

END TIMES PROPHECY PART 3 **THE COMING OF THE LORD**

The Lord's Day, 9th September 2018

Reading: Revelation 22

This is a great subject. It is part and parcel of the gospel of Christ, and it needs to be properly understood.

THE REVELATION BEGINS WITH THE CONCEPT OF THE COMING OF THE LORD JESUS, even as the message is introduced as coming from the Triune God: **Revelation 1:4-5**, “JOHN to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and **which is to come**; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne 5 And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, 6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”

*We looked at this in detail earlier on, but now let us underline the fact that **He “which is to come”**, while it speaks of the eternal and triune nature of the Godhead, it also speaks particularly of the Lord Jesus returning from heaven, for verse 8 confirms this, after verse 7 declares, “Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.” So that we then have this glorious declaration in verse 8, from the Lord Jesus Himself, “8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and **which is to come**, the Almighty!”*

*Then, in chapter 3, The Lord warns the Church of Philadelphia, “**11 Behold, I come quickly**: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.”*

*It speaks of His purpose to **come in judgment upon all the earth**, and that that day could be at **any time** as far as we are concerned – it could be today, or tomorrow or in a thousand years, but it will come suddenly, and without warning, and when the day comes, it will be too late for all who have neglected to hear, or heed, the Word of God, the Word of the gospel of Christ.*

MANIA ABOUT THE LORD'S RETURN IS JESUIT-INSPIRED: It is truly incredible how often you hear Christians talk about how near the Lord's coming is, when the Bible gives no indication of timing! The great majority of Christians simply cannot stay away from that slippery slope, their fascination

with the unknown seems to rule them and overpower their rational minds! And what is the main cause of this mania? It is for the very reason I have been underlining over and over for many years – the prevalence of the false doctrines of **FUTURISM** and **DISPENSATIONALISM** in the study of Bible prophecy, and these have their roots firmly planted in the **JESUIT COUNTER-REFORMATION in the late 16th century**. (Please refer to the timeline on Reformation and Counter-reformation in the history of the Church. Can be picked up in hard copy or emailed.)

WARNING AGAINST FUTURISM/DISPENSATIONALISM/CHILIASM: I have seen good men who were good Bible teachers, who have even largely rejected Futurism and Dispensationalism, but who still couldn't keep away from that slippery slope of predicting how soon the Lord's coming might be, men who, in spite of their soundness of doctrine in most areas, still held to AN ERROR WHICH THE REFORMERS CALLED '**CHILIASM,**' IN MODERN LANGUAGE THAT WOULD BE '**MILLENNIALISM,**' (AN OBSESSION WITH A FUTURE '**MILLENNIUM,**' AN ALLEGED FUTURE GOLDEN AGE OF 1,000 YEARS ON EARTH, AFTER CHRIST'S RETURN, WITH CHRIST RULING THE WORLD FROM JERUSALEM). **John Calvin,** in his "**Institutes of the Christian Religion,**" has a chapter called, "Of the Last Resurrection," and one of the headings of that chapter is, "Refutation of the objections to this doctrine by Atheists, Sadducees, Chiliasts, and other fanatics." **CALVIN RIGHTLY CALLS CHILIASTS 'FANATICS', BECAUSE THEY TEACH THE ERROR OF MILLENNIALISM, WHICH IS A FORM OF FUTURISM, AND UNDERMINE THE GOSPEL IN THE PROCESS. They break down the integrity of the gospel by destroying the finality of Christ's second coming, and His judgment of the quick and the dead!** And while the Church had in early times, looked for a future millennium, it has never before believed what Dispensationalists believe today, or the Chiliasm which Calvin labelled as fanatical in his day. **I say this simply to point out that the Protestant Reformers did not believe anything like what most Christians today believe about the end times! Why? Because the Reformers were studying the Scriptures, not feeding on the works of the Jesuits!** You see, the difference here is simply that, **THE KIND OF FUTURISM WHICH IS ACCEPTED WIDELY AS FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE TODAY, THE PROTESTANT REFORMERS CALLED HERESY!**

God willing, we will look at the whole subject of the Millennium in a later session, but for now, let us note:

