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A Brief Overview of the Return of Christ.

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

A Brief Overview of the Return of Christ.

Topics.

- The kingdom of man and the Kingdom of God.
- Great oratory and persuasive speeches.
- The parallel between Christ's first appearing and his second coming.
- The resurrection and the Old Testament.
- Salvation and rewards.

INTRODUCTION

Through I believe at this time the following events will unfold as presented it is certainly not a dogmatic view concerning Christ's return, the millennial age and the things concerning eternity, since there are clearly many glories and wonders that can be found in the symbolism of the amazing prophetic chapters that speak of Christ return and eternal glory. My hope is that the very brief overview will give the passionate and enthusiastic Bible reader further insights to help them with their own exciting discoveries.

THE KINGDOM OF MAN AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD

The following is a very brief overview of the events that will take place at the end of our present age and through Christ's millennial age to the beginning of eternity when God is ALL in ALL. At the end of our present age there will be two powerful, but separate entities.

The first power: is the world's false religious leader the false prophet and his religious empire named in the book of Daniel and the book of Revelation as Babylon the Great and the Prostitute Woman.

The second power: is the world's final ungodly, but powerful global political leader spoken of in the book of Daniel and the book of Revelation as the man of sin and the man of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:1-12) and his ten-horned beast nations. This man is gifted in the skill of speech making and the eloquence and persuasiveness of oratory.

EIGHTEEN STEPS TO ETERNITY

Following are eighteen steps to eternity in all its royal fullness and majestic and eternal glory:

1. At the end of our present age Jesus returns in glory to earth and saves Jerusalem from certain destruction. The Lord conquers the surrounding enemies of Israel in the Middle East and rules as King of kings and Lord of lords (with the faithful dead who have been resurrected and the faithful who were alive that have been gathered to him).
2. They rule with Christ from Jerusalem over the entire Middle East. Christ brings peace and prosperity to the Middle East and then begins to spread God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace to the world by introducing an entirely new system of government, trade and banking which is fair to all people in contrast to favouring the rich.

3. The Lord will oppose the false religious systems of the world and especially Europe (resurrected Rome and nations in allegiance with them). The poor and the oppressed will probably love him while the powerful false religious leaders and the rich and powerful are plotting ways to destroy him (as they did when he first came).
4. The leaders and authorities of the world's false religious system fear losing their control and power (as they did when Christ first appeared), so by deception they seduce and entice the man of sin and lawlessness the leader of the final ten horned beast nations to send his armies against Christ in Israel to kill him (as the false religious leaders did in the days of the Pharisees).
5. The armies of the world surround Jerusalem, but they are defeated, this results in the leader of the final and powerful nations the man of sin and lawlessness turning against the world's false religious leader the false prophet and destroying his religious empire (Rev. 17:16-18).
6. The remaining final nations with their leader the man of sin and lawlessness then have power over the world's populations, but Christ has the greater power as he has control of all the oil and wealth of the Middle East, because of this the world leader of Europe (resurrected Rome) the man of sin and lawlessness begins to plan how he can rid the world of Christ and gain all power to himself.
7. This political world leader the man of sin and lawlessness is a great speaker and by his persuasiveness and skillful speech-making he deceives many nations by telling them they can make war against the Lord and conquers him (Rev. 17:14).

Great oratory and persuasive speeches: our schools and almost every nature program shown on television today teach evolution as absolute truth this doctrine of man completely does away with the need of God as the creator and because of this teaching, generations are being raised that have absolutely no concept of God. Today children believe evolution created all things and man is evolving upward so there is no need for God to even exist. Perhaps the man of sin and lawlessness will take the theory of evolution one step further and proclaim a gospel that teaches humans are an energy being and energy cannot be destroyed it simply takes on another form, therefore humans are spiritually eternal, so no one needs religion or God to attain to eternal life (even today hundreds of millions of people around the world already believe this message).

