

AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

Greetings precious people, this week we are going to begin a short series on “seeing and understanding the signs of our time”. For many centuries we have been able to be somewhat successful in predicting certain events and occurrences for everyday life. Weathermen of ancient and present have followed various natural events on determining what the weather would be like the following day, such as the direction of the wind; red sky at night sailor’s delight, red sky in morning sailors take warning. Doctors use “signs” also known as symptoms to diagnose various sickness and disease, sociologists use “signs” trends and practices within society to predict the direction a culture is taking.

Jesus Christ has given us, through the Word of God the Bible, numerous “signs” by which we may know for certain a number of major events both past and present. Over 300 prophecies were given in the Old Testament concerning the first coming of Jesus Christ, many of which could be understood by way of “signs”. In Isaiah 7:14 we read, “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” And Micah 5:2 “But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *though* thou be little among the thousands of Judah, *yet* out of thee shall he come forth unto me *that is* to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth *have been* from of old, from everlasting.”

Jesus also gave many “signs” in regards to His return also known as the “Second Coming”. One of which is found in Luke 17:26-27, “And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe (Greek form of Noah) entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

In order to understand this “sign” we must ask and answer the question: what was it like in the days of Noah? It has been rightly said that the Bible is the best commentary on the Bible so that is where we will look to answer the question.

In Genesis 6:5-7 “And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.” And in Hebrews 11:7 “By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.” Also in 2Peter 3:3-6, “Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, 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.”

It is important to note 2 things, first is that Jesus believed in the existence of Noah and the flood and made reference to him. Noah was not a mythological figure. Second, the characteristics which existed and describe to times of Noah accurately describe our present day.

Reviewing now the signs that described the days of Noah: “the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his

heart *was* only evil continually.” (All one has to do is read today’s headlines to see this.) They did not believe in God or what He had said; there was no fear of God in them; we (presently) refuse to believe or learn from the past.

We are living in both exciting and troubling times. Exciting because we may very well see the return of the Lord; troubling because of the terrible occurrences that will lead up to His return. If you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior then you can face this time with confidence and peace, if you do not then this is the time to turn to Him.

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