THE DAY OF THE LORD Pt.2

What is the 'Day of the Lord'?

The 'day of the Lord' is an end-time event that will take place *immediately after the Tribulation*. In order to see this, we must look at two passages...

Acts 2:20

Matthew 24:29

What will take place on the 'day of the Lord'?

The 'day of the Lord' is a day when God *punishes the world* for their sins, particularly for its role in killing and persecuting the saints! The 'day of Lord' will ALSO be a day when God *preserves His people* (those who are still alive) from death.

We said to you that on the 'day of the Lord' the nations of the world will form a multinational army (called the beast in Revelation) and will gather themselves against God's people (Israel).

Zechariah 14:1, 2

The nations of the world (beast) will invade Israel in an attempt to "divide the spoil" or take possession of the land, but a *remnant* (i.e. "residue) shall survive!

For decades nations, particularly Arab nations and their allies, have tried to divide the land of Israel. Apparently, these attempts will reach their climax on the 'day of the Lord!'

When the nations of the world come to 'divide' Israel, God will intervene and fight for His people.

Zechariah 14:3

The method God will use to fight against the nations will be the same method He has used in the past—to turn the nations against themselves! This will result in a kind of "civil war" among the nations.

For example, China might attack Taiwan, North Korea might attack South Korea, etc. Also, as the nations fight against one another they will utilize their full arsenal (i.e. nuclear and chemical weapons). These wars will continue until the END of the 'day of the Lord.' According to Scripture, the 'day of the Lord' will last for one YEAR.

<u>Isaiah 34:8</u>

What shall become of God's people?

Will God's people be *raptured* out of the world when the nations of the world begin to destroy themselves? Surprisingly, God's people will *still* be on the earth!

Zechariah 14:3, 5

God will provide *protection* for His people while He brings judgment upon the world!

This 'protection' will not just be for the Jewish remnant in Israel. The Gentile Church will also be preserved. While the Jews will find safety in the "rocks," the rest of the Church shall find safety in the "kingdom."

Hebrews 12:25–29

²⁵ See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: ²⁶ Whose voice **THEN SHOOK** the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet **ONCE MORE I SHAKE** not the earth only, but also heaven. ²⁷ And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the **REMOVING** of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Wherefore we **RECEIVING A KINGDOM** which **CANNOT BE MOVED**, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: ²⁹ For our **GOD IS A CONSUMING FIRE**.

The question now is, "How long will God's people remain on the earth?"

Isaiah 26:20, 21

God's people will be kept 'hidden' for a "moment." How long is a *moment*?

<u>Isaiah 54:8, 9</u>

Here, a "moment" is similar to the *time* of the "waters of Noah were upon the earth." Apparently, there's a link between the judgment in Noah's day and the judgment that is coming in the last days!

Matthew 24:37

³⁷ But as the **DAYS OF NOE WERE**, so shall also the **COMING OF THE SON OF MAN BE**.

Genesis 7:4

Notice how Noah received a **seven-day** *advance notice* of when God would judgment upon the world in his day. Therefore, it shouldn't surprise us that God would *alert* us **seven years** before He brings judgment upon the world in our day!

The next question is, "What happened to Noah and his family when the the judgment of God finally came?"

<u>Genesis 7:10, 13, 16</u>

When the judgment of God came Noah and his family entered the ark. At this point, they were still technically on the earth! They would remain on earth for a *short* time.

Genesis 7:17

Notice how the waters were upon the earth for 40 days, THEN the ark lifted off the ground! Therefore, Noah and his family remained on earth 40 *additional days* after the judgment of God began. If this is a pattern for us, then God's people will remain on earth an additional 40 days after the 'day of the Lord' begins. Then we, like Noah and his family, will be *lifted up* (raptured) into the sky!

Why is all this important?

The reason we are studying these things is *not* so we can say, "Great. Now I understand what the end will be like," and go back and do whatever we were doing. Instead, there's a *practical* reason for studying these things.

2Peter 3:11

Teachings like this should be a wake-up call that forces us to examine our lives and appropriate changes that will keep us from being destroyed with the world! Unfortunately, many Christians assume all they need to do is have a 'love for God' and a 'love for people' to escape judgement. They're not really motivated live holy and separate themselves from wickedness and wicked people!

2 Peter 3:14–15 Good News Bible

¹⁴ And so, my friends, as you wait for that Day, do your best to be pure and faultless in God's sight and to be at peace with him. ¹⁵ Look on our Lord's patience as the **OPPORTUNITY HE IS GIVING YOU TO BE SAVED**...