

#84 FORUM POST ON THE MARK OF THE BEAST

Dear All,

Revelation 13:16-18

16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had **the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.**

18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the **number of the beast:** for it is the **number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.**

In the book Book of Revelation Chapter 13:16–18, the Textus Receptus manuscripts of the New Testament, cryptically asserts 666 to be 'the number of a man' associated with the Beast of revelation.. Some manuscripts of the original Koine Greek use the symbols $\chi\xi\varsigma$ chi xi stigma (or $\chi\xi\text{F}$ with a digamma), while other manuscripts spell out the number in words. But there are a few that try to misdirect or say it is another number or put in the margin that some 'authorities' that 'read *Six hundred and sixteen.*' or 'one early ms has the letters for *616*'

But it is clear that it is 666 and today this has become one of the most widely recognized symbols for the Antichrist. Now the number 666 in and of itself doesn't mean anything bad. Sometimes something might cost 666 dollars, or someone's address or phone number might contain the numbers '666' and many other examples. But in the Bible this number does have significance, in the final verse of Revelation 13 we find an identifying clue for the Beast: 'Here is wisdom. Let him that has understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred sixty and six.'

So the Bible tells us that this number '666', is the number of a man, symbolized by the first beast of Revelation 13. Notice that "666" is not the "mark of the beast," but is an identifier, something that helps us to identify who or what that beast is. This Beast is identified elsewhere as Babylon, which brought false worship and confused the people with it. You have to understand that false worship had spread from that to the true God, to the created objects such as the Sun, Moon and Stars. The ancient Babylonian false worship was basically development of star worship of what were created objects they saw. The heavenly bodies were seen as gods and worshipped as a supernatural beings. We find the sun, moon were identified with Shamash, Sin, and the planet Venus with Ishtar, Jupiter was Marduk, Saturn was the war god, Mercury was Nebo, Mars was Nergal, god of the dead as we find in history.

This system of identification was taken over and modified by the Greeks and Romans, using the names of their own deities. But when the Greek sailors and soldiers went to the temples they had to know or identify the "gods" or religious system they were worshipping, so the use of numbers/letter symbols of which "god" the temple was dedicated to or worshipped. We see the same system of identity in use today with the use of symbols on monstrance icons or on books, altars, baptismal fonts, communion hosts, letters which also have numeric meaning.

The use of "IHS" is translated some claim as a symbol for the name of Christ. As Greek has its own alphabet and in it "Jesus" is spelled "Ἰησοῦς" and when capitalized it becomes "ΙΗΣΟΥΣ". The claim is that if you take just the first three letters of this word or "ΙΗΣ" which are the Greek letters "iota", "eta" and "sigma". When these letters are converted into modern alphabet it becomes "IHS". However, no one can explain how these letters came about and their meaning with any certainty or real evidence which "god" they may represent.

The Roman Catholic priests hold up a monstrance during their high mass, and the form of a monstrance is that of a circular window which contain a host, which symbolizes the sun. It is surrounded by a golden rays of the sun emitting all around that circular window which contain "IHS" in the form of a host. This sunburst monstrance with the round host that symbolize the sun encased for the people to adore and venerate and so anytime this pagan sun symbol is viewed by the congregation, they kneel in submission. If you look you find that "IHS" is also the mystery name that the Roman Catholic churches have on their altar, on their vestments, when they say mass. You find this in the definition of "monstrance"...

mon·strance /'mɒnztr(ə)ns/

noun (in the Roman Catholic Church) an open or transparent receptacle in which the consecrated Host is exposed for veneration.

Now only is the symbol also on their host but they claim it becomes or transformed into the actual body of Christ, but we will leave that for another discussion. So letters in Greek had numeric meaning and these letters were used to identify what system of worship or "gods" the temples were dedicated to or followed.

We see in Revelation 13:18: "18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six." The thing that throws most people off is when they look just at the "number of the man" 'anthrōpou' or 'of a human being' and then we are given the number which is 666. The number can represent the system of worship and at the same time show it is led by a "human being" not God, so we see how the number can be used to identify this antichrist entity, which at the same time is represented by a man.

Now as many will argue many other names, such as Nero, or Mohammed, or a king of Israel, none of these can be it as they do not fit the things it does or the length of its power, especially when it comes to the timeline which stretches to the end times. But we have to understand what prophecy in Revelation tells us and it gives us clues to follow of this system of worship which is led by a man..

H_____

Dear H_____,

Numbers in scripture are "spirit" words (**John 6:63**) and carry meanings that are different than what man's wisdom teaches (**1Cor 2:13**).

The number 6 is a spiritual symbol which represent mankind. The number 3 is a spiritual symbol which represents a spiritual process.

When the number 6 is repeated 3 times, it represents a person who has gone through a spiritual process. This spiritual process is what Christ mentions below:

Mat 12:43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. 44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. 45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself SEVEN other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

The spiritual symbol of an unclean spirit represents a spirit which teaches Satan's false truth through lies and deceptions.

Since a new believer remains spiritually blind (**Mark 8:21-25**) after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit, they cannot replace their worldly false beliefs with the truth of Christ. ONE unclean spirit leaves but comes back with SEVEN more. The number "seven" represents perfection. In this case, the number seven represents the perfection of Satan's lies/deceptions which come to a believer by the indwelling of the spirit of anti-Christ. Now, instead of ONE unclean spirit within the believer, they now have EIGHT. The number eight is a spiritual symbol which represents a new spiritual condition. In this case, the new spiritual condition is worse than the first.