AN OBSESSION WITH THE IDEA OF A FUTURE MILLENNIUM IS A PART OF THE FUTURIST/DISPENSATIONALIST ERROR, AND IT UNDERMINES THE CLEAR SIMPLICITY OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES. Why? Because, as we have seen in our previous lessons, the message of The Revelation is to the whole Christian Church, throughout the whole Christian era all the way through to the end of the world, and the message to all is the same, and always has been – i.e. CHRIST IS COMING AGAIN TO JUDGE THE QUICK AND THE DEAD, AT THE END OF THE WORLD, AND THAT COULD HAPPEN AT ANY TIME! This is an integral part of the gospel, and this very fact proves that this is the correct way to understand The Revelation, to see that **THE REVELATION SPEAKS OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST, IT DOES NOT INTRODUCE ANOTHER GOSPEL!** If our focus is on Christ, and on the gospel of Christ, then we will look forward to His coming, and we will warn others of the day of judgment, but to consider the timing of that event is completely irrelevant, and we are even forbidden to speculate on this matter, as the Lord Jesus Himself silenced His disciples with the words, “36 But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only” (Matthew 24:36) - speculation about the time of the Lord's return is a dangerous error which poisons people's minds! But to imbibe the heresies of the Futurists who say Christ comes for His Church, and that is one resurrection, but then during the supposed 'tribulation' after that, there are more resurrections, and then after that again, there is a Millennium of peace on earth, after which is yet another resurrection and judgment, this is to do violence to everything Scripture says about the end of the world –

THE SCRIPTURES TEACH (AS WE HAVE SEEN IN PREVIOUS LESSONS, PARTICULARLY ON 1 CORINTHIANS 15), THAT THERE IS ONE RETURN OF CHRIST, ONE RESURRECTION, AND ONE JUDGMENT, THAT THIS IS TO HAPPEN AT THE END OF THE WORLD, AND THAT THE “TRIBULATION” OUT OF WHICH THE SAINTS ARE DELIVERED, IS THE WHOLE CHRISTIAN ERA TILL THE END OF THE WORLD! Therefore, a faithful study of The Revelation will not suddenly overthrow this whole scheme of Bible doctrine from Genesis to Jude, and bring in a new doctrine of the end times which contradicts it all! Please do not fall for such complete and utter nonsense, which today falsely parades itself as 'rightly dividing the word of truth.'

AND AS THE REVELATION BEGINS WITH THE COMING OF THE LORD, IT ALSO ENDS WITH THE VERY SAME THEME – THE COMING OF THE LORD: even in the closing words of this final book of prophecy, this glorious capstone of all the

books of Holy Scripture – this is the final evangel, the last call of Scripture, warning every man that he should be ready for the coming of Christ in the great day of judgment: **Revelation 22:6**, “6 And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent **his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.** 7 **Behold, I come quickly**: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book. 8 And I John saw these things, and heard *them*. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. 9 Then saith he unto me, See *thou do it* not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God. 10 And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: **for the time is at hand.** 11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. 12 **And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.** 13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. 14 Blessed *are* they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. 15 For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. 16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star. 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. 18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book. 20 He which testifieth these things saith, **Surely I come quickly.** Amen. **Even so, come, Lord Jesus.”**

It is interesting that, in this relatively short chapter, (the final chapter of The Revelation, and the final chapter of Scripture), three times, (in verses 7, 12, & 20), the urgent warning is sounded, “I come quickly!” – Firstly he says, “Behold, I come quickly!” Then again, Behold, I come quickly!” And then finally, “Surely, I come quickly!” The concept of Christ’s coming “quickly”, does not necessarily mean that He will come soon, but the way the whole Book

of Revelation is encased between the golden boards of this grand statement – **Behold I come quickly!** – makes the entire book an urgent warning to all generations, that the Lord might come at any time, and despite all the posturing and pontificating of all the armchair experts, **nobody has any idea when!** (This point is qualified historically, by Paul’s instruction to Thessalonians, in that, at that very early time when Paul wrote, there were developments in the kingdoms of men to soon unfold, but that is now past – i.e. there are no developments for our time and the future, for us to await! – Paul said Christ will not come until after a falling away, and the rise of the “man of sin”, which, as we’ll see clearly as we go, has occurred already, but God willing, we’ll look at that at a later date).

