

THY KINGDOM COME

Little do many realize that Jesus was born to be a king and rule this world, and the nations of this world (John 18:37). He will rule the nations of this world with a rod of iron (Rev. 12:5; 2:26-27). The difference between Jesus' rule and man's rule is that His will have no end (Luke 1:33; Is. 9:7).

How reliable is biblical prophecy? It has never failed once in history, nor can it fail.

For example: Jesus told His apostles that they would all fall away. The reason Jesus told them this is because it was prophesied to happen, so it had to happen (Matt. 26:31).

Judas was prophesied to betray Jesus Christ so that Scripture might be fulfilled (John 17:12; Ps. 41:9). Joseph of Arimathea was fulfilling a prophecy in Isaiah 22:16 when he gave his tomb, which he had hewn out of a rock, to Jesus (Matt. 27:60; Is. 53:9; Matt. 27:57). Jesus was prophesied to be pierced (Is. 53:5; Rev. 1:7; Zech. 12:10).

God even prophesied at one time about a king who would be born about 100 years in the future. His name was King Cyrus (Is. 45:1-7; 2 Chron. 36:22-23; Ezra 1:1-3; Dan. 10:1). He was prophesied to let the Jews go back to Jerusalem to build a temple for the Lord. These prophecies were fulfilled and Cyrus' tomb is in Iran to this day.

Prophecy has never once failed and never will.

According to Scripture, Jesus is prophesied to reign:

Psalm 10:16—The Lord is King forever.

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Psalm 47:8—God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.

Psalm 72:11—Let all kings bow down before Him; all nations serve Him.

Psalm 82:8—Arise, O God, judge the earth! For it is You who possess all the nations.

Psalm 86:9—All nations will come and worship Jesus Christ.

Psalm 96:10—Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns."

Revelation 11:15—The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.

Romans 14:11—For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

The prophecy of Jesus Christ's reign will be fulfilled very shortly! It won't be long now, before the Lord Jesus Christ is King of the earth. Just think of it!

"Jesus Christ is going to literally rule on this earth."

Jesus Christ is going to literally rule on this earth. He will rule all the nations of this earth from His temple in Jerusalem.

Jesus' saints, who overcame their evil natures by keeping His deeds and endured to the end, will rule with Him and reign on this earth (Rev. 2:26-27; 5:10; 1:6). Can you believe it? We will rule with Jesus Christ in His temple because we overcame (Rev. 3:12).

"Will the nations of this earth rejoice over Jesus' return to this earth?"

Will the nations of this earth rejoice over Jesus' return to this earth? On the contrary—the nations shall be enraged (Rev. 11:17-18). The Lord is going to cause the armies of the nations of this world to go to battle with Him at Jerusalem. They will gather at Har-Magedon but will fight in Jerusalem (Zech. 14:2-7; Is. 66:15-16; 34:1-2).

All nations who forget God are regarded as nothing before Him—as a drop in the bucket (Is. 40:15-17).

The nations that will not serve God's saints will perish (Is. 60:12; Jer. 3:17).

In Psalm 2:1-3, it is prophesied that the armies of the nations will devise a plan, a military plan, to destroy the Lord when He returns.

The kings of the earth take their stand against the Lord and His anointed. The Lord, who sits in the heavens, will laugh at them—He scoffs at them. Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury (Ps. 2:2, 4-6).

They do not realize that it is God who makes nations great, then destroys them when they forget Him (Job 12:23; Ps. 9:17).

"The kingdoms of this world are the Lord's, and He will rule over them (Ps. 22:28)."

Yes, the Lord will reign forever (Ps. 10:16). The kingdoms of this world are the Lord's, and He will rule over them (Ps. 22:28).

Be Counted Worthy

In 1 Peter 3:13 the Apostle Peter said, "Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good?" On the surface, you might casually look at this Scripture with a "ho-hum" attitude, never realizing that you are looking at a key Scripture in the Bible.