This "worse than the first" spiritual condition causes the believer to become a False Prophet, a Man of Sin, a Minister of Satan and a Seven Headed Beast with Ten Horns & Crowns.

In other words, the number 666 represents all believers who have the indwelling of the spirit of anti-Christ and have become "worse than the first".

Since the late 1st Century A. D., all new believers have quickly become apostate after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit - just as Paul said they would (**Acts 20:29-31**). These apostate believers all have the mark of the beast (spirit of anti-Christ) and have become a "man of sin".

In this world, the apostate church is made up of approximately 2,000 different denominations/sects who all call themselves "Christian".

This verse applies to them:

2Cor 11:4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if

ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

The "another gospel" the apostate church teaches always mixes man's works with faith in some fashion or another. In other words, Satan's gospel mixes the Old Covenant (based on man's works) with the New Covenant (based on Christ's works). When a believer does this mixing, it implies that the work of Christ which He does under the New Covenant is not sufficient to save them. When a believer accepts this false gospel, they have committed the sin that leads to death.

It is by this deception that Satan kills the saints:

Mat 24:8 All these *are* the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

The Doctrine of Free Will is the foundation of Satan's gospel. When a believer accept this false doctrine, they believe that their salvation is based upon their own free will choices. Because of this belief, they make themselves out to be "God" who alone has a free will.

2Thes 2:4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Dan 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he doeth according to his will in the army of the heavens, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

Any person who is saved, is saved only because it was God's "will" to save them and He saves them by the work of Christ. The person contributes nothing.

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, BUT OF GOD.

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Eph 2:8 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. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

When an apostate believer accepts the Doctrine of Free Will, they believe that they have something to boast about concerning their own salvation - because, after all, they made the right choice when others did not. With this mindset, they believe that they are wiser, smarter or just

less evil than those who reject Christ.

However, they are forgetting this verse:

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.

To change this spiritual condition within a person, Christ will come to them solely because of His grace and give them the Early Rain of the Spirit. With the Spirit, they will have a "measure of faith" which will cause them to accept Christ as their Lord and Savior. With the Spirit, they can make no other "choice":

Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

If Christ wanted to save all mankind today, Christ could simply do it by giving all mankind the Spirit - but doing that is not in accordance with His plan to save the world.

In this age, Christ is only giving the Spirit to those who have been chosen from the foundation of the world. They were chosen for this blessing not because of their "works", but because it satisfies the purpose of God:

Rom 9:11 (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth.

But since Christ loves all mankind, Christ will not forget about the rest of mankind. In the final age, Christ will first give the Spirit to the remaining balance of Gentiles and then to the remaining balance of physical Jews.

Rom 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. 26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob...

Christ will accomplish this work because His judgment always includes justice, mercy and faith:

Mat 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

After the "lost" of the final age receive both the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit, they will have the necessary faith they need to make the pathway "straight" for Christ to come to them and convert them. After they are converted, the new child of God will be gathered up to heaven (satisfies His mercy) and the child of the devil will remain in the Lake of Fire for destruction (satisfies His justice).

After the last person is saved, this scripture will be testified to be true:

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

No, they are prophecy that is meant to be revealed as we see in the name 'Revelation of Jesus Christ', to spiritualize them is just a deception to twist and hide what the prophecies show and history confirms right in the timeline given. Need to rethink that over...

H

Dear H _____,

The book of Revelation is the unveiling of Christ within the Elect. The book teaches how this happens and that is why the book says that the Elect will "keep" the sayings of the prophecies:

Rev 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the TIME IS AT HAND.

Rev 22:9 Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God. 10 And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the TIME IS AT HAND.

All the Elect since John received the vision will keep the sayings of the prophecies BECAUSE the time for their fulfillment in each of their lives was/is "at hand". The prophecies are not one-time future world events that only happen at the literal end of this age. That is a carnal understanding of God's Word and is completely false.

The Elect will even keep the sayings of the prophecy which are not "bread" (truth) - this includes all of chapter 13.

Mat 4:4 But he answered and said, it is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

The Elect will unknowingly (that is the nature of deception) receive the mark of the beast (spirit of anti-Christ) and they will become "worse than the first" (**Mat 12:43-45**). They cannot avoid it (**Mat 24:24**). For this reason, Christ will come a second time to the Elect and pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit upon them. With the Latter Rain, their spiritual blindness will be healed and Christ (God's Word) will be unveiled to them.

After the Elect's blindness is healed, they will be able to "see" the Abomination of Desolation that had previously occurred within themselves (God's temple):

Mat 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand. 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains...

After the Elect see the A of D, the Day of the Lord (judgment) will arrive and will remove the spirit of anti-Christ from within them and cast it into the Lake of Fire. Also, at that time, the "chaff" (carnal nature, Great Harlot) will be removed and likewise cast into the Lake of Fire.

This judgment is presented in Luke 3:17, Mat 24:40-41 and Rev 19:20.

After Christ's judgment is complete, the Elect believer will be converted.

All the Elect since the end of the 1st century A. D. will follow this pathway to salvation.

Joe

H_____ did not respond to my post on this thread but instead, he started another thread on the placement of the mark of the beast.

Dear All,

Revelation 14:9-10

9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

The book of Revelation is a very symbolic book. In other words, it uses symbols to teach spiritual lessons. The use of the word hand is symbolic for our works and the forehead is symbolic for what we believe, because its the part of the mind where decisions takes place and moral choices are made. Those who are condemned in the end will either have the Mark of the

Beast on their forehead or on their hand.

