

That's What Jesus Said

Matthew 22-28

Part 2

2 Peter 1:1-9, 12-21 AMPC

1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle (special messenger) of Jesus Christ, to those who have received (obtained an equal privilege of) like precious faith with ourselves in and through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2 May grace (God's favor) and peace (which is [a]perfect well-being, all necessary good, all spiritual prosperity, and [b]freedom from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts) be multiplied to you in [the full, personal, [c]precise, and correct] knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

3 For His divine power has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [[d]full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue). 4 By means of these He has bestowed on us His precious and exceedingly great promises, so that through them you may escape [by flight] from the moral decay (rottenness and corruption) that is in the world because of covetousness (lust and greed), and become sharers (partakers) of the divine nature.

12 So I intend always to remind you about these things, although indeed you know them and are firm in the truth that [you] now [hold].

13 I think it right, as long as I am in this tabernacle (tent, body), to stir you up by way of remembrance,

Note: _____

14 Since I know that the laying aside of this body of mine will come speedily, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.

15 Moreover, I will diligently endeavor [to see to it] that [even] after my departure (decease) you may be able at all times to call these things to mind.

Note: _____

16 For we were not following cleverly devised stories when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah), but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty (grandeur, authority of sovereign power).

17 For when He was invested with honor and glory from God the Father and a voice was borne to Him by the [splendid] Majestic Glory [in the bright cloud that overshadowed Him, saying], This is My beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased and delight,

18 We [actually] heard this voice borne out of heaven, for we were together with Him on the holy mountain.

19 And we have the prophetic word [made] firmer still. You will do well to pay close attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dismal (squalid and dark) place, until the day breaks through [the gloom] and the Morning Star rises ([j]comes into being) in your hearts.

20 [Yet] first [you must] understand this, that no prophecy of Scripture is [a matter] of any personal or private or special interpretation (loosening, solving).

21 For no prophecy ever originated because some man willed it [to do so—it never came by human impulse], but men spoke from God who were borne along (moved and impelled) by the Holy Spirit.

Note: _____

Matthew 24:29-31 AMPC

29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not shed its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn and [a]beat their breasts and lament in anguish, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory [in brilliancy and splendor].

31 And He will send out His angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather His elect (His chosen ones) from the four winds, [even] from one end of the [b]universe to the other.

Mark 13:24-27 AMPC

24 But in those days, after [the affliction and oppression and distress of] that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light;

25 And the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

26 And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great (kingly) power and glory (majesty and splendor).

27 And then He will send out the angels and will gather together His elect (those He has [a]picked out for Himself) from the four winds, from the farthest bounds of the earth to the farthest bounds of heaven.

Luke 21:25-28 AMPC

25 And there will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; and upon the earth [there will be] distress (trouble and anguish) of nations in bewilderment and perplexity [[a]without resources, left wanting, embarrassed, in doubt, not knowing which way to turn] at the roaring ([b]the echo) of the tossing of the sea,

26 Men swooning away or expiring with fear and dread and apprehension and expectation of the things that are coming on the world; for the [very] powers of the heavens will be shaken and [c]caused to totter.

27 *And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with great (transcendent and overwhelming) power and [all His kingly] glory (majesty and splendor).*

28 *Now when these things begin to occur, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption (deliverance) is drawing near.*

Jesus continued...

29 And He told them a parable: Look at the fig tree and all the trees;

30 When they put forth their buds and come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and perceive and know that summer is already near.

31 Even so, when you see these things taking place, understand and know that the kingdom of God is at hand.

32 Truly I tell you, this generation ([i]those living at that definite period of time) will not perish and pass away until all has taken place.

33 *The [k]sky and the earth ([l]the universe, the world) will pass away, but My words will not pass away.*

34 *But take heed to yourselves and be on your guard, lest your hearts be overburdened and depressed (weighed down) with the [m]giddiness and headache and [n]nausea of self-indulgence, drunkenness, and worldly worries and cares pertaining to [the [o]business of] this life, and [lest] that day come upon you suddenly like a trap or a noose;*

35 *For it will come upon all who live upon the face of the entire earth.*

36 Keep awake then and watch at all times [be discreet, attentive, and ready], praying that you may have the full strength and ability and be accounted worthy to escape all these things [taken together] that will take place, and to stand in the presence of the Son of Man.

Jesus (the Word) give us signs that we would see coming at the Time of the End. It's not about one or two of the signs...it's when we see all of them coming to pass at one time. Not just Israel becoming a nation then a max of 70 years or 100 years (generation defined by whom?) But all the signs taken together, that generation will not pass away.

Matthew 24:33 AMPC

*33 So also when you see these signs, **all taken together, coming to pass, you may know of a surety that He is near,** at the very doors.*

Matthew 24:33 KJV

*33 So likewise ye, **when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near,** even at the doors.*

I grew up in the church hearing about “things” that were to take place in the future...other than Israel it was always in the future. But now, I can see all the “things” or “signs” that were foretold in the Old and New Testament that we were commanded to know from the “Never Wrong”. Prophets, the Apostles and Jesus Himself.