Though this may sound foolish to those who know God it makes sense to those who deny God and believe that evolution is the creator. The underlying gospel message that the man of sin and lawlessness will proclaim will more than likely be a secular self-esteem; humanistic self-exaltation kind of self-gospel with speeches full of appealing political messages mixed with biblical Scripture and new age spiritual teachings. It is certain he will proclaim that everyone is equal and must accept everyone as equal and that he will not only appear to have the answers to the world's problems, but will also appear as a man who is finally able to be able to bring peace to the world, but to do it the global world must become one people and one nation under his rule otherwise there can never be peace therefore religion of all kinds must be destroyed.

If the world has experienced extreme acts of global terrorism and religious wars in the Middle East this will be a very appealing message, especially since most secular people already believe the majority of wars are a result of religion (though in reality they are a result of man's lust for power, control and wealth). Whatever the speeches of the man of sin and lawlessness contain they will be extremely enticing and deceptive to the natural mind and especially to those who deny God.

8. Ultimately this final world leader the man of sin and lawlessness becomes so powerful that his pride is lifted up to such an extreme extent he believes he can destroy Christ's Kingdom in the Middle East so he gathers the armies of the nations and they go against Jerusalem to destroy God's appointed King who they see as a religious dictator King and a threat to their wealth and their power.
9. At this time God looks down from heaven and as quoted in Psalm two he laughs at their futile plots against the King he has set up on His holy hill in his Holy city Jerusalem. God then destroys the armies that are gathered against Christ by pouring massive hailstones upon them.
10. The sheep and goat judgment take place with the remaining nations of the world, those that are judged worthy and choose to accept the rule and authority of Christ the King are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.
11. Christ grows stronger in power and influence over the nations of the earth, but never fully gains total acceptance of all nations or people of the world.
12. At the end of Christ glorious millennial reign as King of kings and Lord of lords' those who have been born during this age, but resist his rule gather together against Christ to destroy his government and his Kingdom at Jerusalem.
13. God sends fire from heaven and destroys the armies that have come against Christ and those with him.
14. God Himself descends on a Great White Throne, death, hades and the sea give up the dead and multitudes stand before God.
15. The Book of Life and some other heavenly books are opened and those standing before God are judged according to what they had done and according to what is written in the books.
16. Those who are judged unworthy are cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of total destruction and eternal death (i.e., total extinction).
17. The New Jerusalem God's Holy City descends from heaven as a Bride adorned for her husband.
18. Christ hands the kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and His plan for mankind's salvation and the earth is complete. The earth is filled with God's glory and ETERNITY begins in all its royal and majestic eternal fullness.

THE PARALLEL BETWEEN CHRIST'S FIRST APPEARING AND HIS SECOND COMING

When the Lord returns the scenario will be very similar to when he first came. Though the kingdoms of Rome have diminished in power the Bible predicts they will once again rise as the final world kingdom. When Christ first appeared the religious leaders and authorities of his generation saw that they were losing their power and control of the people to Christ so they enticed Rome to have him crucified. When Jesus returns the scenario will be very similar; the false religious leaders and authorities of the world who control the false global religious system (spoken of in the book of Revelation as Babylon the Great and the Prostitute Woman) will entice the world's political leader the man of sin and lawlessness and the ten horned beast nations (being Rome resurrected and nations in allegiance with them) to send their armies against Lord at Jerusalem. But this time Christ is not appearing as the Lamb to be slain, but is returning as the King of kings and Lord of lords who this time will not lay his life down to his

enemies but will rise up as God's mighty anointed King and defeat the man of sin and the ten horned beast nations and establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth during his glorious millennial reign.

THE RESURRECTION AND THE OLD TESTAMENT

Though those of the Old Testament did not have as much light concerning the resurrection as we have today, Job, David, Isaiah, Daniel and many of the faithful in the Old Testament knew that those who died in faith believing in God's eternal promise that the promised seed of the woman spoke of in (Gen. 3:15), the prophet and deliverer Moses said would come like him and the promised seed of Abraham and the promised seed of David the Messiah, the Christ that the prophets and the Scriptures proclaimed would come understood that they would again come to life after death.

