Will Christ Find Faith on the Earth?

Many Christians recognise that dark times lie ahead, and prophecy is clicking into place, as each day unfolds, but one small phrase of Jesus Christ catches my eye, and it has long disturbed me, for God's people... Luke 18:8, 'Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?'

Sadly, the answer to that question can only be, 'very little', or Christ would not have had reason to pose it, would He? He did so for our benefit, that we might take it in, repent, and build our faith!

It may be hard for many to believe that that is the case, but after what I have seen in my over 80 years, I fear it is true, for God says the whole world is deceived, Revelation 12:9, and that must include us, unless we repent! In truth, I have seen the results of deception occur time after time, with false teaching, good men and women driven out of church, police brought in to remove "marked" brethren, many falling away, thousands in disagreement over the Sabbath, anti-Christian dominion foisted off as church government, the worship of men, hierarchic control and total fragmentation, only to see it all repeated more than once!

God says His people are asleep to His words. "Awake", and free yourself from the bonds of church tradition, says Isaiah 52:1-2, 'Awake, awake! Put on your strength, O Zion; Put on your beautiful garments, [of God's Law] O Jerusalem, the holy city!(speaking of the Church). For the uncircumcised and the unclean Shall no longer come to you. Shake yourself from the dust, arise; Sit down, O Jerusalem! Loose yourself from the bonds of your neck, O *captive* daughter of Zion!

Many are captive of false ministers! They don't *want to hear* His End-Time prophecies and commands, and the ministry dare not preach them, lose members and income, and be removed, for the truth is that there are crucial commanded responsibilities upon this last generation, so far beyond our comfortable life-styles and worship, that few will step out of their comfort zone, to obey, even if they were informed!

Those that do, will always be remembered for their faith and outgoing concern for God's people, and special in God's eyes, for they become members of God's family at the Resurrection, and will be used in God's Kingdom to gather and deliver the scattered Israelite slaves (US, UK and its Commonwealth) from far nations, to Israel, (Isaiah 66:20) even as did Moses, long ago. Isaiah 40:10, 'Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and **his arm shall rule for him:** behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.'

The Bride of Christ are the courageous servants of God who *do* respond **to God's command**, *while most of the church is fast asleep*, or, if too old and infirm, provide their support *towards* God's future work in Jerusalem, Jeremiah 31:6-7, 'For **there shall be** a day, that the **watchmen** upon the mount **Ephraim** (UK and Commonwealth) shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the LORD our God. [Psalm 132:14] For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and **shout among the chief of the nations:** publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, **save thy people, the remnant of Israel. As a longtime watchman of Ephraim**, I need to cry out to God's people that it is our **responsibility to act in faith** upon God's stated commands, and as we will see at this stage, that includes its *preparation*!

Active faith trumps our faults and weaknesses, look at Sampson!

Do you remember the days when the 'Plain Truth' was everywhere and thousands met for the Feast of Tabernacles in the Blue Mountains here in Australia or at Minehead in England as well as in America? - close friends and brethren who are still lost, so badly burned that try as we may, we can't help them return!

Nowadays, those faithful to God's word are often found in small independent groups, or even alone. Ezekiel 34:9-10, 'Therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD; Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them.' 'And as for my flock, they eat that which ye have trodden with your feet; and they drink that which **ye have fouled with your feet**.' The deception is so engrained that God calls it Babylon!

God's faithful people have had to escape to avoid the dominion, idolatry and *mis-information*, and they cling to **God's words** so closely, that God calls *them* His virgins, Revelation 14:4, 'These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which **follow the Lamb** whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, [from **the** men, Greek] being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.'

Note: This is not to say that there are no good ministers, there are a few, but most of them have been content to accept deception in the form of church tradition, knowingly or **unknowingly**. They have passed on false teaching from the founding hierarchy without making sure it agrees with God's word, and so, their priorities are not God's, Matthew 7:22-23, '**Many** will say to Me **on that day**, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you workers of lawlessness!'

God's *people* have an equal responsibility to spot the unbiblical prophetic assumptions and willingly overlooked commands, "which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits:" Isaiah 30:10.