The conflict is between the religious/political entity of the Antichrist as we see in Revelation 13, where Satan, represented by the Dragon, empowers the beast to enforce its false worship which is symbolized by a mark, a name, which is represented by the number 666, on the foreheads and hands of their followers. Thus, we can see the mark, name, and number of the beast, represent the nature of the false worship promoted by them, whether in the mind (forehead) or actions (hands) of the followers.

Revelation 13:4

And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

So you have the true worship of God, and the false worship of the Dragon and the Beast power and its supporters. In other words, those who have the mark on their forehead will be worshipping the Beast and is Image which is with us today. They will stand up for the false worship of the apostate church and follow it by doing what it asks, or really are deceived and believe its false doctrines and teachings. Those who have the mark on their hand may not be truly worshipping the Beast but they follow it nonetheless, they may even be speak against some of its teaching or false worship, but their works will be in line with the beliefs and practices of the apostate church.

The context of the text reveals the difference between those who have the Mark of the Beast as they follow it and the Dragon behind it, and will find themselves losing eternal life, and those who follow God and His Law and will be in His kingdom. We see it in the words of Christ...

Matthew 19:16

16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have **eternal life?**

17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, **keep the commandments.**

Revelation 22:14

Blessed are they that do his **commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.**

H _____

Dear H _____,

The mark of the beast represents a believer who has the spirit of anti-Christ. The mark is spiritual - just as the sealing of the Elect with the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain) is spiritual.

The "spiritual" happens within a person; between their ears so to speak. When a person understands that the teachings of the New Covenant are spiritual, the person will apply those

teachings to things that happen within a person. Those teachings do not happen out in the physical world for all to see. That is a carnal understanding of scripture.

The Seven Headed beast in the first part of chapter 13 represents a believer who has the spirit of anti-Christ indwelling them. They are a "man of sin" who sits in God's temple (the believer) making himself out to be God (having a free will).

The second beast represents the spirit of anti-Christ who controls the first beast. When a believer has the mark of the beast, they cannot buy (accept) or sell (teach) to anyone except those who have the mark of the beast. Satan's power of deception is that strong. And as I pointed out in your other thread, the number of the beast is 666. The number 6 represents carnal mankind and it is repeated three times which represents a spiritual process. The spiritual process is taught by Christ in Mat 12:43-45. When the spiritual process is complete, the believer will become "worse than the first" and become the Seven Headed beast.

Since the mark of the beast is spiritual, the mark is said to be on the forehead of a believer because the spirit of anti-Christ controls the beliefs of the person's mind. The mark is also said to be on their hand because the gospel of Satan teaches a believer to follow Satan's gospel of "works" (works of the hand) mixed with faith. This mark of the beast is not a physical mark.

All new believers since the end of the 1st century A. D. have received the mark of the beast. The spiritual teachings of the book of Revelation have been relevant to all Elect believers since John received the vision. That is why the book says that the Elect will keep the sayings of the prophecies. The time for their fulfillment was already "at hand" when the book was written.

Consider this concept:

Scripture teaches that Satan masquerades as an angel of light and mimics Christ. Satan will give a new believer the spirit of anti-Christ shortly after Christ gives them the Early Rain of the Spirit. This is specifically taught in the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares. When a believer has the spirit of anti-Christ indwelling them, they will experience Satan's Day of Evil. In contrast, when a believer has the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain) , they will be experience the Day of the Lord. In both cases, Christ and Satan will rule the believer spiritually (from within).

Until a person can apply the teachings of the New Covenant spiritually instead of carnally, they will continue to misunderstand those teachings.

It is absolutely necessary to have "eyes that can see" spiritually in order to understand the truth of God. And since those spiritual eyes are a gift from God, Christ tells us to pray for the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain) which will give us those spiritual eyes (Luke 11:9-13).

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Yes, and the Reformers knew what this spirit of antichrist was, but the devil has made their followers forget. They need to remember....

Joe

Dear H _____,

Reformers??? Do you mean the protestant denominations? There are no denominations/sects of Christianity that are not under the influence of the spirit of anti-Christ. The pathway to salvation includes the Day of Evil for all new believers - including the Elect. It cannot be avoided. Even the reformers of their day experienced the Day of Evil. Most remained in that apostate condition until their deaths. They simply were not chosen to receive the Latter Rain of the Spirit and be converted.

Joe

H _____ did not respond to my post so I went to another thread which was discussing the Thousand Years Reign. It was posted in four parts but had very little truth in it. Below is my response to it.

Dear F,

I read your four posts on the 1,000 years reign and wanted to make a few comments.

To understand the teachings in the book of Revelation, we first must take into consideration what these three key verses teach:

Rev 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for THE TIME IS AT HAND.

Rev 22:7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

Rev 22:10 And he saith unto me, SEAL NOT the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for THE TIME IS AT HAND.

As these verses say, the time for the fulfillment of the prophecies was already "at hand" when John recorded the vision. Just from these three verses above, there is no way that the prophecies can only be future events that happen at the literal end of this age. John was even told to not seal the prophecies.

Furthermore, John was told that those who are blessed (this means the Elect) will "keep the sayings of the prophecy". If the fulfillment of the prophecies only occurs at the end of this age, how has any of the Elect ever been able to keep the sayings of the prophecy? They couldn't have.

So how have the Elect kept the sayings of the prophecy? They keep the sayings because the

prophecy teaches (over and over again) the pathway to salvation that the Elect will travel to be saved and converted. The events which are recorded are spiritual events which happen within an Elect believer. The events are not physical, outward events as most believe. They cannot be seen with human eyes. They can only be seen with spiritual eyes ("eyes that can see").

