:10)***
² ***I, John, saw the holy City, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven... (Rev. 21:2)***
- G. **God's judgment on the Great Harlot Babylon** (Rev. 17) or God's wrath will come on Babylon in two stages. The angel proclaimed a double fall of Babylon (Rev. 14:8). Rev. 17-18 describes the two falls of Babylon. The first phase of the fall of Babylon (Rev. 17) relates to the worldwide religious system of toleration and syncretism. This will fall in the middle of the 7 year period at the hands of the ten kings (Rev. 17:16). The 10 kings burn the Harlot religious system and replace it with the Antichrist's religious system that will be based in part of the city of Babylon. Babylon will be established as one of the Antichrist's headquarters. The second phase of judgment (Rev. 18) will be the collapse of the Antichrist's worldwide economic system at the end of the 7 year period (Rev. 18:8).
- H. **The Antichrist and the False Prophet** and their armies will be defeated. They will be captured alive then thrown in the Lake of Fire (Rev. 19:19-20). Jesus consumes and destroys the Antichrist with the breath of His mouth and the brightness of His appearing (2 Thess. 2:8).
¹⁹ ***I saw the Beast (Antichrist), the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him (Jesus)...²⁰ Then the Beast was captured, and with him the False Prophet...These two were cast alive into the lake of fire. (Rev. 19:19-20)***
- I. **Satan thrown into prison for 1000-years** (Rev. 20:1-3). When Jesus returns, He as a man will use the keys of the Kingdom to cast Satan into the bottomless pit.
¹ ***I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² He laid hold of...the Devil and Satan, and bound him for 1000-years; ³ and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the 1000-years were finished. (Rev. 20:1-3)***
- J. **Conclusion**: We are not to be afraid of the Antichrist. We take him serious but Jesus is so much more powerful that it will not even be a contest. Jesus created the heavens and the earth in Gen. 1. We win and it will be worth all the effort and sacrifice of what is required.