IN OUR STUDY OF THE FIRST CHAPTER, WE OBSERVED THAT THIS PROPHECY WAS TO HAVE IMMEDIATE EFFECT: Revelation 1:3, “Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.” And in verse 7, we read, “Behold he cometh with clouds!” So, the whole book of The Revelation is an emphasis on the doctrine of the Lord’s coming – His coming again, once, at the end of the world, to judge every man! NB: The Lord has not given us a book of unfathomable riddles (as the prophecy experts tell us) but he gave us clear warning and clear instruction!

AGAIN THE FINAL CHAPTER CONFIRMS THIS DOCTRINE: Revelation 22:10, “And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.”

As I have stated previously, let me underline it again, just to show you beyond any doubt, that my doctrine is from the Word of God, not merely an opinion, or a school of thought, or a private interpretation of it:

THERE ARE TWO MAJOR SCHOOLS OF PROPHECY, WHICH WERE BOTH INVENTED BY THE JESUITS, AS A VERY IMPORTANT AND POWERFUL PART OF ROME’S COUNTER-REFORMATION (i.e. Rome’s vile attempt to overthrow the Protestant Reformation, which was, I think, the greatest revival of true religion the world has seen) – and they are, the Preterist theory and the Futurist theory of End Times prophecy.

FIRSTLY, PRETERISM: (the invention of the Jesuit, Luis Alcazar in 1613 AD) says that The Revelation was only relevant for the time immediately after it was written, and so the Antichrist was one of the Roman Emperors of that day

– It is very interesting that only 33 years after this, the Westminster Confession was drawn up, stating categorically that the Pope of Rome was the Antichrist!

SECONDLY, FUTURISM: (the invention of the Jesuit, Francesco Ribera in 1591 AD), further developed later on by modern Protestants, who were not true Protestants at all, says that The Revelation is all about the future, and hasn't even begun to be fulfilled yet – there has to be a 'rapture,' in which the believers will be removed safely to heaven before the 'Great Tribulation,' then the Antichrist will appear before the Lord returns to judge the earth.

IN EACH CASE, THE JESUIT SCHOLARSHIP HAS INGENUOUSLY DEFLECTED THE PROTESTANT ACCUSATION, THAT THE POPES OF THE CHURCH OF ROME ARE THE “ANTICHRIST” (1 John 2:18), and the “man of sin” (2 Thessalonians 2:3), and that the Church of Rome herself is the “whore” of Revelation 17, who “commits fornication with the kings of the earth.” So that most so-called 'Protestants' today no longer see the Pope as the Antichrist, but are looking for a world leader Antichrist to emerge, to make peace in Israel and proclaim himself to be God – so blind are these 'Protestants' today that they are feeding willingly on Rome's own propaganda, and not on the Word of God!

BUT, PRAISE THE LORD, BOTH OF THESE JESUIT LIES HAVE BEEN EXPOSED AS FRAUDS FROM THE BEGINNING, AND BY THE WORD OF GOD ITSELF! And God willing, we will fully expose the lie of the Chiliasts about the fictitious 'Millennium' in a later session also – briefly, the same Scriptures show up the error of the so-called 'Millennium', which interferes with the doctrine that teaches us clearly, that Christ comes again, once, at the end of the world, to raise the dead and judge every soul. **NOT ONLY DOES REVELATION 1 SAY, “THE TIME IS AT HAND,” BUT REVELATION 22 ALSO SAYS, “THE TIME IS AT HAND!”** Hence, the whole book of Revelation is relevant to the whole Church, from the time of the apostles, through to the end of the world and the judgment. The termination of the tribulation and the rule of the Antichrist, and the great judgment of all flesh, does not refer to a short time before the end of the world, or a short time after the end of the world, it occurs, as Jesus and His apostles plainly stated many times – right at the very end of the world!

THE PRETERIST INVENTION IS BLASTED AWAY by the fact that, although the whole book of The Revelation was to take immediate effect in John's day, the Lord Jesus still has not yet “come with clouds,” and “every eye” still has not “seen Him come in like manner” as He went up!

AND THE FUTURIST LIE IS BLASTED AWAY, even more obviously, as the whole matter of book of The Revelation, according to itself, has been in effect since the very day it was given to John about 2,000 years ago (The time was at hand then, and still is today!) – therefore The Revelation cannot be for a future time!