Next, we must consider what these verses teach:

Rev 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne...

Rev 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Rev 11:17 saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was and who is to come, because you have taken your great power and reigned.

The second coming of Christ is a reoccurring event. It is not a one-time coming that happens at the literal end of this age. Christ's coming happens over and over again. To understand what that means, consider what Christ told the Apostles in John chapter 14:

John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

John 14:28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

So when did Christ "come again" to the Apostles? He came to them a second time on the Day of Pentecost when He poured out the Latter Rain of the Spirit (baptism of the Spirit) upon each of them. This event is the second coming of Christ which is taught in scripture. It is a spiritual event which comes "without observation" (**Luke 17:20**). Christ will not visibly come back to this world where human eyes can see Him.

Christ will remain in heaven until He has completed the mission His Father gave Him (to save the world, 1John 4:14):

Acts 3:20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom

the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

So when does the restitution of "all things" occur? It does not occur at the end of this present age because "all things" will not be restored to the Father at that time. This present age is only for the harvesting of the Elect. The Elect (Heirs) are the First Fruits of Christ's harvest of mankind. They are harvested early from the field. The full harvest of mankind occurs at the "end of the year" (the final age).

Exo 23:16 And the feast of harvest, the first-fruits of thy labors, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labors out of the field.

If a person has not consumed this "milk of the Word" that teaches that Christ is the Savior of the world, they will not be able to learn the deeper truths of God. The foundation of truth must be correct before it can be built upon with bread, meat and New Wine.

So what is the Thousand Years Reign?

The teaching of the Thousand Years Reign begins in Revelation chapter 19 and ends in Rev 20:6.

As I said above, the book of Revelation teaches the spiritual events that happen to the Elect as they travel the pathway to salvation. Chapter 19 reveals additional details of this pathway. In verses 7-9, it presents the Marriage of the Lamb and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. These two events are part of the pathway to salvation and are taught by Christ using the marriage analogy (such as the Parable of the Ten Virgins does).

The Marriage of the Lamb is the salvation event which occurs when Christ "comes again" for His Bride (the Elect). The Elect are espoused to Christ when He first comes to them in the flesh (where the virgin sees Him "carnally"). It is at this time that Christ plants the seed of the Holy Spirit within them (the Early Rain of the Spirit). Christ then goes away with the promise to return for the marriage. The marriage event is what the Apostles experienced on the Day of Pentecost.

The Marriage Supper immediately follows the wedding because, in conjunction with the wedding (Latter Rain), the bride's spiritual blindness will be healed (Mark 8:21-25). Now with "eyes that can see", the bride will be fed the truth of God by Christ. When the bride has received enough nourishment, the bride will "see" the Abomination of Desolation which had previously occurred within themselves. After this occurs, judgment (the Day of the Lord) will immediately follow. This judgment is the Thousand Years Reign and is presented in verses 11-21 of chapter 19. Notice during this judgment that the bride is not being judged. This is true because the bride is a child of God who has never sinned. She will ride with Christ and judge the "chaff" (carnality, child of the devil) which remains within themselves. The bride will not experience any wrath during this time of judgment.

Peter confirms the meaning of the Thousand Years Reign by saying this:

2Pet 3:8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

Peter says that the Thousand Years Reign is "like" one day. The day that Peter is referencing is the Day of the Lord. Then, in the rest of chapter 3, Peter goes on to teach about certain spiritual events which occur during the Day of the Lord.

So why is the Thousand Years Reign "like" the Day of the Lord? The Thousand Years Reign applies only to the Elect who will reign with Christ during the Day of the Lord.

The Day of the Lord is Christ's judgment which He uses to destroy carnal mankind who is "condemned already" (John 3:18). Since the Elect are "born again" prior to that judgment commencing upon them, they will reign with Christ over their own judgment. In the final age, the Day of the Lord will come upon the rest of mankind and the Elect will reign a second time with Christ over that judgment.

Ecc 6:6 Yea, though he live a thousand years twice told, yet hath he seen no good: do not all go to one place (Lake of Fire)?

During both Thousand Year Reigns, the Elect will reign with Christ and will judge carnal mankind in the Lake of Fire until they have perished. Since the "lost" of the final age are not "born again" as a child of God prior to their judgment commencing, they will experience God's wrath while they are being judged. But before the "lost" of the final age perish from that judgment, Christ will have mercy upon them and give them the same faith that He earlier gave to the Elect.

Mat 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

From the faith that Christ will give the "lost", the pathway will be made straight for Christ to come to each of them and pour out the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit and convert them into children of God. They will then be gathered to heaven as the Elect were in this present age. Justice will be served by the destruction of the child of the devil (mankind) who will remain in the Lake of Fire.

After the last person has been saved and converted into a child of God, the final age will come to an end. This scripture will then be testified to be true:

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and

one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

I also wanted to make a short comment on Satan being bound and later being released for a short time (**Rev 20:1-9**).

Satan is bound during the Thousand Years Reign while the Elect believer is being converted. After the believer has been converted, Satan will be released for a short time to test the new child of God.

This time of testing was "typed" by Christ after He fasted in the wilderness for 40 days. At that time, Satan came to Christ and tempted Him. And like Christ, the Elect will resist the temptations of Satan by refuting him with the Word of God (Truth). After the Elect pass their time of testing, Satan will be cast into the Lake of Fire. This represents that Satan will no longer have any influence over the Elect believer again.

Joe

I responded to a new thread concerning "Jesus is the answer".

Dear all,

What question(s) does Jesus answer by BEING the answer?

