

#58 *FORUM POST ON “FOR EVER AND EVER”

THREAD TITLE: “FOR HE MUST REIGN UNTIL HE HAS PUT ALL ENEMIES UNDER HIS FEET” 1COR 15:25

Dear FaithWillDo,

I think this verse means that Jesus will reign until he has brought all mankind into his kingdom.

What does it mean to you?

P

Dear P _____,

Essentially your answer is correct. Once all mankind is in the Kingdom of Heaven, death and sin will be defeated and 1Cor 15:20-28 will be fulfilled:

1Cor 15:20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection from the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. 24 Then cometh the consummation, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. 25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. 28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

After Christ has fulfilled 1Cor 15:20-28, Christ's reign will come to an end because there is no more work left for Him to perform and therefore, no reason for Him to continue reigning (serving).

Some people will argue that Christ's reign will never end by pointing out verses like these:

Exo 15:18 The LORD shall reign for ever and ever (olam ad).

Rev 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 (aion aion).

However, these translations are incorrect.

So what does "for ever and ever" mean anyway? Doesn't "for ever" get the job done? Why is

there another "ever" added?

The reason the translators add another "ever" to the sentence is because there is another word left to account for in the original language. And because they incorrectly translated the Hebrew word "olam" and the Greek word "aion" as meaning for ever, they have no choice but to add another "ever" to the phrase to support their error.

Olam/aion only means "age" and it works quite well to always translate it that way. The problem the translators have in translating it that way is that in doing so, it will violate the teachings of the apostate church. So rather than translate it as it should be translated, they translated it to conform to their false beliefs.

The proper translation of the Hebrew phrase "olam ad" is "only for the ages".

The Hebrew word "ad", when referring to time, means "limited to" or "only until" or words to that effect. When it follows "olam" (age), it means that the presiding statement is limited to the age or ages.

As far as I know, there are no translations which translate "olam ad" as meaning "only for the ages". However, if it is not translated that way, then many verses of scriptures will contradict each other. And as you know, scripture NEVER contradicts itself.

The proper translation of the Greek phrase "aion aion" is "ages of the ages".

The YLT correctly translates it that way.

One other point to keep in mind: the teachings of scripture primarily apply to the "ages" of time which God created. Very little is taught in scripture which does not apply to the ages. When scripture wants to say that something exists outside of the ages, it will say words like "immortal" or "never ends". Scripture never uses the word "aion" to mean for ever.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Another amazing post, Joe! Thank you for sharing!

P

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

Shortly after the Apostles died, the spirit of anti-Christ devoured the church and made it apostate. Nothing has changed since that time.

It seems that some of us have escaped false doctrines.

P

Dear P _____,

Yes, a "few" have escaped, but only because of the spiritual work of Christ within them. They are the Elect and are His workmanship.

Have you considered this one verse parable before:

Mat 13:33 Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

The "woman" represents the Great Harlot (a believer's "worse than the first" carnal nature). She takes leaven from Satan and hides it in "three" measures of meal (the truth of God). The number three represents a spiritual process and in this case, the process causes the believer to be made "worse than the first" (**Mat 12:43-45**).

After the Great Harlot bakes the loaf of bread, the whole loaf is leavened (Satan false truth). But since the leaven is hidden in the loaf, the believer who eats this bread does not know that it teaches "another gospel". They believe it is teaching the true Gospel of Christ. And to make matters worse for the believer, Satan's gospel is pleasing to their carnal nature so they gladly consume it without questioning it. They believe it must be true because it sounds so right.

But in the end, the believer will spiritually die after consuming the leavened bread. The believer will then begin dwelling in "peace and safety" (**1Thes 5:2-3**) in the apostate church (under Satan's deception), all the while believing that they are saved, when in fact, they are not. They have fallen from grace and remain under the Law. Their only hope is for Christ to "come again" to them and pour out the Latter Rain and heal their spiritual blindness.

If they are chosen, Christ will come again before they physically die. When He comes, their new spiritual vision which He gives them will reveal the Man of Sin (themselves) to them. When this occurs, Christ's judgment will fall on the Man of Sin and will destroy him in the Lake of Fire. This is the believer's moment of conversion.

If the believer is not chosen, Christ will not return to them before they physically die. They will later be resurrected to judgment with the unbelievers. At that time, Christ will say to them "I never knew you" (**Mat 7:23**).