The problem with simply relying on the traditions of the Church is that not only does the Church arrive at Babylonian calculated Holy Days **which just last year saw most of God's people miss all the Holy Days by over a month** (See the previous and following articles) but the traditions go back to the founding of the Church when not all of the scriptures regarding the return of Christ, especially Revelation chapter 14, were taken into consideration.

To correctly understand the true flow of events, we need to thoughtfully bring together, especially, Daniel 9:27, 11:21-45, Daniel 12, Matthew 24, Revelation 6, Revelation 14, 12, and 17-18. Just do it!

The sad result of following Babylonian tradition, we read of in Revelation 7. Here a whole mixed multitude are often preached into God's Kingdom, but there is one problem with that: verse 14, 'And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they **which came out of great tribulation**, and have washed their robes, (too late) and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. This is **after** the resurrection. For the chosen of God, what could be more tragic!

When the Beast fails to catch God's servants fleeing from Jerusalem, he turns to persecuting and killing the Church, Revelation 12:14...17, 'And to the **woman** were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished **for a time, and times, and half a time,** from the face of the serpent...And the dragon was wroth with the **woman**, and went to make war with the **remnant** of her seed, which **keep the commandments of God**, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.' This is just after the halfway point in the 7 years.

Sadly, the **majority** of God's people only fully repent **too late**, and fail to be prepared because of their sleepiness and diversion from the words of God, and so their reward will be given to them in the Second Resurrection, and they will suffer the Great Tribulation, first. Are you satisfied with such a hope?

The bigger and more prosperous the church, the more we should beware, especially if that church claims to be the 'one true church', a sure sign of dominion, for God's Church is a spiritual organism, not a physical organisation with man-made bounds, Matthew 20:25-26, 'But Jesus called them aside and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their superiors exercise authority over them. It shall not be this way among you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

We have already seen that God's people keep the commandments the Church teaches, (Rev.12:17) **except for** the vital End-Time ones it doesn't! Christ tells us that He only recognises the 'virgins,' so the *deceived* miss the First Resurrection, Matthew 7:13-23, 25:1-10.

The virgins, Revelation 14:4, are awake to God's words, 'These are they which were not defiled with women [false church teaching] for they are **virgins**. These are they which **follow the Lamb** whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, [from **the** men] being the **firstfruits** unto God and to the Lamb. The virgins stay close to Christ's words and example. They do not worship men, or idolised Jewish traditions, so if in your church one man or a few, elevate themselves as rulers or are blind to God's words, beware! Our Savior expects his future wife to be faithful **to Him** and conscientious enough to be familiar with and obey ALL His word, and to look to HIS example **to avoid deception**, if we have been converted for years!

We should not be surprised about this, with such a priceless reward ahead! Revelation 20:4, 'I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge....and they **lived and reigned with Christ** a thousand years.'

As we saw from Matthew 7, Christ does not return for multitudes, but for the faithful few. Here in Luke, there was an innumerable multitude waiting to listen to Christ, but first He addressed his disciples. 'Luke12:32, 'Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.' After a few more words of Christ, to us to be prepared, 'Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all?' Luke 12:41.

Is not His answer true of **all Saints in all ages of time?** Then, Christ answered, v42, 'And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, *to give them their portion of meat in due season?* Blessed is that servant, whom his lord **when he cometh** shall find **so doing** and **so** receives the Kingdom.'

Christ assures Peter that it is not the vast multitude, **but His few faithful servants** who, when He comes, will be found **preparing His way** by obeying His will, busy about their Lord's business, which *includes* God's merciful, vital End-Time commands!

So, what is the difference between the faithful and those who miss the First Resurrection?

The faithful are precious to God and few in number. Many have been killed in the past or disfellowshipped for standing up for Gods's word, or have chosen to leave because they believe the scriptures and God's End-Time commands, instead of the

false traditions of the Church, which make many of the deceived *fatally unprepared* for the Firstfruit Resurrection, part of the "delusion" of 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12.

Enough of that though, let's visit the resultant errors which deceive them.

The End Time prophetic flow <u>begins</u> with Revelation 14:6-7, 'Then I saw another angel flying overhead, with the **eternal gospel** to proclaim to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation and tribe and tongue and people. And he said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give Him glory, **because the hour of His judgment has come.** Worship the One who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and the springs of waters," (This is God's **merciful** End-Time gospel and warning to repent, which first, before the Tribulation, reaches all men and women everywhere on earth!)