Is Jesus a complete answer?

Or does this leave us with MORE questions?

Are the questions more important than the answers?

How would you answer these questions?

S_____

Dear S_____,

Scripture says that Jesus is the way, the truth, the life, the Word, the Savior etc. but I cannot find any scripture which says that Jesus the answer.

What verse are you referencing that says that Jesus is the answer?

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Seriously?

Would you claim that Jesus is NOT the answer if I couldn't come up with an exact Bible quote saying "Jesus is the answer"?

The word Trinity isn't in the Bible. Do you believe in the Trinity?

Do we have to have a verse for everything we talk about?

This comes to mind. The question would be: "Who is the Messiah?"

What would be the answer? _____ (fill in the blank)

Mark 8:27-30 NIV

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi.

On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

28 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

29 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

30 Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

S _____

Dear S _____,

You asked:

Would you claim that Jesus is NOT the answer if I couldn't come up with an exact Bible quote saying "Jesus is the answer"?

Yes, I would. God's Word tells us to not to add to the teachings of scripture.

This verse applies:

1Cor 4:6 Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, "Do not go beyond what is written." Then you will not be puffed up in being a follower of one of us over against the other.

When Christ and Paul were asked a question, they would frequently say "what sayeth the scripture" or words to that effect. When I make a post on the forum, I also frequently support my statements with scripture. In contrast, I have noticed that most other posters on this forum frequently omit any scriptural support for their statements. And their statements are usually nothing more than reasonings of the carnal mind. This is true of the subject of this thread (Jesus is the answer).

Adding to what is revealed to us from scripture can easily lead to error. If God's Word wanted us to know that "Jesus is the answer", Christ would have given us a double witness of scripture stating that truth.

You asked:

The word Trinity isn't in the Bible. Do you believe in the Trinity?

No, I do not. That doctrine is a false extrabiblical teaching which comes from the apostate church. It is "leaven" that has been hidden in the truth of God (bread):

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.

You asked:

Do we have to have a verse for everything we talk about?

This comes to mind. The question would be: "Who is the Messiah?"

What would be the answer? _____ (fill in the blank)

Mark 8:27-30 NIV

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi.

On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

28 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

29 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

30 Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

The question does not have to come from scripture but the answer should (what sayeth the scripture). By quoting Mark 8:27-30, you answered the question in the manner as taught by scripture. However, scripture also says that to prove a truth, two or three scriptures (witnesses) are required. This concept is a requirement of the Law.

Christ teaches His Apostles this concept below:

Luke 22:35 And he said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye anything? And they said, Nothing. 36 Then said he unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take *it*, and likewise *his* scrip: AND HE THAT HATH NO SWORD, LET HIM SELL HIS GARMENT, AND BUY ONE. 37 For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors: for the things concerning me have an end. 38 AND THEY SAID, LORD, BEHOLD, HERE ARE TWO SWORDS. AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, IT IS ENOUGH.

Do you understand the spiritual language of Christ? The "sword" is the Word of God. When Christ sent the apostles out into the world to teach the Gospel, He told them to carry a sword. When the apostles responded, they said they had two swords. Christ responded that two was enough. In other words, a double witness of scripture is enough to prove any truth.

Likewise, when we go out into the world to teach the Gospel, we, too, should be armed in the same manner.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

I remember now. You preach the latter rain gospel. Correct?

Christ said he would build his church. You say it was devoured. There's a contradiction here somewhere.

S

Dear S _____,

I do not "preach the Latter Rain gospel". I teach the truth of God's Word which proclaims that a person is only saved after they have received both the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit.

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receives the EARLY and LATTER RAIN. 8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

The believers to whom James is writing have only received the Early Rain of the Spirit. They are still waiting for the Lord to return with the Latter Rain.

Paul teaches this truth here:

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.

When Christ first comes to a person, He will give them the Early Rain of the Spirit. At this time, Christ will only appear to them "in the flesh" as when He did when He went to the cross. This happens because the new believer will remain spiritually blind and carnally minded after receiving the Early Rain. They will not be able to see Christ spiritually which will leave the truth of God's Word concealed from their understanding.

John makes this statement below about the apostate church (believers who have the spirit of anti-Christ):

1John 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Apostate believers don't realize that when Christ first came to them, He did so "in the flesh". In other words, an apostate believer denies that they have only received the Early Rain of the Spirit and are not converted. They don't believe that they must wait on the Lord to "come again" with the Latter Rain for their salvation and conversion. Because they don't realize their true spiritual state, they dwell in "peace and safety" in the apostate church, believing that they are following Christ when they are not.

1The 5:3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

This verse above applies to the birthing analogy. When Christ comes to a fallen away Elect believer, He will bring "sudden destruction" upon them with His judgment. When this judgment is complete, the Elect believer will be converted and the new child of God will be born.

There are no churches/denominations that understand this truth taught by the Early and Latter Rains used in the farming analogy because they remain spiritually blind and are consuming Satan's leavened bread. They deny that Christ ever came to them in the flesh (the Early Rain).

The true church consists of only converted Elect believers who have received both the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit.

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

The "many" who are "called" will enter the church after they receive the Early Rain of the Spirit. This is when a person is espoused to Christ. But because they remain spiritually blind, they will be deceived by Satan and will not remain faithful. In other words, they will commit fornication with Satan (believing Satan over Christ) and will fall from grace. This occurs when the spirit of anti-Christ enters the new believer and they are made "worse than the first" (Mat 12:43-45). This event is the Abomination of Desolation.

