

CURRENT EVENTS AND THE BIBLE

Greetings precious people, this week we are going to continue examining today's events and how they relate to the Word of God the Bible. It has been difficult lately to go through a week and not see some event(s) occurring that are not somehow related to prophesy concerning what the Bible calls the "End Times" or the events leading up to them. Jesus, the Prophets of old, and the Apostles spoke very clearly of certain events and occurrences that 'must' take place prior to the return of Jesus Christ.

One of these is the phenomenon known as earth quakes. Since Easter Sunday we who live in Southern California know well about earthquakes. We have had numerous earthquakes that have been very noticeable while most of them have gone unnoticed by all but the seismograph machines.

The Word of God tells us in Luke 21:11, "And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven." Though many events are listed in this one verse (some of which we will look at another time) our focus is that of earthquakes.

What is of interest to me is the mention of "various places". In the past ten years or so we have heard of earthquakes in places that we would never have suspected or thought would experience earthquakes. Places like our mid west, east coast, Haiti, China, the South Pacific, and a score of other locations.

In response to these facts and how they relate to the fulfillment of prophecy, some would argue that we have always experienced earthquakes. This is true but not in the locations where they are happening now and not to the degree, frequency and intensity they are today. The Lord in His grace and mercy is shaking (literally) things up to try and awaken us up to the impending judgment that is about to come upon the entire world. It is amazing to me that God is being so patient and kind to us who are a stiff necked and rebellious people that choose to continue to turn a deaf ear to Him. He has spoken clearly and loudly through His Word the Bible as well as current events yet we refuse to listen and believe Him.

In like manner God had forewarned the people of Noah's time of impending judgment by the preaching of Noah and his building of the Ark for 120 years yet the populace ignored and mocked him only to perish in the Flood. 2 Peter 3:1-6, "Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior, knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to 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 creation." For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water."

Prior to the children of Israel coming into the Promised Land, God warned them of certain judgment if they would turn away from Him. After entering the land God continued on numerous occasions to warn of coming judgment if they would not listen to Him and repent of their sin. He warned them through His Word spoken in time past; prophets that He had sent; and events such as famines, "natural disasters", financial

disaster, attacks by their enemies and others events that He had promised if they became persistent in their sin and rebellion.

There were also false prophets and teachers among them that were telling the people that there was no need of repentance for God was a “loving God” and would never allow judgment to come upon them. Tragically, the people chose to listen to the “liars” rather than the truth and suffered horribly.

Interestingly we see the same thing happening in our day. God’s Word is being fulfilled on a daily basis and the false prophets of our day continue to prophesy falsely and the people love to have it so. I do hope that you will take to heart the many “warning signs” that are being given to us, read your Bible and respond appropriately.

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