LET ME PUT IT SO SIMPLY, THAT SURELY NOBODY CAN MISUNDERSTAND, CONCERNING THE TIME OF THE REVELATION – IF THE TIME OF THE REVELATION WAS “AT HAND” 2,000 YEARS AGO, AND THE MATTER CONTAINED IN IT INCLUDES CHRIST’S RETURN FROM HEAVEN, AND THE JUDGMENT OF THE QUICK AND THE DEAD, AND THE END OF THIS WORLD, AND THE “NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH,” THEN, THE ONLY EXPLANATION POSSIBLE, IS THAT THE APPLICATION OF THIS PROPHECY IS FOR THE WHOLE CHRISTIAN ERA, FROM CHRIST AND THE APOSTLES TO THE VERY END OF THE WORLD! So all that The Revelation contains for our edification, exhortation and comfort, has been effective for the Church in every age, and all the exposure of the Antichrist (or “beasts”) and the “Whore,” the wars and the plagues, and tribulation, have been relevant to the Church for most of the past 2,000 years also.

THE REVELATION HAS ALWAYS BEEN A COMFORT TO THE CHURCH DURING ITS TIME OF TRIBULATION, AND IT STILL IS TODAY! That was its purpose, as stated in Revelation 1, “9 I John, who also am your brother, and COMPANION IN TRIBULATION, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ”.

*JOHN WROTE THIS TO HIS “COMPANIONS IN TRIBULATION”, and likewise, it applies to all the saints on earth. And the most telling fact which makes this doctrine so absolutely sure and unassailable, is that, **all through The Revelation**, from the opening chapter, to Christ's exhortation to the Church at Philadelphia, (**Revelation 1:11-12**), “11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. 12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God,” through to the final chapter, **we see this same most urgent and vital warning repeated**: “Behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me...!” **AND THIS FINAL CHAPTER NOT ONLY CONFIRMS THIS, BUT CONFIRMS IT THREE TIMES! - “Behold, I come quickly!” Behold, I come quickly!” “Surely, I come quickly!”***

THE COMING OF CHRIST IS SYNONYMOUS WITH JUDGMENT: 2 Timothy 4:1, “I CHARGE thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2 Preach

the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

YET THAT DAY OF JUDGMENT WILL BE ALSO THE FULL SALVATION OF GOD'S ELECT CHILDREN: Hebrews 9:27, “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the **judgment**: 28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin **unto salvation**.”

The Revelation is all about Christ's glory and triumph over all things, even death itself, from Calvary through to His judgment of the world at “the last day.” The Revelation is pure gospel – nothing more and nothing less!

THEREFORE, AS ALL THE SCRIPTURES TEACH CLEARLY, THE VERY SAME DAY CHRIST RETURNS TO JUDGE THE WORLD, HE WILL DEAL WITH BOTH THE GOOD AND THE EVIL: *We need only to look at two of His parables, which show this agreement with the doctrine elsewhere in the Scriptures:*

THE GOATS AND THE SHEEP: Matthew 25:31, “When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats: 33 **And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.** 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, **Come, ye blessed of my Father, INHERIT THE KINGDOM PREPARED FOR YOU FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD:**41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, **Depart from me, ye cursed, into EVERLASTING FIRE**, prepared for the devil and his angels:”

THE TARES: Matthew 13:36, “Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field. 37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; 38 **THE FIELD IS THE WORLD**; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked *one*; 39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; **THE HARVEST IS THE END OF THE WORLD** (*DO YOU SEE THIS? THE HARVEST IS NOT 3 ½ YEARS BEFORE THE END OF THE WORLD, NOT 7 YEARS BEFORE THE END OF THE WORLD, NOT 1,000 YEARS BEFORE THE END OF THE WORLD, THE HARVEST IS THE END OF THE WORLD! EVERYBODY CAN READ THIS AND UNDERSTAND IT! EVEN CHILDREN CAN SEE IT! IT IS ONLY THE CORRUPT SCHOLARS AND PASTORS WHO CAN'T GET IT, OR DON'T WANT TO GET IT!*); and

the reapers are the angels. 40 As therefore **the tares are gathered and burned in the fire;** (*OH, IN CASE YOU MISSED THAT, JESUS REPEATS THIS LITTLE POINT*) **SO SHALL IT BE IN THE END OF THIS WORLD.** 41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 **Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.** Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.”