"The word "zealous" is interchangeable with the words "steadfast," "persevering," "steady" and "wholehearted."

The word "zealous" is interchangeable with the words "steadfast," "persevering," "steady" and "wholehearted." Already, 1 Peter 3:13 is taking on more meaning. When you realize that God is purifying a people for Himself who are zealous or wholehearted for good deeds, you begin to realize this is the overcoming process that Jesus came to show us. No wonder it is called the Way of righteousness (Titus 2:14; Matt. 21:32). Now, we can see new meaning to the Scripture that warns us not to get weary in being zealous for doing good (2 Thess. 3:13). Now, we can see it would be impossible for our righteousness to exceed that of the Pharisees unless we were wholehearted or zealous for what is good (Matt. 5:20)! It is this very attitude of perseverance toward righteousness that gualifies us to win (Luke 21:19).

Now, we know why true disciples of Jesus Christ were persevering or being zealous for what was good. They were seeking for glory and honor and immortality (Rom. 2:7). Being zealous for what is good is how this is done.

"Now, we know how to be counted worthy to escape all the evil that is very shortly going to come to pass on this world." Now, we know how to be counted worthy to escape all the evil that is very shortly going to come to pass on this world (Luke 21:36). Be zealous for what is good. Be zealous for doing good. Be zealous for serving God. Be zealous for serving others. Simple, isn't it?

Now, Scriptures such as Revelation 3:10 jump out at us with new conviction. Because we persevered in keeping His word, with His attitude of perseverance (*being zealous*), Jesus says, "I will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world to test those who dwell on the earth." Wow! Now, we know what it takes to be found worthy.

"What is the test that is coming upon the whole world?"

What is the test that is coming upon the whole world? First of all, let's realize most people wouldn't repent, change, turn around, and seek the Lord unless they had to. God is going to make conditions on this earth that will drive many to Him. God is not wishing for any to perish, but wants all to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9). God must rid the world of wicked and uncaring people by finding out who will serve Him, repent by being zealous for what is good and serving others, and who will not (Ps. 68:2; Mal. 3:18; Is. 55:7). The Lord does not have pleasure in the death of the wicked but rather that they should turn from their wicked ways and live by keeping only God's Ways (Ezek. 18:23). God's Ways, then, are being zealous for what is good.

Prophecy is merely history written in advance by the Lord, who knows the beginning from the end. God prophesies through Isaiah, the prophet, that people will go into caves or holes in the ground because of God's terror that will come upon this world (Is. 2:19). John, who wrote the book of Revelation, said the very same thing in

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Revelation 6:15-17. The Apostle Luke said the same in Luke 23:30. After the Lord's wrath is past, the Lord will send men who fish for men (fishermen) to coax people from the caves and holes in the ground in which they have been hiding (Jer. 16:16; ls. 49:9).

How bad is it going to get?

How bad is it going to get? One-third of mankind will be killed (Rev. 9:15). God is going to send angels of destruction and some of them will cause so much pain, on those who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads, that they will cry out for death (Ps. 78:49; Rev. 9:4-6). A third of all trees will be burned up and all the green grass will be burned up (Rev. 8:7). One-third of all life in the sea will die (Rev. 8:9). One-third of all the ships will be destroyed (Rev. 8:9). Then an angel of God says, "Woe! Woe! Woe! to those who dwell on the earth" because of the remaining plagues (Rev. 8:13).

God is bringing these plagues on this earth to determine who will repent, return to God and serve Him by being zealous for what is good. However, those who survive the plaque that kills one-third of all mankind, still won't repent of worshiping the beast and his image. They won't repent of worshiping man-made statues, which are idols, or other religious memorabilia and reminders, which is idolatry in Biblical terms. They will not repent of their murders they committed, by sacrificing their children to Satan or aborting their babies because of their sin of fornication or adultery. They will not repent of their stealing, sorcery, channeling, astrology, fortune telling, palm reading or seances (Lev. 18:30, 22-23; 19:26 AMPC, 28-31; 20:6, 13-23, 25-27).

