The End

From The Beginning



The foretold future of planet Earth

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Does God have a specific plan for this world that He has revealed to mankind through His written word, the Bible? We Read in the Old Testament, Isaiah 46:9-10: Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, ¹⁰ Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

Is this really a true statement proclaimed to humanity by God? Has He truly declared the end from the beginning, and is He still working out His plan and purpose for planet Earth today?

Many so called theologians say they believe in God and claim to be Christian, yet they do not believe in the authority of the scriptures. They may say things like: The Bible contains the word of God, but much of it is just the opinions of men. They pick and choose the parts they believe and don't believe. This is absurd! This type of theologian, not only deceives others, but they themselves are deceived.

2 Timothy 3:13 says: But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

Before going any further, let us consider the authority and trustworthiness of the Bible.

2 Timothy 3, verses 14-17 go on to say: **But continue thou in the things which** thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*; ¹⁵ And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

King David proclaims in Psalm 12:6: The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

He also proclaimed in Psalm 138:2: I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy loving kindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

First Peter 1:24-25 tell us: For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: ²⁵ But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you. The word "gospel" means good news; good news that is certain or inevitable.

Now, since the Bible has proclaimed itself to be preserved word of God, and the final authority in all matters of faith and practice, let us now continue and see if God is still working out His plan for this world, and has indeed declared the end from the beginning in the Bible. Hebrews 1:1-3 tell us: God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, ² Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; ³ Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. Moving down to verse 8: But unto the Son *he* (GOD) *saith*, Thy throne, O God, *is* for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness *is* the sceptre of thy kingdom.

To gain clear understanding of what these verses mean, and what they have to do with God's plan for this world, we need to look at what God told His people by way of the prophets. The Bible is full of declarations spoken by God's prophets that reveal how the future will unfold. God's prophets have accurately declared specific events in perfect detail many years, centuries, even millenniums before they occur. There were approximately 2500 prophecies written, and around 2000 of them have already been fulfilled. From this, we can rest assured knowing that the remaining unfulfilled prophecies will also come to pass. Most of their writings declare the coming of God's servant Messiah who will redeem mankind and rule the earth in an everlasting kingdom of righteousness.

One of the many prophets God used to declare the future was Isaiah. 700 years before Jesus was born, this prophet of God proclaimed in Isaiah 9:6-7: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

This prophecy was partially fulfilled 700 years later when Jesus was born into the world and at age 33 laid down His life: a sacrificial payment for the sin debt of the world. Three days later He was raised from the dead with a glorified body. Then, after spending time with his disciples: instructing them to go into all the world and preach the gospel (the good news of His death, burial, resurrection, and com-

ing eternal kingdom), He ascended up to Heaven. (See: Luke 24, Acts 1)

The rest of the Isaiah 9 prophecy (The Government on His shoulders) will be fulfilled when Jesus returns to set up His eternal kingdom of righteousness on the earth. We already saw in Hebrews chapter one that the Son of God (Jesus) created the worlds, He upholds all things by the word of His power, He is the brightness and express image of God Himself, and the rightful heir of all things. He will also be the head of an everlasting government in a kingdom of peace and prosperity here on earth. He will sit on the throne of David in Israel, and His coming kingdom will be established with judgment and with justice.

From the Isaiah chapter nine prophecy, we must conclude that the kingdoms of this world will soon become the kingdoms of God. This is confirmed in the book of Revelation, chapter 11, verse 15: And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

When examining the scriptures in the light of what has happened in the past and what is happening today, we begin to see that God truly *has* proclaimed the end from the beginning. We begin to see that God's counsel does stand with the test of time, and that He is working out His plan for this world. All prophecies have been, and continue to be, fulfilled with 100% accuracy. With this in mind, we must conclude that all prophecies pertaining to the future will also be fulfilled with 100% accuracy. We must conclude that God will finish what He has started.

People often ask: If there is a God, why does He allow so much suffering and pain in the world? It is impossible, especially in our current condition, to completely understand why the world must go through the sufferings of this current age, but we do know that when God's work is finished the end result will be amazing.

There is a day coming when all suffering will end for those who have put their trust in God and His Christ, the Lord Jesus. Revelation 21:4-5 state: And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. ⁵ And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Today, however, mankind, the animals, the plants, even the ground, are all under the curse of sin. Sin is the reason there is suffering and death in this current world, and it was brought on by one man's disobedience to God.

Genesis 3:17-19, God speaking: And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hear-kened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life; ¹⁸ Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; ¹⁹ In the

sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.