THE DISPENSATIONALISTS HAVE CUNNINGLY DIVIDED UP THE WORLD'S HISTORY INTO ERAS OR 'DISPENSATIONS', IN ORDER TO JUSTIFY READING SOME PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE IN COMPLETE ISOLATION FROM OTHERS – you say to them, “But this Scripture says such and such,” and they reply, “Oh, but that passage speaks of a different matter, or they’ll say, “That is for the Jews, not the Christians,” etc. etc. In this manner of manipulating Scripture, they can justify every false doctrine imaginable. **A good example is that they make a difference between the “coming” of Christ and the “appearing” of Christ! Another one is that they say the “judgment seat of Christ” is not the same as the “great white throne judgment” of Revelation 20.** The whole Futurist scheme is pure fabrication and lies. The context proves it to be the same event: **2 Corinthians 5:10-11**, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.* 11 Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.” **THIS “JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST” IS APPLICABLE TO ALL MEN, NOT JUST TO CHRISTIANS, BECAUSE IT SPEAKS OF THE TERROR OF THE JUDGMENT, AND OF REWARDS, NOT ONLY FOR GOOD, BUT FOR EVIL AS WELL** – hence this mention of the “judgment seat of Christ” is quite obviously the same judgment which refers to the “great white throne” in **Revelation 20:11-15**, “And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.” *This is merely the same thing Paul spoke of to the Corinthians, only in different words. The Revelation is the gospel of Christ, nothing more or less! To make it otherwise, is heresy. Most pastors teach blatant heresy!*

THE COMING OF THE LORD HAS ALWAYS BEEN SYNONYMOUS WITH JUDGMENT, BUT NOT ALWAYS THE FINAL JUDGMENT AT THE END OF THE WORLD:

- 1. HE CAME TO VARIOUS CITIES OF PALESTINE DURING HIS EARTHLY MINISTRY: Matthew 10:1-23,** “1 AND when he had called unto *him* his twelve disciples, he gave them power *against* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.23 But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.”
- 2. HE CAME AT PENTECOST IN THE PERSON OF THE HOLY GHOST, AS HIS ETERNAL KINGDOM WAS INTRODUCED UNDER THE NEW COVENANT: Matthew 16:27-28,** “27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works. 28 Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.”
- 3. HE PROMISED TO COME TO ALL BELIEVERS IN ABIDING COMMUNION: John 14:19-23,** “19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. 20 At that day ye shall know that I *am* in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. 21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. 22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? 23 Jesus answered and said unto him, **If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.**”
- 4. HE COMES AT THE DEATH OF HIS SAINTS TO TAKE THEM HOME: John 14:1-3,** “LET not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father’s house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 **And if I go and**

prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.”

5. **HE COMES IN JUDGMENT AT THE DEATH OF ALL PEOPLE: Hebrews 9:27**, “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment....”

6. **HE COMES IN JUDGMENT TO INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES, E.G. EPHESUS: Revelation 2:5**, “5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; OR ELSE I WILL COME UNTO THEE QUICKLY, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent;” **16**, “16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.” *Do we consider that even today, when Churches cease to exist, or when Churches cease to faithfully teach the Word of God, that Christ has come and removed their candlestick? Notice His promise to come quickly in judgment!*

The Salvation Army had a formidable presence in Nanango for many years, likewise the Presbyterians, likewise the Assemblies of God – where are they now? Their Candlesticks have been removed!

This is not His second coming, but it is His coming “quickly” or suddenly! And this is very real – take a look at all the empty church buildings. He has come quickly and taken away their candlesticks. Let us all heed the warning, lest we also become a mere statistic in the land where God has planted us!

7. **HE CAME IN JUDGMENT IN TIMES OF OLD UPON UNGODLY NATIONS: Isaiah 13:1-9**, “**THE burden of Babylon**, which Isaiah the son of Amoz did see. 2 Lift ye up a banner upon the high mountain, exalt the voice unto them, shake the hand, that they may go into the gates of the nobles. 3 I have commanded my sanctified ones, I have also called my mighty ones for mine anger, *even* them that rejoice in my highness. 4 The noise of a multitude in the mountains, like as of a great people; a tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together: the LORD of hosts mustereth the host of the battle. 5 **They come from a far country, from the end of heaven, even the LORD, and the weapons of his indignation, to destroy the whole land.** 6 HOWL YE; FOR THE DAY OF THE LORD IS AT HAND; IT SHALL COME AS A DESTRUCTION FROM THE ALMIGHTY. 7 Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man’s heart shall melt: 8 And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold

of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces *shall be as flames*. **9 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.**” *This particular “day of the Lord” came long before Christ had appeared the first time, let alone His second coming! And isn’t the Lord doing the same to nations today? Look at the African nations, India, Australia, and even the UK! They have rejected the gospel light so graciously given to them by blood, sweat, and tears, and have returned to the heathen jungle!*