The Lord even prophesied in Deuteronomy 4:30 that in the latter days during a time of great distress, many will return to the Lord by being zealous for what is good for God. This is what is meant by the word "repent." Revelation 14:9-10

tells us, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb." They will suffer loathsome and malignant sores upon their body (Rev. 16:2). All these things will take place during three and one-half years, which is the total amount of time the Lord will allow the religious false movement of the beast and the false prophet to reign (Rev. 13:5).

"God is now calling for His people, the ones He is calling in this dark age, to come out of this world system that is destined to perish."

God is now calling for His people, the ones He is calling in this dark age, to come out of this world system that is destined to perish (Rev. 18:4). I thank God that He has shown us how to come out, by being zealous for what is good, for Him (James 1:22; 1 John 3:18-22). God is making holy people who are justified because they are daily doers of His word, by being zealous for what is good. They do His Will on this earth daily by being zealous for what is good. When you love others and serve others with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength and all your mind, you will not only be zealous for what is good, but you will be worshiping God in Spirit and in truth. This is the only way He wishes to be worshiped (John 4:23-24; Rom. 6:13; 12:1).

Being zealous for doing good results in blessings, change of character and spiritual growth. It is how you overcome evil by doing good if you will abide forever (Ps. 37:27). It is how you become a new creature or creation (Gal. 6:15). We are not to lose heart, in doing good for God, so we can reap all these wonderful blessings (Gal. 6:9).

Be County Worthy

Being zealous for doing good is how you sow to the Spirit and reap eternal life (Gal. 6:8). It is how you practice the fruits of God's Spirit toward others (Gal. 5:22-23).

"Be zealous for what is good. It is how you walk in the Spirit so you will not carry out the evil desires of the flesh."

Be zealous for what is good. It is how you walk in the Spirit so you will not carry out the evil desires of the flesh (Gal. 5:16). It is how you put to death the evil deeds of the body — being zealous for the Spirit by being zealous for what is good (Rom. 8:13). It is the fastest way to conversion, the fastest way to receive blessings, the fastest way to receive answered prayers, and the fastest way into the good life of abundance and every good thing. It is the fastest way to be at peace with God and be His personal friend (Jer. 17:10; Rev. 2:23; Rom. 2:6).

"Now you have the key. For heaven's sake don't lose it."

The only way to become wholly devoted to God is to be zealous for what is good. Simple, isn't it? Now you have the key. For heaven's sake don't lose it. You have heard, I am sure, accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, and be baptized in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. What is missing from this message is repentance. Unless you are told how to repent and that it is a righteous Way you are expected to live, you have not heard the complete gospel. Now you have. Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? After all, it is only those people who did the good deeds that will be resurrected to eternal life, Jesus Christ says in John 5:29.□

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Yes, the Lord will rule over the nations and He will sit on His holy throne in Jerusalem (Ps. 47:8). All the nations of the world will be required to go up to Jerusalem to God's holy throne once a year to be instructed in the Ways of the Lord (Is. 2:2-4; Micah 4:1-3; Zech. 14:16; Ps. 46:8-11). The Lord will withhold the rain from those nations that will not come (Zech. 14:17; Ps. 9:5-10).

I have before me thirteen pages of Scriptures relating to the Lord's kingdom that is coming

soon. It's a shame I can only use a few in this article, for what an awesome picture it paints. It is very clear that anyone who will not learn righteousness will die (Is. 26:10; Ezek. 33:31-33).

Now is the time to repent and learn righteousness by practicing righteousness daily to please the Lord, for His kingdom is coming soon (Is. 1:16-17; Titus 3:14)!

Are You Testing God?

