

#107 FORUM POST ON THE SECOND COMING VS. THE RESURRECTION

Dear All,

**The sun shall be turned into darkness,
And the moon into blood,
Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.**

And it shall come to pass

**That whoever calls on the name of the LORD
Shall be saved.**

For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance,

As the LORD has said,

Among the remnant whom the LORD calls.

Joel 2:31-31

In Matthew 24 we see the same quote from the Lord Jesus -

“Immediately after the tribulation of those days **the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light**; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and **they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory**. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. Matthew 24:29-31

The Day of the LORD is the (second) coming of Christ.

For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For **the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first**. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you.

For you yourselves know perfectly that **the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night**.

1 Thessalonians 4:15-5:2

In 2 Thessalonians 2, Paul uses the Day of Christ, whereas in 1 Thessalonians 5 he uses the Day of the LORD (YHWH).

Now, brethren, concerning **the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ** and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though **the day of Christ had come**. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2

The Day of the LORD (YHWH) is the Day of Christ; which is the Second coming of Jesus

Christ.

J _____

Dear J _____,

2Thess 4:13-18 which you quoted is not a teaching on the second coming of Christ and the Day of the Lord. It is a scripture which teaches about the bodily resurrection from the grave for the Elect.

As for the other verses you quoted, they do apply to the second coming and the Day of the Lord.

The Second coming of the Lord & Day of the Lord occurs when Christ comes to one of His Elect to convert/save them. The second coming is not a one time, physically visible event that only happens at the literal end of this age. The second coming is a reoccurring spiritual event that happens when Christ brings salvation to each of His Elect to whom the "ends of the ages" are coming upon.

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.

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.

Luke 17:20 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God (Christ is the Kingdom of God) cometh not with observation: 21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you (spiritual).

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. 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.

When Christ comes a second time to a believer (a "babe who only has the Early Rain of the Spirit/what Paul experienced on the Damascus Road), He will pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit (Spirit of Truth/Baptism of the Spirit) upon them which will heal their spiritual blindness (what Paul experienced after his 3 days in Damascus). After the Elect person's blindness is

healed, Christ will spiritually appear to them and commence His judgment (Day of the Lord).

His judgment is described in Rev 19:11-21 and in Mat 24:15-41. After this judgment is complete, the Elect person will be converted/saved.

The 120 Jewish Elect believers who were waiting on the Lord to "come again" were the first to experience seeing the Lord come in His glory and with power. Notice how Peter described their experience:

Acts 2:14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: 15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. 16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; 17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: 18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: 19 And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke: 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, BEFORE the great and notable Day of the Lord come: 21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved (this is the conversion event).

This same conversion event is described by Christ in Mat 24:29-31 below. Notice in both scriptures that the sun and moon are darkened.

Mat 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: 30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

As for God's wrath which is poured out during the Day of the Lord, only the children of the Devil will experience it. For the Elect, they are "born again" as a child of God just PRIOR to the Day of the Lord arriving. Because they are, the believer (now a child of God) will not experience wrath when they are judged. However, for the rest of mankind, they will experience God's wrath in the Lake of Fire (judgment) because they are not "born again" prior to God's wrath arriving. However, prior to anyone perishing, Christ will have mercy upon them and will freely give them the faith they need to be saved. After they are saved and the newly born child of God has been gathered to heaven, Christ's wrath will continue upon the child of the Devil (all the spiritual things that made the person carnal & sinful) until he is destroyed. This death will satisfy justice.

The verse below applies to Christ's judgment of the "lost" during the Day of the Lord:

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.

At the end of the final age, this scripture below 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.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Now, brethren, concerning **the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ** and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though **the day of Christ** had come.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-2

J _____

Dear J _____,

2Thes 2:2:1-2 is referring to the same event as presented in Mat 24:29-31. This event is when an Elect believer is spiritually changed and is spiritually gathered to heaven. The person being gathered to heaven is the newly born child of God. Only the children of God spiritually dwell in heaven - and for that reason, an Elect believer's dwelling place is shown to change after they receive the Latter Rain of the Spirit (same as the baptism of the Spirit/what the Apostles received on the Day of Pentecost).

In the spiritual language of Christ, unbelievers dwell in the sea, carnal unconverted believers (babes) dwell upon the earth and converted Elect believers dwell in heaven. These locations are not literal, physical places. These places represent the spiritual state of being of the person.