<u>AND</u> Daniel 9:27, 'And he shall confirm the covenant with many **for one week:** and in the **midst of the week** he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.' This is a *covenant of protection* made between the Beast, or Antichrist, and the prophet Daniel's people, the Jews of Israel in the Middle East. Daniel 11:23, 'And after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people.' (a token force). One 'week' = 7 years

Judge for yourself if you have been misled!

It is at this point, long expected by the saints, just before the fall of America at the 2nd Seal, that those of God's people who *have* prepared, travel to Israel while 'peace' still lasts. **"Then,** a second angel followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is **Babylon the great**, who has made all the nations drink the wine of the passion of her immorality." Revelation 14:8.

Just over 8 months into the 7 years, (Daniel 8:13-14) after 220 days, America, who has behaved as **Babylon, falls at God's hand**, in one day, Revelation 14:8,18:8, and will be trodden underfoot by the nations for 2300 days, the remainder of the 7 years.

The resultant collapse, invasion and slavery of the UK by the Beast quickly follows, for *their Babelonish* evils, Isaiah 10: 5-7. But everything *has been prepared* for God's servants to begin their **broadcast of hope, from Jerusalem** to the invaded and now captive 'chief nations', after the invasion, Jeremiah 31:6-8.

Judge for yourself if you knew of this responsibility!

World events then soon fall into turmoil, invasions, famine, pestilence and martyrdom at the 5th Seal – all the results of world war!

The covenant was supposed to protect Israel from the hatred of the surrounding nations, and Europe, led by the 'beast', (Revelation 13:4) provides his token force, but he soon reveals his ulterior motive by building his forces in Israel until he attacks Iran, the "King of the South" Daniel: 11:25, with his eyes on Middle East oil, but eventually comes up against the Chinese navy, 'the ships of Chittim,' v 30, probably in the Persian Gulf.

Frustrated, he turns his attention to Jerusalem after becoming aware of the broadcast, which prophesies hope to captive Israel, but doom for him. His persecution of God's broadcasters in Jerusalem then steadily grows as he attempts to discourage them with bribery and corruption, (Daniel 11) and even eventually, killing, until he decides He has to take over the whole country as a stepping stone to the oil, of the Middle East, and to eliminate the broadcast.

The Beast breaks the covenant at the halfway point in the 7 years, and invades Israel with his armies. Daniel 11:40-41. 'And at the **time of the end** shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.

It becomes apparent that Satan is inspiring these evil events when the Beast then causes the **broadcast to cease**, (Dan. 9:27) which has been a very valuable, but dangerous daily 'sacrifice' of the servants of God in Jerusalem, for over 2 years.

Finally, Matthew 24:15 occurs, '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:)' fulfilling Daniel 9:27, and Matthew 24:15, "in the midst of the week,'; it is time for God's servants to flee!

We are told in God's word that **His people are the temple** now, 2 Corinthians 6:16, 'And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? **For you are the temple of the living God.** As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people." Ephesians 2:21, 'In whom all the building fitly framed together growth unto a **holy temple** in the Lord:

Many of God's people have been taught that the Jews will build the temple the beast enters, ignoring these words, but the Beast's presence, in a 'holy temple,' standing amongst God's holy priesthood, a holy nation, and claiming to be God, fulfils 1 Peter 2:5,9 and 2 Thessalonians 2:4. Even if the Jews then *do have* a temple, it is not the Jews that the Beast is angry with, it is Gods people, and their commanded broadcast. Plus, there are no seats in a Jewish Temple!

Daniel 9:27 and Matthew 24:15 are exactly the same event, marking **the halfway point**, in the **7 years**. Prior to that, in Matt. 24:5-14, are the first 5 Seals, of Matthew 24 and Revelation 6:1-11, which Jesus calls "the tribulation of those days" in verse 29.

So, is it a 3¹/₂ year Tribulation? Judge for yourself if you have been deceived!

