

**PREPARE THYSELF, FOR THE DAY OF THE LORD COMETH...,
OR, THE GREAT BURNT OFFERING COMETH**

06-22-08

(2 Pet 3:1-7) This second epistle [letter], **beloved**, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure [judged by sunlight, i.e. tested as genuine] minds by way of remembrance: That ye may be mindful of [remember] the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: Knowing this first, that there shall come **in the last days** scoffers [a derider, i.e. (by impl.) a false teacher:--mocker], **walking after their own lusts**, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished [was destroyed, died]: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, **reserved unto fire** against the day of judgment and perdition [ruin or loss: damnation] of ungodly men.

(2 Pet 3:8,9) But, beloved, be not ignorant [unaware] of this one thing, **that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day**. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance [i.e., to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ].

1. (Hosea 6:1,2) Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. **After two days** [two thousand years] will he revive us: **in the third day** [in the third thousand years, in the Millennium] he will raise us up, **and we shall live in his sight**. Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared [ordained] as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.
 - a. “bind us up” = Heb: to wrap firmly (espec. a turban, compress, or saddle); fig. to stop, to rule:--bind (up), gird about, govern, healer, put, saddle, wrap about.
 - b. The Full Life Study Bible: **The former rain** is the rain that comes in the time of plowing and planting; it symbolizes the Holy Spirit’s work in O.T. times. **The latter rain** is the rain that comes in the time of harvest; it symbolizes the Holy Spirit’s work in the age of the church [i.e., N.T. times].

(2 Pet 3:10-12) But **the day of the Lord** will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away **with a great noise**, and the elements shall melt **with fervent heat**, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be **burned up** [consumed wholly]. Seeing then that all these things shall be **dissolved**, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of **the day of God**, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

1. (Zec 13:7-9) Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: **smite the shepherd**, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones. And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, **two parts** [two thirds, of all Christians] **therein shall be cut off and die; but the third [part] shall be left therein**. And I will bring **the third part** through the fire, and will refine them [melt, purify, purge] them **as silver** [sheep] is refined, and will try [test, prove] them **as gold** [shepherds] is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people; and they shall say, The LORD is my God.
2. (Zec 14:11,12) And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited. And this shall be **the plague** [pestilence, the “pale horse” of Rev 6:8] wherewith **the LORD will smite all the people** that have fought against Jerusalem [i.e., all the unsaved peoples]; Their flesh shall **consume away** [Heb: dissolve. A nuclear holocaust = Gk: a burnt offering] while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall **consume away** [dissolve] in their holes, and their tongue shall **consume away** [dissolve] in their mouth.
 - a. (Psa 91:5-8) Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; **nor for the arrow** [i.e. a missile to modern perceptions] that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. **Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked**.

3. (Zech 14:13-21) And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult [confusion or uproar:--destruction, discomfiture, trouble, tumult, vexation] from the LORD shall be among them [“strong delusion” 2 Thes 2:11,12]; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbour, and his hand shall **rise up against** the hand of his neighbour. And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance. And so shall be **the plague** [pestilence, the “pale horse” Rev 6:8] of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents [i.e., owned by these unsaved peoples], as this plague. And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year **to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles**. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be **no rain**. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be **the plague**, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, **HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD**; and the pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar. Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the LORD of hosts: and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and seethe therein: **and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts**.

- a. Canaanite = Heb: by impl. a peddler (the Canaanites standing for their neighbors the Ishmaelites, who conducted mercantile caravans):--Canaanite, merchant, trafficker.

(2 Pet 3:13) Nevertheless **we**, according to his promise, **look for new heavens and a new earth**, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

1. (Isa 65:17) For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: **and the former [earth] shall not be remembered, nor come into mind**.
 - a. (Rev 7:17) For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: **and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes**.
 - b. (Rev 21:4) **And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes**; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.
2. (Isa 66:22) For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, **shall remain before me**, saith the LORD, **so shall your seed and your name remain**.
3. (2 Pet 3:13) Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, **wherein dwelleth righteousness**.
4. (Rev 21:1) And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; **and there was no more sea** [i.e., a biblical symbol of humanity, now past, as a seed when the flower cometh].

Amen