8. **HE CAME IN JUDGMENT, ACCORDING TO HIS PREDICTION, UPON JERUSALEM IN 70AD: Matthew 21:** “33 Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country: 34 And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. 35 And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. 37 But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. 38 **But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance.** 39 And they caught him, and cast *him* out of the vineyard, and slew *him*. 40 When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen? 41 They say unto him, **He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out *his* vineyard unto other husbandmen,** which shall render him the fruits in their seasons. 42 Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? 43 Therefore say I unto you, **THE KINGDOM OF GOD SHALL BE TAKEN FROM YOU, AND GIVEN TO A NATION BRINGING FORTH THE FRUITS THEREOF.**” *Israel forfeited her privileges: she had crucified the Son of God, and sold her birthright, and she was justly destroyed with the most awful destruction imaginable in the Roman siege of 70 AD! This is the “great tribulation” Jesus spoke of in Matthew 24, and it is long ‘done and dusted’! It is also a warning to all nations, and a preview of the end of the whole world. The Jews and the corrupt Christian pastors are still*

crowing about the Jews' being God's chosen people, when Christ destroyed them 19 centuries ago! God has made a New Covenant! Do you know what "new" means? The Covenant of Grace has been eternal in Christ from before the world began, but the Covenant of Law with Moses and Israel, had a finite end, and 70AD was the crunch! God has taken His blessing to a spiritual and heavenly nation, a "new Jerusalem" and heavenly city, which will bring forth His fruit! Can you see the glorious simplicity of the gospel of Christ and the New Covenant? Out with the old and in with the new! And the new is the eternal and everlasting, it is the eternal reality of which the Old Covenant was only ever a shadow of and a preparation for!

9. FINALLY, CHRIST WILL COME AT THE END OF THE WORLD TO JUDGE THE QUICK AND THE DEAD: Acts 17:30, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

10. ALL THE PREVIOUS COMINGS OF CHRIST IN JUDGMENT ARE WARNINGS OF HIS FINAL COMING AND JUDGMENT: Luke 13:1, "THERE were present at that season some that told him of the Galilæans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2 And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilæans were sinners above all the Galilæans, because they suffered such things? 3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. 4 Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? 5 I tell you, Nay: but, **except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**" *As we see similar tragedies today, let us remember that, in all these lesser judgments, the Lord is continually warning of the great day of the final judgment of all men. The tragedy is that many people, who claim to believe God's Word, when a tragedy strikes, will argue about whether it was of God or the Devil, or just natural causes, or an accident, but they will all, with one accord, deny it is God's warning of the final judgment, just as Jesus said! Why? Because they have been feeding on the heresies of false teachers and false prophets, who run most of the churches today, instead of simply reading the Word of God and believing it!*

THERE HAS BEEN A MULTITUDE OF WARNINGS AND DEMONSTRATIONS, THROUGHOUT THE WORLD'S HISTORY, OF THE COMING OF THE LORD, NOT THE

LEAST OF WHICH HAVE BEEN NOAH'S FLOOD AND THE DESTRUCTION OF SODOM WITH FIRE. Every man today is without excuse! If the Lord should come today, or tomorrow, He would justly destroy all who reject His Word and His wonderful, and perfect, and wise rule over all His creation.

What is your attitude to the King of kings and Lord of lords?

Are you ready for the coming of the Lord? What if He doesn't come for another 100 or 1,000 years? Are you still ready? Because you will not live for ever - "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Remember the words of "Him which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty", He said, "Behold I come quickly! Behold I come quickly! Surely I come quickly!" Amen! Come Lord Jesus! But come also, quickly upon the wicked in our own day, and show the whole world Thy glory again, as in all times of old! Amen!