Many sceptics and non-believers use the fact that many thousands of years have passed since these faithful men and woman died and highlight the truth that the promise, they had hoped in has not. No faithful brother and sister should be shaken by this fact since the Bible states that the secular world will continue as it always has right up to the time of Christ's return, because God is not rushing into judgment, He is patient desiring that all should reach repentance and be saved. Added to this is the truth that one lifespan is but a twinkle of the eye when compared with eternity.

SALVATION AND REWARDS

At the resurrection there will be rewards for the just, meaning those who have treated others with fairness, done-good to others and endeavoured to live their life in a manner that honours God and brings a good testimony to the name of Jesus and the Christian faith and shame and condemnation for those who have lived otherwise.

The apostle Paul wrote:

- No one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives they will receive a reward, but if anyone's work is burned up they will suffer loss, though they themselves will be saved, but only as through fire (1 Cor. 3:12-15).

This shows that the focus of God's judgment will not be upon testing intellectual head knowledge, but upon how we treat others especially our brothers and sisters in Christ. Jesus said all six commandments concerning mankind can be summed up in the words, "Love your neighbour as yourself." James the brother of Jesus calls this the royal law. It means do-good to others and not harm, treat others with respect, kindness and compassion as God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ did while walking amongst even the lowest of sinners. Sadly, many religions have made being-saved dependent upon knowing an exact set of doctrines, but this is not true, certainly no-one can be saved without embracing the message of the cross and the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, but the Gospel does not embrace every doctrine or Scriptural teaching from Genesis to Revelation. Certainly, the study and knowledge of all Scripture from Genesis to Revelation is profitable for our faith, but no one has to know all Scripture to be reconciled to God and saved to eternal life and everlasting glory.

For further information see the title:

- Gospel (ON WEBSITE MENU).

The Bible teaches two major battles with Gog and Magog. The first is at the end of our present age and the second is at the end of Christ's millennial reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. At the end of our present age, Gog and Magog gathers all nations against Jerusalem and God destroys them from heaven, this defeat ushers in Christ's millennial reign as King of kings and Lord of lords while the defeat of Gog and Magog at the end of Christ's millennial reign ushers in the eternal age when God will be ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its majestic royal fullness. In Revelation chapter twenty Gog and Magog are different entities to the beast and the false prophet, because the beast and the false prophet are in the Lake of Fire prior to Gog and Magog appearing at the end of Christ's glorious millennial reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

In simplistic terms: Gog and Magog are titles for worldly leaders and nations and governments that are opposed to God, His plans and His purposes and who have great influence over multitudes of people and nations worldwide.

THE KING OF THE KINGDOM

No-one needs to understand any of this to be saved to eternal life. It is interesting to notice that prior to the death and resurrection of Christ the focus of biblical writers is on the Kingdom of God, but after Jesus death and resurrection the focus is on the King of the Kingdom and on the resurrection to eternal glory. This is because Jesus is the royal path to salvation whereas the Kingdom is the inheritance of those who belong to the King. The New Testament gives very little detail of where eternal glory will be except to say that those who attain to the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-5) will be clothed with an immortal body and be eternally with the Lord and for those who know the love of Christ this is enough. Almost all the detail of Christ's millennial rule as King of kings and Lord of lords comes from the prophetic prophecies contained in the Old Testament.

FOOTNOTE

I am very aware when I am writing of the things concerning Christ's return, the millennial age and the thing relating to ETERNITY that it is with a fallen and finite mind that is limited to time (as we understand it) that I am attempting to understand things not yet happened and that are radically different to anything any generation of every age of history has experienced on earth. Because of this I would never be dogmatic and absolute in my understandings and explanations concerning Christ's return, the millennial age and the things concerning eternity, but always allow for certain amount of mystery to remain and am always open to receiving greater light since there are clearly many extremely detailed glories and wonders that can be found in the symbolism of these amazing prophetic chapters. Hopefully the overview of what I have written will give the passionate and enthusiastic Bible reader a launching pad to begin their own exciting discoveries and build and expand on what I have done.

For further information see the titles:

- Resurrection.
- Kingdom of God

Both titles are (ON WEBSITE MENU).

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

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