The scripture below is another depiction of the conversion process that happens to each Elect person at some point during their lifetime. It is the same event as the one Paul is referencing in 2Thes 2:1-2 and the same one as Christ depicts in Mat 24:29-31.

Rev 14:14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud *one* sat like unto the Son of man (Christ**), having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. 15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest**

of the earth is ripe. 16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

The scripture uses the farming analogy. It shows Christ gathering His Elect from the "earth" to "heaven" just after He has poured out the Latter Rain of the Spirit upon each of them. The Latter Rain has made the person "ripe" and ready for harvest.

James also uses the farming analogy in the scripture below:

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth (an Elect person), 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.

James was writing to "babes" (those who have only received the Early Rain of the Spirit) just as Paul was doing in his letters to the Thessalonians. Both groups of believers are still waiting on the Lord to "come again" so that they could be given the Latter Rain of the Spirit. With the Latter Rain, they would be made "ripe" and be harvested (gathered) to heaven (spiritually speaking).

After the Elect person has been spiritually gathered to heaven, the Day of the Lord (judgment) will come upon the person. This judgment is shown in Mat 24:37-41 and in Rev 19:11-21. It is also shown in the very next verses following Rev 14:14-16 which I quoted above.

Rev 14:17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. 18 And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. 19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast *it* into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand *and* six hundred furlongs.

This judgment falls on the "man of sin". The man of sin represents the spiritually worsened "marred" spirit and carnal mind of the Elect person which had caused them to become apostate just after they were given the Early Rain of the Spirit. The "grapes which are fully ripe" represents the "man of sin". The grapes are then "taken" (Mat 24:40-41) and cast into the Lake of Fire (Rev 19:20) for destruction.

Please understand that the events described above ALL happen within one individual Elect person. The child of God is born within them after they have received both the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit. The man of sin is born within them after they have received the spirit of anti-Christ from Satan. The man of sin makes the carnality of the person "worse than the first" (Mat 12:43-45) and it is destroyed by the judgment of the Day of the Lord. This spiritual process is

called "conversion" and it cannot be seen with observation (human eyes).

The conversion process is what happens at the second coming of Christ to each of Christ's Elect. Since there are many Elect persons, Christ's second coming is a reoccurring spiritual event (is, was, and will be coming). It is NOT a one-time visible event that happens at the literal end of this age as the apostate church teaches.

Because the second coming of Christ is when an Elect person's salvation occurs, 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.

The persons who are waiting for the Lord to return and convert them are the babes (Early Rain only/called to be saints) who have been chosen for salvation in this age. For that reason, the second coming of Christ is said to be "at hand" or as James said, it "draweth nigh".

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. 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...

Notice that verse 3 says that those who are blessed (the Elect) will "keep" (experience) the things written in the prophecies and that the time for their fulfillment was already "at hand" when John received the vision. The events described by the prophecy are not far off future events.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17

This is the gathering of all His Church in heaven and on earth, to be together with Him forever more.

J _____

Dear J _____,

Paul is teaching about the bodily resurrection from the grave in 1Thes 4:13-18 and not the second coming of Christ.

Paul teaches this same message on the bodily resurrection from the grave in 1Cor chapter 15. When you read both passages, you should be able to see that Paul is teaching on the same event.

The bodily resurrection from the grave (still a future event) and the second coming of Christ (time is "at hand") are TWO separate events.

Look closely at what Paul says in 1Thes chapter 4 about the resurrection from the grave to the Thessalonians:

Paul begins:

1Thes 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep (those who have died), that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

Paul then describes the resurrection in verses 14-17 and ends his comments with this statement:

1Thes 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

The hope of a converted Elect believer who has died is the bodily resurrection from the grave:

Acts 23:6 But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men *and* brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question.

The Thessalonian believers who have died have already experienced (kept) the second coming of Christ when Christ converted them. Their hope after having died is now in the still yet future bodily resurrection from the grave.

Paul ends his comments to the Thessalonians by saying that this knowledge of the coming bodily resurrection is what should give them "comfort" about their loved ones who have died in the Lord.

Can you see that the bodily resurrection and the second coming of Christ are two separate events?

Joe

J_____ never responded.