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Things that Must

Soon

Take Place.

(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.



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.

Things that Must Soon Take Place.

Topics.

- Things that must soon take place.
 - The time is near (time is at hand in KJV).
 - I am coming soon (quickly in KJV).
 - Overview of the time is near (time is at hand in KJV).
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A PERSONAL NOTE

Though I have always loved reading and studying the Scriptures and have now walked with Christ and in God's grace for around fifty years the following studies should not be taken to be dogmatic, inflexible or the final word on the matter since I am fully aware that my mind is limited by mortality and that greater understanding of God's revelation is continually becoming clearer before our eyes as we move closer to the time of Christ's glorious return in glory.

INTRODUCTION

This study is focused upon discovering what the expressions, things that must soon take place; the time is near (time is at hand in KJV) and I am coming soon (quickly in KJV) mean.

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THINGS THAT MUST SOON TAKE PLACE AND THE TIME IS NEAR AND AT HAND

In Revelation chapter one it is written:

- The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place (shortly come to pass in KJV). He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, (Rev. 1:1).

The word shortly comes from the Greek word (*en*) and means quickly, shortly and speedily. In this context, it means that some parts of what John wrote have been fulfilled, other parts are continually being fulfilled and some predictions are to be fulfilled in future generations and the latter days. It means John foretold of things which would shortly begin to be fulfilled, (which they did shortly after it was given) and would succeed in their due season and order until they are all accomplished. Jesus said to John:

- Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. (Rev. 1:19).

When the following three things are kept in mind:

1. A thousand years in the sight of God are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. (Psalm 90:4), meaning from God's, heavens and eternities perspective our time is but a blink of the eye.
2. God, declares the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, "My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose." (Isaiah 46:10), which means that God declares the entire story from beginning to end, even though it has not yet taken place and may not for centuries.

3. At least three times Jesus said, "I am coming soon," (quickly in KJV) (Rev. 3:11) (Rev. 22:7) (Rev. 22:12), and yet, over two thousand years have already passed since these verses were spoken and the faithful are still patiently waiting for that glorious day.

Following are four major future events still to happen:

1. Christ's return and the resurrection of the faithful.
2. Christ's thousand-year millennial reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.
3. The destruction of the armies of Gog and Magog.
4. God Himself descending on a Great White Throne.

This revelation was made over two thousand years ago, and not one of these events has taken place yet they are all spoken of in the sense that they should very soon begin to be fulfilled. This clearly shows that the meaning is, that all, of what John wrote will begin to take place very soon and will continue, on to its fulfilment through the succeeding generations of mankind. It means John foretold of things which would soon begin to be fulfilled, (which they did shortly after it was given) and would succeed in their due season and order until they were all accomplished. Many of the earlier visions at the beginning of the book did come to pass, especially those concerning pagan Rome and Papal Rome not long after John had recorded all that is written in this book. With all this before us it is easy to see that the word shortly and quickly in this context carries the idea that some of what is spoken would soon begin and continue through the preceding generation and would not finish until Christ returns.

THE TIME IS NEAR. (TIME IS AT HAND IN KJV)

- Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near. (time is at hand in KJV). (Revelation 1:3).

The word "hand," comes from the Greek word (*agkale*) it means, near of place or time, close at hand, nigh at hand and ready. The expression, "the time is near," can apply to any event that is beginning or is soon to occur even though the end of the event might be far away. The time is near in this context carries the idea that a series of events is soon to begin and will stretch far into the future. By using a statement such as, "the time is near," it is certain that John intended to press upon the mind of the faithful the importance of keeping these things upper most in their mind and holding fast to the word of the Lord. During the era of John and the generations following the mind and heart of the faithful has quietly rested and been comforted in the glorious hope and expectation that these things John has written would entirely or in part soon come. The apostle Paul wrote:

- Do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. (2 Peter 3:8-9).

These words clearly highlight the truth that the way in which we view time is not the same as the way God views time.

I AM COMING SOON (QUICKLY IN KJV)

The following verses all speak of Jesus coming soon (quickly in KJV).

- I am coming soon (quickly in KJV). Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. (Rev. 3:11).

- Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you (quickly in KJV) and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. (Rev. 2:5).
- Repent. If not, I will come to you soon (quickly in KJV) and war against them with the sword of my mouth. (Rev. 2:16).
- I am coming soon (quickly in KJV). Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. (Rev. 3:11).
- Behold, I am coming soon (quickly in KJV). Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." (Rev. 22:7).
- Behold, I am coming soon (quickly in KJV) bringing my recompense with me, to repay everyone for what he has done. (Rev. 22:12).
- He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon (quickly in KJV)." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! (Rev. 22:20).

The word shortly and quickly comes from the Greek word (*tachus*), it means shortly, without delay, soon, suddenly by surprise swiftly and quickly, in the context of, "I am coming soon" (quickly in KJV), it carries the following four ideas:

1. This Gospel age is the last age, before Christ returns and he will not allow it to go on forever, but will bring an end to it.
2. The things spoken of in this book will begin to happen very soon and continue through history until Jesus quickly and suddenly returns.
3. When Jesus does come it will be very quickly, much like the flood came upon the world in the days of Noah, this would be in harmony with the following verses:

- As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. (Matthew 24:37-39)

3

And the day fire destroyed Sodom.

- Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, ²⁹but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all— ³⁰so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. (Luke 17:28-30)
 - Jesus himself said, "As the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man." (Matt. 24:27).
4. There is a moment in everyone's lives when death comes knocking and there is no more time and no more opportunity for change and therefore all should redeem the time before the door to eternal life is closed and they hear the eternal Master saying:
 - I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness. (Matt. 7:23).
 - Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. (Matthew. 25:41).
 - I tell you, "I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!" (Luke 13:27).

It could be rightly said that Christ has been progressively coming into people's lives through the Gospel during the last two thousand years and that the predominate thought underlying the expression, "I am coming soon," (quickly in KJV) is that when the Lord does come he will come suddenly, so therefore always be ready or make yourself ready for when he does come.

OVERVIEW

These verses all refer to Christ's return as being at hand, coming soon or coming quickly, yet over two thousand years have already passed since these verses were spoken and the faithful are still patiently waiting for that glorious day. With all this before us it is easy to see that the words, soon, shortly and quickly in these contexts carry the idea that some of what is spoken would soon begin to come to pass, while other parts will continue through the preceding generations and will not finish until Christ returns. When the following verses are kept in mind:

- I am God, and there is none like me, ¹⁰declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose. (Isaiah 46:9-10).

Meaning God declares the entire story from beginning to end, even though it has not yet taken place and may not for centuries, it is easy to understand that the words "I am coming soon," (quickly in KJV) can refer to the beginning of the Gospel age through to its final-end when Jesus suddenly returns in glory.

FOOTNOTE

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.