All called out believers will remain in this deceived & fallen away state until they die UNLESS they are one of the "few" who have also been "chosen" from the foundation of the world. For them (the Elect), their days as a man of sin will be shortened (Mat 24:22) since they will be harvested early as a First Fruit of Christ's harvest of mankind. Because their days are shortened, Christ will "come again" to them before they die. At that time, He will pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit upon them and heal their spiritual blindness. Now with "eyes that can see", the Elect believer will see the A of D that had previously occurred within themselves, along with the man of sin being revealed.

These verses apply:

Jer 3:3 Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no Latter Rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed.

1Sam 12:17 Is it not wheat harvest to day? I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder and RAIN (Latter Rain); that ye may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

When a fallen away Elect believer sees these signs (among others), Christ says this:

Luke 21:27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

When Christ appears to them, He will gather the Elect believer (who is now a child of God) to dwell with Him in heaven (spiritually speaking). This is the moment an Elect believer is saved after having fallen away. However, they are still not yet converted. To convert the Elect believer, Christ's judgment will fall on them. With this judgment, Christ will remove and destroy the spirit of anti-Christ & the Great Harlot (Mat 24:40-41) which still remains within the believer. With their destruction, only the Holy Spirit will remain within the believer. This spiritual process is called the "First Resurrection" in Rev 20:5.

It is also called "conversion" and is mentioned by John the Baptist below:

Mat 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain), and with Fire (judgment):

After the Elect believer is converted, they will forever dwell in the Kingdom of Heaven and the gates of hell will not be able to prevail against them.

Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

This is the true church which still exists in the world today. It is "few" in numbers and is unknown by this world - unlike Satan's church which is made up of "many" and is greatly known by the world.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

The necessity of a lot of words indicates to me a lack of understanding!

If it's that hard to explain... it's probably wrong.

Or too complicated to matter. - LOL

S

Dear S _____,

So you don't believe this scripture below?

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.

The truth of God is not meant to be easy to find or understand. It takes a great deal of study and prayer to find it and that's after a believer has been given "eyes that can see". Without those "eyes", the truth of God is impossible to find. For that reason, when a believer is converted, they will be given a "love for the truth" which will give them a passion to do all that is necessary to find the hidden treasures of God.

Joe

Another poster responded to my post to S _____.

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

I do not "preach the Latter Rain gospel". I teach the truth of God's Word which proclaims that a person is only saved after they have received both the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit.

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receives the EARLY and LATTER RAIN. 8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

The believers to whom James is writing have only received the Early Rain of the Spirit. They are still waiting for the Lord to return with the Latter Rain.

You do realize that what you inferred there was an interpretation of scripture that suits your beliefs....nowhere is this statement given the interpretation you have gleaned from it. We can all speculate about what scripture, especially ambiguous verses, mean....but that does not of itself mean that what we take from the words is necessarily what was intended by the one who said them....or translated correctly by the one who translated it.

I see that you did this with the swords that Jesus told his apostles to purchase....you put a spin on that to suit your own interpretation....that doesn't make it true, as good as it may sound to you....Jesus himself said that it was to fulfill prophesy...that he was to be 'counted among lawless ones'.

The two swords would not be enough to defend the group victoriously against an armed mob, but they would be enough for the purpose of teaching a lesson, to emphasize that Jesus was submitting of his own will, freely, and not violently resisting, as his group was now equipped to do. (John 18:11) Why do you think Jesus rebuked Peter for using his sword to cut of the ear of the High Priest's slave?

Jesus was put to death among two lawless criminals, but he willingly did so for the benefit of mankind. There was no armed resistance. (John 18:36).

A _____

Dear A _____,

You said:

You do realize that what you inferred there was an interpretation of scripture that suits your beliefs.....nowhere is this statement given the interpretation you have gleaned from it.

My beliefs only come from scripture and my understanding of scripture comes from the Holy Spirit.

Below is where I learned the concept of the Early and Latter Rains:

The Early and Latter Rain concept is part of the farming analogy and is taught in many places of God's Word.

Hos 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the RAIN, as the latter and former RAIN unto the earth.

When Christ first comes a person to call them out from the world, He will give them the Early Rain of the Spirit. The Early Rain of the Spirit was given to the Apostles during Christ's earthly ministry. With the Early Rain, the Apostles were able to recognize Jesus as the Christ. At that time, they were also given a measure of faith; and with that faith, they accepted Jesus as "Lord".

1Cor 12:3 (shown below) says that no one can call Jesus "Lord" if they do not have the Holy Spirit - even with just the Early Rain of the Spirit which is given in measure (a small amount):

1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

Joel 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in Jehovah your God; for he giveth you the Early Rain in just measure, and he causeth to come down for you the rain, the Early Rain and the Latter Rain, in the first month.

Deu 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the Rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain (Early Rain) upon the tender herb, and as the showers (Latter Rain) upon the grass:

Job 37:6 For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the small rain (Early Rain), and to the great rain (Latter Rain) of his strength.

After the Apostles received the Early Rain, they had to wait for Christ's return (His second coming) before they would receive the Latter Rain (also called the baptism of the Holy Spirit) and be converted. When the Day of Pentecost arrived, Christ returned and poured out the Latter Rain upon them. This was immediately followed by the baptism of Fire (judgment).

The Early and Latter Rain concept is not always taught using those symbols. Below is how Paul applied that concept to the Corinthian church:

1Cor 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

Notice that Paul addresses his letter to those who are "called to be saints". Paul addresses them in this manner because they had only received the Early Rain of the Spirit. They had not yet received the Latter Rain and been converted. Paul was expecting them to receive the Latter Rain later because he says this in verse 6:

1Cor 1:6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you (Early Rain): 7 So that you come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: 8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end (Latter Rain), that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The "end" is referring to the time when the "ends of the ages" come upon an Elect believer when they are given the Latter Rain.