This parable I explained above applies to all (100%) believers shortly after they receive the Early Rain and are called out from the world. Once in the church, Satan will feed them his leavened bread through their carnal nature. Because the whole loaf is leavened, all the teachings of the apostate church are false.

This time of being in the apostate church is called mankind's "Day of Evil". This is Satan's day when He rules mankind from "within" via the spirit of anti-Christ.

In contrast to the Day of Evil is the "Day of the Lord" when Christ rules mankind from "within" via the Holy Spirit.

Satan's "day" destroys mankind. The Lord's "day" saves mankind.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

My brother, for once I'm not sure that I agree with your understanding.

I doubt that one needs to be a highly educated theologian with a perfect understanding to be saved in this temporary age or the eternal age. I believe in the loving, merciful, nature of God. I believe that those who love and follow God and love their neighbors are going to be saved, even if Satan has caused them to believe a false teaching.

P

Dear P _____,

To be saved, Christ created a pathway we must travel to reach our salvation. It involves receiving the Early and Latter Rains from Christ.

From these gifts, Christ will reveal His truth to the believer. From this truth, the believer will come out from the Law and will come under Grace through Faith. This happens because the believer begins trusting Christ to provide all the necessary works for their salvation. In other words, the believer MUST repent of their own works. And their repentance happens because of the work that Christ does within the believer beforehand. Nothing is left to chance or to mankind's supposed "free will". Christ is the Savior and He is the One who makes our salvation happen. He is the one who gives us understanding and who causes us to repent of our works. This is the "truth" which we must receive in order to be saved. And as I said, Christ will cause that to happen, not us. We have no works to do for our salvation because Christ does them all. Because of such, we have nothing to boast about concerning our salvation.

As for all the other truth of God's Word, scripture calls it "treasure". It is not necessary to understand all things which are taught in God's Word to be saved. But when we find it, it is like finding treasure:

Prov 2:1 My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, 2 making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; 3 yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, 4 if you seek it like silver

and search for it as for hidden treasures, 5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

With this treasure, it makes our love and faith grow stronger so that we mature from a "babe" to a "son". And like before, Christ is the one who will make this happen, too. Once we are saved, we have entered into the "rest" of Christ because we have learned to depend on Him to do all the necessary work for our salvation and subsequent spiritual growth. This is what it is meant to have a "saving faith". This is the truth we must receive.

As for loving God and our neighbors, those are some of the evidences of our salvation. Salvation comes first, then the evidence of that salvation follows in the form of works of faith.

James said this:

James 2:18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

But even those works of faith are not ours to boast about. They are the works of Christ:

Isa 26:12 O Jehovah, thou appointest peace to us, for, all our works also thou hast wrought for us.

We are His workmanship. When we fully understand that truth, that truth will give us the saving faith we need to bring us to Christ and the New Covenant.

Does this make sense to you?

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

Does this make sense to you?

I don't believe that well-intentioned followers of Christ get sent to the LOF for having an honest misunderstanding of doctrine.

P

Dear P _____,

The apostate church is full of well-intentioned people but most of them will not be saved in this age. They have a zeal for God but it is not based on knowledge:

Rom 10:2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal for God, but not according to

knowledge. 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness (works), have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God (faith).

Those in the apostate church are spiritually blind. They have been deceived by Satan and are following his way of "works" instead of the way of faith. Salvation only comes by faith in Christ. Those in the apostate church mix their own works with faith. Scripture calls this way of "works" the crooked way:

Lam 3:9 He hath enclosed my ways with hewn stone, he hath made my paths crooked.

The spiritual symbol "hewn stone" represents the works of man (the Old Covenant of Law). It is the crooked way. The straight way is by faith in Christ and trust Him to do all the "works". For that reason, the pathway to salvation must be made "straight" for those who are following the crooked way of the "crooked" serpent.

To make the pathway straight for the unconverted Elect, Christ will send a converted believer to them in the spirit of Elijah to cause them to repent from their works so as to make the pathway straight for Christ to come to them with the Latter Rain.

For the Jewish Elect, Christ sent John the Baptist to them. Those who repented of their works and never turned back were those who were chosen by Him:

John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

Good intentions will not save anyone. They must repent from their works so that Christ will "come again" to them and pour out the Latter Rain. With the Latter Rain, the believer is "born again" and is saved. Then from their new ability to "see", the truth they receive from Christ will bring judgment to the Man of Sin and the Great Harlot within them. After they are destroyed, the believer will be converted. This all happens by the works of Christ within each believer.