2 Peter 3:1-4 AMPC

1 Beloved, I am now writing you this second letter. In [both of] them I have stirred up your unsullied (sincere) mind by way of remembrance,

2 That you should recall the predictions of the holy (consecrated, dedicated) prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior [given] through your apostles (His special messengers).

3 To begin with, you must know and understand this, that scoffers (mockers) will come in the last days with scoffing, [people who] walk after their own fleshly desires

*4 And say, **Where is the promise of His coming? For since the forefathers fell asleep, all things have continued exactly as they did from the beginning of creation.***

These “things” are coming to pass, converging, colliding, taking place, right now. I’m reading the current events daily like they were Bible verses from thousands of years ago... God’s Word is true.

Numbers 23:19 AMPC

19 God is not a man, that He should tell or act a lie, neither the son of man, that He should feel repentance or compunction [for what He has promised]. Has He said and shall He not do it? Or has He spoken and shall He not make it good?

John 14:29 AMPC

29 And now I have told you [this] before it occurs, so that when it does take place you may believe and have faith in and rely on Me.

John 16:33 AMPC

33 I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]

In Matthew 24:8 Jesus after giving “things” or signs said all of these things are the beginning of sorrows. These “sorrows” comes from the greek meaning birthing pains. Here are some of the birth pains...

Travail of the earth

Romans 8:22 ESV

22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

Romans 8:22 GNT

22 For we know that up to the present time all of creation groans with pain, like the pain of childbirth.

Romans 8:22

22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

Travail of the heavens

Hebrews 12:26 AMPC

26 Then [at Mount Sinai] His voice shook the earth, **but now He has given a promise: Yet once more I will shake and make tremble not only the earth but also the [starry] heavens.**

Travail of Israel

Micah 5:3 AMPC

Therefore shall He give them up until the time that she who travails has brought forth; then what is left of His brethren shall return to the children of Israel.

Isaiah 66:8 AMPC

8 Who has heard of such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall a land [a]be born in one day? Or shall a nation be brought forth in a moment? For as soon as Zion was in labor, she brought forth her children.

Travail of the church

We will be identifying this later on in this series

According to Paul in Romans 8:22 the whole earth is going to be groaning and travailing... I believe we are experiencing and seeing these “things” coming to pass right now. Earthquakes can happen as a result of natural occurrences and they can also be sent by God. The ground shaking or earthquakes will also be happening because the earth is in travail because of the innocent blood that has been shed.

Travail

1828 Webster's Dictionary

- To labor with pain; to toil.
- To suffer the pangs of childbirth; to be in labor. **Genesis 35:16.**
- Labor in childbirth; as a severe travail; an easy travail

Genesis 35:16-18 KJV

16 And they journeyed from Bethel; and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath: and Rachel travailed, and she had hard labour.

17 And it came to pass, when she was in hard labour, that the midwife said unto her, Fear not; thou shalt have this son also.

18 And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: but his father called him Benjamin.

We are going to go through some of the signs that are indicators according to scripture that we are close to the Rapture of the Church.

Signs from Beneath the Earth

Acts 2:16-21 KJV

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

*18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; **and they shall prophesy:***

19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come:

21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Acts 2:16-21 AMPC

16 But [instead] this is [the beginning of] what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, God declares, that I will pour out of My Spirit upon all mankind, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy [[a]telling forth the divine counsels] and your young men shall see visions ([b]divinely granted appearances), and your old men shall dream [[c]divinely suggested] dreams.

*18 Yes, and on My menservants also and on My maidservants in those days I will pour out of My Spirit, and they shall prophesy [[d]**telling forth the divine counsels and [e]predicting future events pertaining especially to God's kingdom.***

19 And I will show wonders in the sky above and signs on the earth beneath, blood and fire and smoking vapor;

20 The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the obvious day of the Lord comes—that great and notable and conspicuous and renowned [day].

21 And it shall be that whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord [[f]invoking, adoring, and worshiping the Lord—Christ] shall be saved.

The signs; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke are not from heaven, the are in the earth.

Acts 2:19

19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

Notice when these things occur...**Acts:20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come:**

Peter is quoting this from the Prophecy in the Old Testament by the “Never Wrong” Prophet Joel...

Joel 2:30-31 AMPC

30 And I will show signs and wonders in the heavens, and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke.

31 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes.

Joel 2:30-31 KJV

30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come.

When the 120 were baptized in the Holy Spirit in order to be a witness of Jesus Christ, Peter said, “this is that” (**Acts 2:16**) referring back to Joel (Old Testament) and then continued on with what will happen at the End of Time (Days) before the Great and terrible day of the Lord.