Anciently God sent His prophets to tell His people their sins and how to repent from those sins by keeping His Ways. Anciently God sent His prophets to tell His people what their ministers were not telling them, namely how to repent from their sins by keeping God's Ways. This was done shortly before God's judgment would come upon the people. All those who did not listen to God's prophets were testing God. John the Baptist was consecrated in his mother's womb to be a prophet of God (Luke 1:15). His job was to go as a forerunner before the Lord and warn the people to flee from their sins before God's wrath would come (Luke 3:7). Baptist John went on to say that the axe was already being laid at the root of the trees, and everyone who would not begin to build godly character in their lives by disciplining themselves for the purpose of godliness and overcome a life of evil by living a life of doing good towards others for repentance, would be ultimately thrown into the lake of fire (Luke 3:8-9). God's wrath ultimately came upon His people in 70 A.D. with the total destruction of Jerusalem. Only those who received the call of repentance were spared, and many of them died also, to receive their crowns (Rev. 2:10; 14:13; 11:18; 7:13-17; 6:10-11).

John the Baptist was accomplishing the same mission as Elijah, the prophet, was anciently. Elijah's message was-if God be God then serve Him (1 Kings 18:21). John the Baptist was telling the people how to serve God by serving people. This was the truth on how God wants man to repent of his wickedness or his wicked ways. This was the message that was withheld from the people by the ministers who were serving themselves instead of serving the people and God. These people were not being told how to repent and overcome the evil in their natures. They simply were not being told how to be new creatures for God. They were not being told how to be righteous before God because they were not told the message of righteousness, which is the Way of righteousness (Matt. 21:32). So this is the answer to why God sent His prophets in the past.

"Now, in the last days, God is going to once again send His prophets to warn the people of God's wrath that is to come."

Now, in the last days, God is going to once again send His prophets to warn the people of God's wrath that is to come. It will come right after the true message of the gospel of the kingdom of God is preached (Matt. 24:14). Those people who heed this true message from God will be hated by all nations once again (Matt. 24:9). They will stand before judges in the courts and be whipped in the churches. They will stand before governors because they believe in the true gospel, the testimony of Jesus Christ (Mark 13:9-13; Rev. 12:17). This time of the end is called the great and terrible day of the Lord in Malachi 4:6. It is called the days of vengeance in Luke 21:22, the day of the Lord, or the Lord's day, in Revelation 1:10. The Lord's day in no way refers to Sunday worship like people have been told by their false prophets. In the last days a man will come in the spirit of Elijah, with Elijah's true message on how to serve and worship God in the spirit, and not in the letter of the law (Mal. 4:5-6; Luke 1:17). That person will teach people how to be obedient to God and thus make a people ready or prepared to meet the Lord.

"Time will reveal to us God's whole plan."

God will also send two witnesses (Rev. 11). These witnesses could be the ones who come as Elijah and another man, or it could be two totally different men. Time will reveal to us God's whole plan. One thing is for sure—they all will have and preach the same message as Elijah. Will we test God by refusing to listen to them, or will we heed their warning and obey God in all things? Dear Whole Wheat Readers,

I have been singing lately, "Thank you Lord for showing me...Your special love. It's a gift direct from You, sent from heaven above" from our gospel song Thank you Lord, written by our founder's wife. I was listening to this song, now available to stream directly on our website, all throughout the week, after going through the articles in this issue. I was thanking God, from my heart, for the special gift of revealing His Will and Ways to me (Acts 22:14). I was so thankful to God because I can see what is coming in the very near future, for the people of the earth, and actually have God's direction how to avoid it and be spared. It brings to mind one of the Scriptures quoted in this issue, "Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good" (1 Pet. 3:13).