1Cor 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as types, and have been written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come.

With the Latter Rain, the Elect believer will be made blameless when judgment (Day of the Lord) falls on them. This is true because when a believer receives the Latter Rain, the Law will no longer be able to accuse them. This truth is taught in the story of the woman taken in adultery (John 8:3-11).

Also with the Latter Rain, the believer's spiritual blindness is healed. This truth is taught by Paul's conversion story and by the healing of the blind man in Mark 8:20-25.

What I have presented above is only small amount of supporting scripture which teaches the truth of the Early and Latter Rains.

You said:

I see that you did this with the swords that Jesus told his apostles to purchase...you put a spin on that to suit your own interpretation....that doesn't make it true, as good as it may sound to you...Jesus himself said that it was to fulfill prophesy...that he was to be 'counted among lawless ones'.

I did not put my "spin" on the story of the swords. Christ words are spirit and to understand those words, Paul says to compare spiritual things (words) with spiritual (1Cor 2:13). In other words, we must look to other scripture and see how those same words are used there. Then, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the meaning of a spirit words (symbol) can be discerned. This is the scripturally taught way to understand the spiritual language of Christ.

In Christ's language, the spirit word "sword" represents the Word of God who is Christ. When Christ sent the Apostles out into the world to teach the Gospel, He told them to take a sword and that "two" would be enough. Two is enough because a double witness of scripture is required to prove a truth.

Here is another example using swords:

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.

Christ's concealed spiritual point He is making in **Matt 26:52** is that all who take up the Sword (those who follow Him), must perish by the Sword (death of the Old Man). This death is a necessary part of the conversion process which happens when the Word of God (Christ, the Sword) comes to a person a second time and gives them the Baptism of Fire:

Mat 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with Fire.

This conversion event is what the Apostles experienced on the Day of Pentecost:

Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of FIRE, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the HOLY SPIRIT, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

In the spiritual language of Christ, the Apostles took up the Sword and then they died by the Sword.

In light of what I presented above, do you understand what this verse below is teaching?

Isa 66:16 For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

This verse is teaching that Christ will save all mankind (all flesh) by the Sword (Word of God) and by Fire (judgment).

I could say more on "swords" but this post is long enough.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

Paul teaches this truth here:

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.

Have you studied the scriptures carefully FWD? I am sure that you think you have, but whose ideas are you promoting? Who told you that what you state is the truth, and the correct interpretation? Are you not one of many who identify as "Christians", all with different versions of "the truth of God's word"?

This verse you quoted about Jesus' second appearance...what was the writer (Paul) indicating, in the light of other scripture...no verse can be taken out of the Bible without knowing what the entirety of scripture teaches, so that all beliefs are in harmony with God's word.

Matt 24:1-14 is Jesus' prophesy on the "end of the age" or the time when he would return. Jesus gave various features of coming world events (of a serious nature)...unprecedented international wars, great earthquakes, pestilences, food shortages, persecution, false prophets, betrayal, an increase in lawlessness and love 'growing cold' among mankind....he said that his disciples would need endurance to make it to "the end"...but what is this "the end" of? And his next statement..."***And this good news of the Kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.***"

Who are out there in the whole world preaching about God's Kingdom? What is "God's Kingdom"...and what is "the good news" about it?

All of these "signs" would herald, NOT Christ's "coming"...but his "parousia", which means his "presence".

The angels told the apostles after Christ's ascension that he would come back in the same "manner" as they saw him leave, (Acts 1:11).....so what was the "manner" in which he left? The world at large was unaware that it had taken place, no one saw it or knew about it apart from his spirit anointed apostles who were to carry on his work. Once they passed away, they were not going to be aware of the passage of time.....it was to be all the way to this 21st century before their Master would return to take them "home" to be where he was.

Do we understand that God operates in universal time, not earth time. What seems to be taking an inordinate amount of time from our standpoint, means little when the main subjects of the object lesson we have been forced to endure, was not human. We are the hostages and a ransom was demanded and paid, but the hostages have not all been freed....yet.

We are now living in "the time of the end" prophesied by Daniel, (some 500 years before Jesus' birth as a human)....he was told to "seal up" his book because no one would understand it until "the time of the end". (Dan 12:4;9-10)

We should now understand Daniel's prophesy about our time, but unless we do, not much will make sense.

Interestingly Daniel was told that only the "wicked" would fail to discern the meaning of his words which included a 'cleansing and refining' of God's genuine worshippers at this juncture. A whole house cleansing was in order because of the corruption that had all but destroyed true worship on this earth.....the devil would by then, have set up so many counterfeits that confusion would reign among the masses in their search for the diamonds in a massive pile of broken glass. Only those "drawn" by the Father would find them and join them together as a global brotherhood, in true worship. (John 6:44; 65; 1 Cor 1:10)

Since no one was to be resurrected until Christ's return, (1 Thess 4:13-17) as Paul indicated, those who were "sleeping".....the "dead in Christ" would "rise first".....this was reiterated by John in Revelation 20:6. This "first resurrection" would take place when Christ returned....not in a spectacular fashion, but without the world knowing that the "signs" he gave indicating his "presence" were already being experienced.

The first "sign" was a war that was the first of its kind in human history....a war that was to involve the whole world..."nation against nation and kingdom against kingdom".....and that war came out of nowhere, due to the assassination of Arch Duke in an obscure country, because of alliances signed by all nations, all were drawn into a war that no one was prepared for.