Here is the summarized step by step pathway all the Elect will travel to obtain their salvation:

- The receiving of the Early Rain of the Spirit and entering the church.
- The coming of the spirit of anti-Christ to the believer and consuming of leavened bread.
- Falling away, the Abomination of Desolation and becoming a Man of Sin.
- Hearing and answering the call of Elijah so that the pathway for Christ is made straight.
- The Second Coming of Christ when He pours out the Latter Rain of the Spirit.

- Spiritual blindness healed.
- Marriage Supper when the believer consumes milk, bread, meat and New Wine.
- Christ appears and gathers the believer to dwell with Him in heaven (spiritually speaking).
- Judgment of the Day of the Lord.
- Conversion.
- The time of testing.
- The bodily resurrection at the end of the age.

Christ is the one who will cause each of His Elect to fully travel this pathway before they die. The Elect have no "works" of their own to contribute.

You must remember that mankind was created spiritually marred and as a result, we all quickly become carnally minded at birth. In that condition, no one can understand or know God. We won't even have a desire to seek Him:

Rom 3:10 As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

It is mankind's carnality that spiritually blinds us from knowing and understanding God. Since all mankind is carnal, all mankind must be spiritually destroyed by the judgment of Christ. But before we are destroyed, Christ will give us the Holy Spirit which will give us a new birth as a child of God. Then after our carnality is destroyed by judgment, we will be converted. Our conversion can only happen by the spiritual work of Christ within a person. If He does not do this work within a person, they will remain carnal, sinful and lost until they die.

In this age, "many" are called out from the world. At that time, they will receive the Early Rain (a small amount of the Spirit) and will enter the church. However, the Early Rain is not given in enough measure to destroy the carnality of the believer. It cannot convert them. Because the believer's carnality remains, the believer will be left spiritually blind and unable to know or understand God. Satan will take advantage of this situation and deceive the believer into following his crooked way instead of the straight way of Christ. Satan deceives the believer via the spirit of anti-Christ. When Satan's deception runs its course, the believer will fall away from faith and lose their salvation. They will remain in that lost spiritual condition until Christ comes to them a second time (the second coming of Christ) and pours out the remaining balance of the Spirit upon them. This salvation event is called the baptism of the Spirit or the Latter Rain. However, in this age, Christ will only come a second time to those who have been "chosen" from

this group of "many". They are considered blessed and are called the Elect of Christ. They are His First Fruits of His harvest of mankind.

This verse applies:

Mat 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

The many who are called but NOT chosen will physically die in the apostate church. Most have good intentions because they each received a measure of faith when they received the Early Rain. But like the Early Rain, it is not given in enough measure to keep them from turning to works for salvation.

It sounds like you are still operating under a "works" based belief system. You must cast this belief system away and trust only in Christ to do all the work necessary for your salvation. He will lead you through it all and defeat the "giants" for you.

Can you hear Elijah's call of repentance from works?

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

It sounds like you are still operating under a "works" based belief system.

Not at all my brother.

Thank you for your lengthy and insightful response.

P

Dear P _____,

Since you say you don't have a works based belief system, then where is your disagreement with me?

It was my understanding from your post that you believe "good intentions" will save some in the apostate church regardless of whether or not they repent of their works (the truth they have not received). Repentance from works is the key to salvation by faith. Only the fallen away believers who are chosen will be given the ability to respond to Elijah's call of repentance so that Christ's pathway to them is made straight.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Jesus was asked which of the laws are most important. Jesus said to love God and to love one another. A person that believes in and loves Jesus and loves everyone else is golden, apparently. They don't have to do anything. Jesus' grace is upon them.

Am I missing something?

P _____

Dear P _____,

Yes, you are missing the most important truth in scripture as it relates to our salvation.

Trying to follow the Law cannot save a person. The Law was given to the Nation of Israel to prove this point.

Gal 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster *to bring us* unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Peter said this about those who try to follow the Law:

2Pet 1:9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

2Pet 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning (worse than the first, Mat 12:43-45**). 21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness (**faith**), than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. 22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit (**works**) again; and the sow that was washed (**in the blood of Christ**) to her wallowing in the mire (**works**).**

Paul said that when a believer tries to follow the Law to make themselves acceptable to Christ, even on just one point like circumcision, they will fall from grace.