If anyone wants to play the blame game they can blame Adam, but we all stand guilty before Almighty God. Romans 5:12 says: Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. Romans 6:23, also proclaims: the wages of sin is death! Therefore, because all have sinned, every person's sin must, and will, be paid for with death.

Is the world then doomed and destined for complete destruction because of sin? No! God, in His infinite plan and love for mankind, has provided a solution: a way out of the problem mankind is unable to fix on his own. Do you remember what God, the Father, said to God, the Son, in Hebrews 1:8? But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

Because His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom of righteousness, and because all are born under the curse of sin and death, Jesus came the first time to redeem us from our sin, to provide a way out of our current dilemma of depravity, to provide a way for us all to partake in His coming everlasting kingdom. This is the gospel, and this truly is good news!

Because God is holy and just, He dealt with sin according to His law. He gave His Son, who laid down His own life, so that we who are condemned to die might be given the gift of eternal life. He paid our penalty for sin, which is death, with His own sacrificial death on the cross.

Romans 6:23 states: For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:8 says: God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom. 5:18-19 say: Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. ¹⁹ For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

1 Peter 3:18 proclaims: For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened (made alive) by the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 5:21, For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. This truly is good news. God has dealt with sin and is now building His eternal kingdom one soul at a time.

How can we be included? First, we must believe the word of God: sin brings death. We must then be honest with ourselves and with God. We must be willing to turn

from sin to Jesus. We must be willing to humbly bow before Him and admit we are guilty of sin and ask for His mercy and grace. We must be willing to confess to God that Jesus died for our sin, and that He was raised from the dead. Then and only then will we receive this gift of eternal life and become a citizen in His coming eternal kingdom.

Ephesians 2:8-9 state: For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

When we by faith believe and trust the promises found in God's Word, and take action by praying to God confessing our faith in who Jesus is and what he has done for us, God saves us by giving us spiritual life through His Holy Spirit. This is what's known as becoming born again: born of the Spirit of God.

This is why Jesus responded the way He did to Nicodemus in John 3:1-7: There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: ² The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. ³ Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. ⁴ Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Like most people today, Nicodemus was thinking purely in the physical sense.

⁵ Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

When we are born of God's Spirit, our spiritual eyes are opened. We begin to sense God's presence in our life: we begin to have a personal relationship with Him. It's like receiving an earnest payment for eternal life. The best way to explain this miracle from God is with scripture. The Apostle Paul explains it well in Ephesians 1:13-14: In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

We receive a down payment of the Spirit of God that seals us for salvation and begins to open our spiritual eyes to the spiritual truth found in His holy word.

What a wonderful God and Creator we have!

John 3:16-18 say: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting

life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

One way the glory of Jesus Christ was revealed before His death, burial and resurrection, is found in Matthew 17:1-9: And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, ² And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. ³ And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. ⁴ Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. ⁵ While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. ⁶ And when the disciples heard *it*, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. ⁷ And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid. ⁸ And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only. ⁹ And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.

Then, after the death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, while writing of the truth of Christianity, Peter, had this to say about that same event in Second Peter 1:16-18: For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. ¹⁸ And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

Imagine, they heard the voice of God and saw Jesus transformed right before their very eyes. What an amazing thing! But can we really believe such a wonderful thing truly happened? Someone hearing these words may be asking this very question right now: can this be true?

Peter proclaimed himself to be an eyewitness, yet knowing that some reading his words may have had doubts about what he was saying, he went on to proclaim that the scriptures (the Old Testament) held more authority than his own eyewitness.

He continues in verses 19-21: We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: ²⁰ Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. ²¹ For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

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This begs the question: what is this sure word of prophecy? We already looked at the prophecy about a Son given 700 years before it happened. Yes, the Son was given and if other prophecies regarding Messiah have also come to pass, the following being good examples, we can rest assured that the prophecies regarding His coming government and eternal kingdom will also come to pass. So let's take a look at what Isaiah also foretold would happen to Jesus. Remember, this also was written 700 years before Jesus was born.

Isaiah 53:6-12 say: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. 7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. 8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. 9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. 10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. 11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. This is exactly what took place with Jesus in the New Testament 700 years later!