Following the war there were food shortages and a disease pandemic that took more lives than the war did. Since the First World War, all the features of the sign indicating Jesus' "parousia" have been evident.....so Christ has already returned as indicated by the signs he himself gave.....the next time the world sees "the son of man" it will be with his angelic forces to crush and put an end to all wickedness on this earth.....those who pass the test of faithfulness will be found in peace, whilst the world under Satan's influence rages against itself. True Christians will

have to endure the greatest tribulation this world has ever seen. (Matt 24:21)

Their citizenship is already in God's Kingdom, not man's. Jesus has been separating the wheat from the weeds all this time. "The end" will be a time of judgment...as Jesus said...

"Also, there will be signs in the sun and moon and stars, and on the earth anguish of nations not knowing the way out because of the roaring of the sea and its agitation. 26 People will become faint out of fear and expectation of the things coming upon the inhabited earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 And then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 But as these things start to occur, stand up straight and lift up your heads, because your deliverance is getting near." (Luke 21:25-28)

Soon now we will see the outbreak of this "great tribulation"...all of us will be either accepted or rejected by the same judge...only then will we know if we have put our trust in the right teachers.

A

Dear A _____,

You asked:

Have you studied the scriptures carefully FWD? I am sure that you think you have, but whose ideas are you promoting? Who told you that what you state is the truth, and the correct interpretation? Are you not one of many who identify as "Christians", all with different versions of "the truth of God's word"?

I was converted back in 2005 and immediately my understanding of scripture changed. I quickly learned that nearly everything that I thought was true was actually the false teachings of the apostate church. Since the time of my conversion, I have studied God's Word extensively and the Lord has been gracious to teach me many new truths. The Early and Latter Rain teaching was not taught to me by any man but was taught to me directly by scripture and the Holy Spirit.

My conversion testimony is posted on my website.

As for the many different teachings/churches in the world, the believers in these churches have only received the Early Rain of the Spirit and are spiritually blind. These churches are little more than places where the "blind lead the blind". And since these believers have no ability to understand the truth of God, Satan has come to each of them and deceived them. All the churches are now apostate and have been in this condition since Paul's death. When a believer in one of these apostate churches receives the Latter Latter of the Spirit and has their spiritual blindness healed, they will quickly leave their church because light cannot fellowship with darkness. For this reason, I do not associate with any church. I do know a few converted believers, but none locally.

You said:

Matt 24:1-14 is Jesus' prophesy on the "end of the age" or the time when he would return.

All end-time prophecy teaches about the spiritual events that will occur within each Elect believer as they travel the pathway to salvation. That pathway begins with the Early Rain of the Spirit and ends when Christ returns to them with the Latter Rain and judgment (the conversion event). There is no visible second coming of Christ which will occur at the literal end of the age. That false belief comes from a carnal understanding of scripture. The "end of the age" occurs when an Elect believer is converted.

1Cor 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as types, and have been written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come.

Consider what these verses teach about the second coming of Christ:

Rev 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for THE TIME IS AT HAND.

Rev 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne...

Rev 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Rev 4:8 And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

Rev 22:7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

Rev 22:10 And he saith unto me, SEAL NOT the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for THE TIME IS AT HAND.

The second coming of Christ is a reoccurring spiritual event which happens when He brings salvation to one of the Elect via the Latter Rain of the Spirit and judgment. For this reason, Christ will come to them "quickly" before they die. Even when John received the vision, the time for the prophecy's fulfillment was "at hand". John was even told to not seal the sayings of the prophecy. These "sayings" have applied to the lives of each of the Elect for the past 1900+ years. The events described by the prophecy are not future events and neither is Christ's second coming - they are reoccurring events.

As for Daniel's Seventy Weeks prophecy, it is a prophecy that teaches the salvation of the Elect.

The first 69 1/2 weeks of years ended when Christ was "cut off" at the cross. This ended the Old Covenant of Law and left 3 1/2 years of the prophecy to be fulfilled under the New Covenant. Since the New Covenant is spiritual and happens within the Elect, the last 3 1/2 years are fulfilled individually and spiritually. The last 3 1/2 years begins for an Elect believer when they receive the Early Rain of the Spirit and it ends when Christ gives them the Latter Rain of the Spirit and judgment. All the scriptures which use the phrases "time, times and a half, 42 months, 1260 days or 3 1/2 years are teaching about some aspect of the time an Elect believer spends between receiving the Early and Latter Rains. It is not literal time. When the last Elect believer is saved, this age will come to an end and Christ will have fulfilled all the goals mentioned in Dan 9:24.

As for signs in the sun and moon, those signs have been seen by every Elect believer when Christ came to them a second time to convert them. The light that the natural sun (Satan) and moon (carnal nature) give off is darkened because the converted believer will no longer receive their truth from this world (a false truth). Now, they will receive their light from the New Sun (Christ) and the New Moon (spiritual nature of the Holy Spirit). Like the spirit word "Sword", all the symbols used in end-time prophecy have spiritual meanings (inward) and not carnal meanings (outward). Until a person can make this change in their understanding, the truth of the prophecies is going to remain concealed from them.

As for the "great tribulation", an Elect believer will experience it after they become a "man of sin" under the influence of Satan. It is a spiritual event and does not happen out in the world as is commonly taught.

This is all the time I have for tonight to respond to your post. If you have any questions from what I stated above, I would be happy to answer them (as the Lord wills).

Joe

A _____ did not respond.