Gal 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. 2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. 3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

Mankind is carnally minded and will always come up short in trying to follow the Law. If a believer thinks that their "works" (even just one) are necessary for salvation, they will become a debtor to keeping the whole Law. For that reason, the apostate church, who mixes the crooked

way of Satan (works) with Christ's straight way of faith, will be judged by the Law upon their resurrection. They have fallen from grace and have come under the Law again.

When a believer realizes that the Law cannot save them, it will lead them to Christ and the New Covenant.

Gal 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Under the New Covenant, we "rest" (what the Sabbath Day "typed") from our works because Christ will do all the works necessary for our salvation.

When I said that it seems that you have a "works" based belief system, it is comments like the one in your post that causes me to suspect it.

The most common act that causes a believer to fall from grace occurs when they accept the doctrine of Free Will. The doctrine of Free Will is the foundational belief for "works". With this "works" mindset, the believer will justify why they are saved and why others are not. Because of their belief in free will, they believe that they are smarter, wiser or just less evil than those who reject Christ. For this reason, they believe that those who reject Christ are worthy of Hell and why they are not - though they absolutely will not admit it, they DO have something to boast about concerning their salvation based upon their belief in free will.

The only way for a person to follow the Law is AFTER they have been saved, converted and matured into Christ. Then Christ "within" us will follow the Law of loving God and our neighbor perfectly.

To accomplish our conversion, mankind's marred spiritual nature must be destroyed and replaced with the Holy Spirit which will give us a new and perfect spiritual nature. That nature is powerful and holy. It cannot sin, whereas the marred spiritual nature we have now is weak and sinful. Mankind MUST be converted to be saved. The key that unlocks that door to salvation is faith. And that "faith" is given to us by Christ. Mankind has no faith of their own which will draw them to Christ. A measure of faith is given to us when we receive the Early Rain. That faith is later increased by Christ when He is ready for us to respond to the call of Elijah and repent of our works. Our repentance is key for making the pathway straight for Christ to "come again" and give us the Latter Rain.

Peter said this shortly after He was converted on the Day of Pentecost:

Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

The pathway for a fallen away Elect believer in the apostate church requires them to respond to

the call of Elijah and repent of their "works". From there, they must wait for the Lord to come with the Latter Rain.

Paul said this:

Heb 9:28 So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

Those "who are waiting for him" are Elect believers who have repented of their "works" and are waiting for the second coming of Christ when He will pour out the Latter Rain.

The Apostles were shown to have "waited" in the upper room to "type" this truth.

With the Latter Rain, a believer's spiritual blindness will be healed and the truth of scripture will open up to them. Christ will then "appear" to them from scripture and will subsequently gather them to dwell in heaven with Him (**Mat 29-31, 2Thes 2:1**). This is a spiritual gathering and is not the bodily resurrection from the grave which will occur at the end of the age.

Here are some symbols which represent our spiritual condition:

Sea: represents unbelievers

Earth: represents called out believers who are not converted. They remain carnal.

Heaven: represents converted Elect believers because they have been made into a new creation and are no longer part of mankind.

More on the spiritual language of Christ: God's Word teaches its truth in Christ's spiritual language to keep His truth veiled from everyone but those who have been given "eyes that can see" (given with the Latter Rain). In this language, Christ uses "types" and spiritual symbols to teach His truth. The symbols carry meanings which are "not taught by man's wisdom" (**1Cor 2:13**).

To understand the symbols, a believer must have the full payment of the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain) to guide them into all understanding. With "eyes that can see", the believer must look to scripture and scripture ONLY to understand these symbols. Paul says to compare spiritual things (words) with spiritual. In other words, we must locate the symbols where they are used elsewhere in scripture so that we can ascertain their meanings.

Here is an easy example:

Mat 26:52 Then said Jesus unto him, put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.

The word "sword" is a spiritual symbol. In Christ's spiritual language, it is NOT a steel bladed

weapon. It is the Word of God who is Christ.

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

When Christ said that those who take up the sword, must perish by the sword, He is teaching on conversion. A person takes up the sword when they receive the Early Rain. When they receive the Latter Rain, they (their carnal spiritual nature) will perish.

Please reconsider your understanding of how a person is saved. I suggest you make the prayer mentioned in Luke 9-13.

I say all these things with the love of Christ,

Joe

I never heard back from P_____.