Or what about the prophetic words spoken by King David in the 22nd Psalm, 1000 years before Jesus was born! Verse 1: My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring? Verses 14-18: I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. ¹⁵ My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death. ¹⁶ For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. ¹⁷ I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me. ¹⁸ They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

Compare this with what took place in the New Testament at the crucifixion of Jesus. King David's words were undeniably a prophetic picture of the sacrificial sufferings of Jesus Christ for mankind! (See Matt. 27:35, Mark 15:24, Luke 23:34)

This is why Jesus said what He did to the unbelieving Jews in John 5:39: Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

The Son was given some 2000 years ago. Soon the government will be on His shoulders. Jesus is coming back! The day the Bible refers to as "The Great and Terrible Day of the Lord" is now at hand. It will be great for those that have trusted in Jesus Christ. It will be terrible for those who will not believe in Jesus.

The Great and Terrible Day of the Lord will begin when the Lord, Jesus Christ, removes all true born again Christians from the earth. This happens at a time when peace and safety will be proclaimed on Earth, but at that same time a great sudden destruction will also take place. (see 1 Thessalonians, chapters 4-5)

At that time, the world will erupt into complete confusion and total anarchy setting the stage for the man of sin, the counterfeit Christ - antichrist, to come onto the world scene doing great signs and wonders. Through his elaborate deceptions he will captivate the world. He will restore order by confirming a seven year peace agreement with many. The confirmation of this covenant will signal the beginning of the final seven years of world history before the true Christ, the Lord Jesus, returns to set up His kingdom of righteousness. (see 2 Thessalonians chapter 2, Daniel chapter 8 & Revelation 13:7-8)

After the first three and a half years of the final seven year period before Jesus returns, the great tribulation will begin. We are told in Matthew 24:21-22: For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. ²² And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved.

At the end of the great tribulation, Jesus Christ will return with the saints (Resurrected Christians) and set up His kingdom on earth. Matthew 24:27 tells us: For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

John, who was caught up to Heaven and given a vision of the future, proclaims in Revelation 19:11-16: And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. ¹² His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. ¹³ And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

Remembering Revelation, 11:15: And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the

kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. This will complete the fulfillment of the Isaiah chapter nine prophesy.

Yes, soon, and very soon, this world will be transformed into the wonderful world God intends it to be, the world it is destined to be. When He comes, and He could come at any moment, will you face the wrath of Almighty God, or will you be part of His wonderful kingdom of righteousness?

Why do I keep saying soon? Romans 9:28 For he will finish the work, and cut *it* short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth. Yes, the time left is very short!

We live in a world today that has fallen away from these foundational truths found in God's Holy Word. Today we live in a world where the pleasures of sin are glorified and glamorized. Don't be fooled by the pleasures of sin that last but for a short season then bring forth death. Trust in Jesus Christ while there is still time.

Everyone over the age of accountability understands right from wrong. God has written His law in our hearts. Everyone knows lying is wrong, stealing is wrong, adultery is wrong, and murder is wrong. Everyone also knows they have broken at least one of God's laws, but sadly most will reject the truth because they love this current world and the pleasures of sin more than they love God.

Jesus tells us, in Matthew 7:13-14, to: Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: ¹⁴ Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. John 14:6, Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Jesus had this to say about people who reject the truth in John 3:19-21, And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. ²¹ But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Are you willing to do the truth? Will you confess to God that you are guilty of sin, and ask to be forgiven through Jesus? Are you willing to confess He paid the penalty for your sin by sacrificing His own life on the cross? Will you also believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead? If so, or if you have already done so, you will be saved.

We do not have a hope so salvation, we have a know so salvation. Romans 10:9, 10 & 13 say: That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. This is a promise!

Verse 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. This is a promise!

Verse 13: For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. This is a promise!

Thank God we have promises! Do you believe these promises from God?

John 3:36 says: He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

First John 5:10-13 say: He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. ¹¹ And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. ¹³ These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

"The Day of the Lord" is coming! If you have not already done so, take action now. Pray to God, confessing you are a sinner, and that Jesus died for your sin. Confess also that you believe God raised Him from the dead. Ask Him for mercy through the finished work of Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.

John 6:35: And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

Verse 37: All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

Verse 40: And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. Revelation 22:20-21

Conclusion:

We are all born in sin, under the curse of death; but thanks be to God, we do not have to stay there. We can believe and trust Jesus Christ, and receive the gift of eternal life and become a citizen in His coming eternal kingdom! **How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?** Hebrews 2:3

Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, even thy salvation, according to thy word. Psalm 119:41 \$10\$

Examining The Forgotten Foundational Truths Found In God's Holy Written Word...

Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.

He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish *from* the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all they that put their trust in him. Psalms 2

Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

Isaiah 46:9-10