

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

The Lord Will Come . . . Perhaps Today . . . Behold, I Come Quickly . . . Rev. 22:7

No. 105

November 2020

The Need For A Change In Perception

Introduction

I remember in the 1950's there was a great deal of advertising in Britain saying, "Go to church". In the UK and various parts of the world thousands were gathering in Jack Shuler, Billy Graham, Hadley Murphy campaigns for the good news of the gospel. It was a mini revival, but sadly, it was the last spiritual awakening for many countries across the world. At the same time there was a revolt against Bible reading, then in the 50's and 60's the preventing of prayer and the increase of pagan religion and evolution in the schools and universities. Soon man being without a spiritual rudder delved deep into the morass of corruption which we see today. Something had to be done to awaken man again. God began to repeatedly speak, and at times very loudly.

Where Are We Now?

We do not as yet see how loudly He will speak, but we are seeing the foreshadows of it. If the continuing rate stays steady, the next generation of leaders and decision makers will be "nones." "Nones" are those who do not identify with any religious affiliation or belief system. Like most of Europe, other places in the world will be wholly secular. There will be more and more rejection of Biblical principles, wisdom, sound-logic, and blessings. God must step in before it is too late, warning humanity of how impotent they are.

Now, as I write this (April 2020), the world is in fear and panic. The world is on lock-down. The impending tidal wave of COVID-19 has hit many countries. The daily breaking news reassures people with a bit more clarity and frightens people as the reality of the pandemic sinks in. The uncertainty surrounding the virus and the speed with which it spreads has sent people's emotions, sense of security, and the stock market into confusion and panic.

How Is This Related To Bible Prophecy?

The question so many are pondering is, "Is this the great tribulation the scriptures speak about?", "Is this the beginning of sorrows or the birth pangs?" Since I believe in the Rapture, the answer is "No". That's not to say things won't get tough prior to the Rapture.

- a) What we are witnessing with COVID-19 is God warning humanity that they have gone quite far from Him and they need to take stock of where they are spiritually. He is using creation, such as the locust plague that is ravaging Africa and the Mideast; the increase in earthquake activity; the record-breaking Australian wild fires; the increase and ferocity of hurricanes and volcano eruptions. In so many of these situations man is utterly helpless.
- b) The COVID-19 has shaken all earthly things. Sports, financial markets, distractions, hobbies, concerts, have all been shut down. God has forced man into a "stop" from distractions for a moment in history to plead with the

world again, "Look up! Look to me! This world is temporary. Think about eternal things. I love you, I died for you. Please don't ignore me. Turn to me now while there is time." Scripture says, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" (Isa. 45:22).

[What Should We Do Now?](#)

First we should recognize God is speaking. This virus is not happenstance or mother nature, it is the voice of God warning humanity to prepare to meet God (Amos 4:12). The only way to meet God and avoid deserved condemnation is by the acceptance of the finished work of the Lord at Calvary. It was there He suffered for our sins. This COVID-19 is earthly and many will physically die, but there is a worse death, the scriptures call it the "second death" (Rev. 20:14). That is, when after standing before the Judge of all the earth, each individual who has rejected the all sufficient finished work of Christ will be banished to the blackness of darkness, which is the lake of fire. This virus is God's warning, prepare for eternity. Those who live and die depending on their own good works for escape from God's judgment can now live in the full assurance they will be banished, not might be or maybe, but according to the God of truth, will be cast into Hell for all eternity.

God has given to each human being a free will, the freedom to make decisions. Man is not a robot merely functioning, void of any ability to choose. That freedom to choose in the case of this virus is, "Ought I take precautions or not?"; "Will I just live as normal and not isolate myself and use cleaners to stop the virus if it is transmitted into the house?" The young people that went to Florida for Spring Break had a decision to make, "Will I ignore the warnings of mass gatherings and risk getting the virus, or stay away from such gatherings?" Many decided to go and have their fun refusing to consider the real possibility of contracting the virus and possible death. Their attitude was "So what". Foolishly they were playing Russian roulette and even more tragic, many across the world are doing the same thing spiritually. They know there is a Heaven to gain and a Hell to shun, but they want their own way, to have their present fun and gaiety, and the spiritual attitude is, "So what if there is a Hell, I want to enjoy myself". Wise is the individual who will hear the voice of God and bow in repentance and accept the salvation God so freely offers.

These are serious times and we need to be ready for whatever lies ahead. The scriptures give the pleadings of God when He says. "O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!" (Deut. 32:29). His longing is for each individual to, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" (Isa. 45:22). This is urgent for tomorrow may be too late. God says, "For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2); "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mk. 8:36).

Why do you wait, dear brother, O why do you tarry so long?
Your Savior is waiting to give you, A place in His sanctified throng.

What do you hope, dear brother, To gain by a further delay?
There's no one to save you but Jesus, There's no other way but His way.

Do you not feel, dear brother, His Spirit now striving within?
O, why not accept His salvation, And throw off your burden of sin?

Why do your wait, dear brother? The harvest is passing away,
Your Savior is longing to bless you, There are danger and death in delay.

Do you not feel, dear brother, A dying, accounting concern?
You'll die and appear at the judgment, Beyond every point of return.

Why not? why not? Why not come to Him now?
Why not? why not? Why not come to Him now?

George Frederick Root

This is based on a series of notes by Todd Hampson which were edited by Peter Pilon and then adopted for this paper.

... Rowan Jennings

www.scripturaltruths.org

e-mail: scripturaltruths1@shaw.ca

If you don't wish to receive future Newsletters, please send us an email and we will take your name off the Mailing List.