What is the “Never Wrong” Prophet talking about when he says “blood, and fire, and pillars or columns of smoke”? From rabbinical studies and the languages used, this is referring to volcanic activities. This literally means that you and I are going to see an increase in volcanic activities before the Great and Terrible day of the Lord comes.

The “Terrible Day of the Lord” is listed in God’s Word 26 times and refers to a day of: trembling, trouble, darkness, fire, destruction which is coming in the future.

Let’s go back to the Words of Jesus and then to the book of Genesis...

Luke 17:26-29 AMPC

26 And [just] as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the time of the Son of Man.

27 [People] ate, they drank, they married, they were given in marriage, right up to the day when Noah went into the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

28 So also [it was the same] as it was in the days of Lot. [People] ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;

29 But on the [very] day that Lot went out of Sodom, it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed [them] all.

Luke 17:26-29 KJV

26 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.

27 They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

28 Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;

29 But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

Genesis 19:24-25 AMPC

24 Then the Lord rained on Sodom and on Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of the heavens.

25 He overthrew, destroyed, and ended those cities, and all the valley and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.

Genesis 19:24-25 KJV

24 Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven;

25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

What are the “cities” in Genesis 19:25

Genesis 14:2 KJV

2 That these made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar.

4 out of the 5 cities listed were wiped out (in the valley or plain) but Zoar was spared which is where Lot was permitted to escape.

Genesis 19:23 KJV

23 The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

Genesis 19:30 KJV

30 And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.

The Dead Sea has had a lot of volcanic activity throughout its history. Many historians believe that there was an earthquake that caused an explosion of different types of gasses under these 4 cities where they are currently located at the bottom of the Dead Sea.

From the explosions they believe that took place at the time of Lot, there was fire and brimstone (the Biblical name for sulfur found in ore and minerals) that went up into the heavens or sky. Literal sulfuric balls were shot up into the air (those are found there today) and it looked like it was raining down fire as a result of a huge volcanic eruption.

The reason that many believe this is what took place is not limited to what they have already found around and in the Dead Sea from minerals and ores but also because of what the Bible says...Genesis 19:8.

Genesis 19:28 KJV

24 Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven;

25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

26 But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

27 And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the Lord:

28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

Genesis 19:28 AMPC

24 Then the Lord rained on Sodom and on Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of the heavens.

25 He overthrew, destroyed, and ended those cities, and all the valley and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.

26 But [Lot's] wife looked back from behind him, and she [b]became a pillar of salt.

27 Abraham went up early the next morning to the place where he [only the day before] had stood before the Lord.

28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the valley, and saw, and behold, the smoke of [a]the country went up like the smoke of a furnace.

The Bible says that Abraham looked up and saw smoke rising up from the ground... because a fire had been on the ground after the eruption shot everything up and then it came raining down like fire.

God's Word tell us something about what will take place during the war of Gog and Magog just to the North of this area...we are told it will be like the days of Lot and the "Never Wrong" Prophet tells us something about a war that kicks off the 7 year tribulation...

Ezekiel 38:22 AMPC

22 And with pestilence and with bloodshed will I enter into judgment with [Gog], and I will rain upon him and upon his hordes and upon the many peoples that are with him torrents of rain and great hailstones, fire and brimstone.

What is going on in Israel right now? What can we see coming to pass? As it relates to these "things" or signs that were foretold.

2 Peter 3:11-18 AMPC

11 Since all these things are thus [b]in the process of being dissolved, what kind of person ought [each of] you to be [in the meanwhile] in consecrated and holy behavior and devout and godly qualities,

12 While you wait and earnestly long for (expect and hasten) the coming of the day of God by reason of which the flaming heavens will be dissolved, and the [[c]material] elements [of the universe] will flare and melt with fire?

13 But we look for new heavens and a new earth according to His promise, in which righteousness (uprightness, freedom from sin, and right standing with God) is to abide.

14 So, beloved, since you are expecting these things, be eager to be found by Him [at His coming] without spot or blemish and at peace [in serene confidence, [d]free from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts].

15 And consider that the long-suffering of our Lord [[e]His slowness in avenging wrongs and judging the world] is salvation ([f]that which is conducive to the soul's safety), even as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the spiritual insight given him,

16 Speaking of this as he does in all of his letters. There are some things in those [epistles of Paul] that are difficult to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist and misconstrue to their own [g]utter destruction, just as [they distort and misinterpret] the rest of the Scriptures.

17 Let me warn you therefore, beloved, that knowing these things beforehand, you should be on your guard, lest you be carried away by the error of lawless and wicked [persons and] fall from your own [present] firm condition [your own steadfastness of mind].

18 But grow in grace (undeserved favor, spiritual strength) and [h]recognition and knowledge and understanding of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (the Messiah). To Him [be] glory (honor, majesty, and splendor) both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (so be it)!



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