In the Old Testament, God wanted to be King over the nation of Israel. They did not want God as King but a man, like the other surrounding nations (1 Sam. 8:7). And rather than reap all of the promises that God had for the nation of Israel, those promises turned into curses that led to the gradual downfall of the nation under the rulership of man. Read about how this is not going to happen again in our lead article, *Thy Kingdom Come*. The wonderful promises God had for the nation of Israel will again bring hope to those living for Him in all that will come about in the very near future. I am so grateful that God is my King and that I can cling to His promises.

With all the ways the world is so quickly falling apart, I feel as if I am in a protective bubble or as another gospel song on <u>wholehwheatonline.com</u> says, "Under Your wings Lord I will hide." Being under God's wing is a metaphor for being protected by God from what is coming (Ps. 91:4). Our article *Be Counted Worthy,* tells you how to be under God's wing. We have been called out of the world and are the apple of God's eye, when we live for Him. What a blessing to be under His grace and boy, does it bring peace and security when the world is crumbling all around us (Eph. 2:1-10; Ps. 17:8).

As in the past, God sent prophets to warn people and He is going to send prophets again with a certain message. This time it will be for the whole world. Who are these people and what is their message? It's an exciting read in our article, *Are You Testing God*? Check it out.

Then in our final article, *The Ultimate Revelation*, is what gives me reason to sing *Thank you Lord!* This revelation is so close to my heart and what I strive for every day. I hope you will join me in thanking God every day, not only in word but in deed (1 John 3:18). To be under His wing of protection is a gift that keeps on giving, for all eternity. My heart is overflowing with *Gratitude* (*another Whole Wheat song on our website*)!

What is the hope that is within you (1 Pet. 3:15)? Stay alert and be sober, but don't let this troubled world weigh you down, instead, make the most of your days with all God has shown you. Then you too, can sing to the Lord, bless His name and proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day (Ps. 96:1-2).

In His Love,

Scott



The Ultimate Revelation

One day, it was revealed to me by the Lord that consistency in doing what is right, is perseverance in good works. We must study God's word and put it into action consistently. It was also shown to me that striving to enter by the narrow door is simply consistency in doing what Jesus—the door—has told us to do (John 10:7-9; Luke 13:24).

Jesus lived only to do the Will of the Father while He was here on earth. We are to do the same (1 Peter 2:15; 4:2, 19). If we are effectual doers of the Lord's words, we will be blessed in all that we do (James 1:25). If we are fulfilling the royal law, the way Scripture says we should, we are loving our neighbor as ourselves and are acceptable in God's eyes (James 2:8; Matt. 22:37-40).

Then a day later, God revealed to me that the only truth in this universe is God's Ways. He showed me that God's Ways are the same as God's laws; and God's laws are the same as God's Will. It is very plain, in God's word, that we are to keep His commandments by walking in God's Ways and doing God's Will on this earth, as it is done in heaven (Deut. 28:9, 15; Matt. 6:10).

The kingdom of God message requires us to build godly character through disciplining ourselves

according to the Way God lives (Matt. 21:43-44; 1 Tim. 4:7; 1 Peter 2:8). God's Ways, then, are the way God walks, talks, thinks and lives. God's Ways are God's laws, God's Will. God's Ways are all righteous. They are truth. They are unchangeable (Heb. 13:8; Mal. 3:6). They are as solid as a rock.

No wonder Jesus said, "I am the Way, and the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). The Way Jesus lived is an example that we are to follow. Jesus is the truth. He came with the truth; He lived the truth by living the righteous Way. His life is the example of how we are to live. He is the life, for He is the creator of all life. He gives eternal life to those He wishes (John 5:21, 39-40; 1 John 5:11-12).

Jesus was prophesied to come and speak only the Father's words in the Father's name (Deut. 18:18-19; John 6:63; 17:8). If we do not listen to the words Jesus received from the Father, we will be condemned (John 12:47-50). Jesus came down from heaven to do the Father's Will on earth and show us how to be pleasing to the Father (John 6:38). Since we now have an example set by Jesus, we are without an excuse if we refuse to live by God's holy and precious Ways (John 15:22).□



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