God's people then realise they will soon be arrested, and so urgently flee from Jerusalem, with no time to pack! Matthew 24:16-19, 'Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:'

We should note from the evidence which emerges, that they flee from Jerusalem on the evening of the fifteenth of Abib. There are indications that they head South for the mountains of Jordan, 12 miles to Tekoa, still a small village on the edge of the Judean wilderness, Jeremiah 6:1. South is the area King David hid in from King Saul.

Pressing on, notice what happens next. Just after Matthew 24:29. **The Heavenly Signs** appear, including a Blood Moon. **This is the 6th Seal**, Revelation 6:12, Matthew 24:30-31, '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. 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.' Revelation 14:14-15, 'And I looked and saw a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was One like **the Son of Man**, with a golden crown on His head and a sharp sickle in His hand. Then another angel came out of the temple, crying out in a loud voice to the One seated on the cloud, "Swing Your sickle and reap, because the time has come to harvest, for the crop of the earth ripe." So the One seated on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.

This is the 6th Seal Resurrection! Revelation 6:12,16. Note Christ does not set foot on the earth, but departs with His Bride, to Heaven, Revelation 14, and 15.

Judge for yourself if you have been deceived.

Now, we need to use our brains. We have just seen that **Christ returns FOR His Bride** *half way through the 7 Years*, after **3**¹/₂ years of "the Tribulation of those days," Matt. 24:29.

Work it out - That brings us to Wave Sheaf Day, at the barley harvest of the firstfruits – the Firstfruit Resurrection! (Having trouble working it out? Go to Archive, Articles 2, number 10) 'An Abib Resurrection.') It is easy to do!

Wave Sheaf Day is the day after the Sabbath during Unleavened Bread – Sunday. Saturday then, that week, is a high Sabbath, the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and follows the 14th of Abib, Passover day.

Does that fit in with the scriptures? Yes, and not only that, but like all the other Holy Days, it **places the First Resurrection in its correct symbolic position in the Plan of God for the first time!** Revelation 14 never did fit the false idea that the Resurrection occurs at a war feast *after* the Great Tribulation. Read it again for yourself, and see that the <u>Resurrection occurs in Revelation 14:15-16</u>, *before* the great winepress of the wrath of God occurs in verses 18-20!

Christ then carries His Bride away to the Sea of Glass in Heaven (Revelation 14;1-5, 15:2-3... **and finally returns WITH His Bride 3**¹/₂ **years later,** after they are fully prepared for their roles, to end all rebellion and establish His Kingdom on earth. (Revelation 19:9-15)

Now, once again, **judge for yourself if you have been deceived!** There could hardly be a more important deception! The futility of suggesting all this happens on one day at the Feast of Trumpets should be obvious, though Jesus does finally *return* with His Bride on that day. Revelation 19:11-19.

Next, let us remember our calling, Matthew 28:20, 'teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Amen.' We always seek to obey Gods commands, right? So we prepare, don't we, so that, for example, we can obey the Sabbath. We know the End-time is near, so how come the ministry read right over Jeremiah 31:6-7, 'For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.' This is God's primary End-Time command concerning Israel's invasion and enslavement at the 2nd Seal, soon after the start of the 7 years.

Without that merciful broadcast, knowledge that God will rescue captive Israel, hope, and maybe even **Israel, ITSELF,** would perish. Even *with* the broadcast, the Great Tribulation is deadly. Isaiah 24:6, 'Therefore the curse has devoured the earth, And those who dwell in it are desolate. Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, **And few men are left.'**

It is God's provision of hope, but it will take a lengthy period of time to prepare beforehand, - it is international, legislative, expensive, complex, detailed work, requiring experienced ministers and substantial finance as well as favour in the eyes of Israel's Government, but, so far, this message is just this faint voice in the wilderness, ignored by the ministry. Matthew says it is our task to teach God's commands, but, until the Church awakens, and gains the humility to recognise that it has been deceived, *as we have seen*, the *whole* gospel has **not** been preached into all the world. **God's Plan is stalled** and our Saviour Jesus Christ tarries, Matthew, 25:5, awaiting our awaking and the fulfilment of His command!

So, has your church accepted this God given, End-Time responsibility and the need to prepare? Has it even recognised those false traditions that have been exposed in the process? One more time, **Judge for yourself!**

How many times has it been asked why the people in Revelation 7 need to be sealed if they are already in Heaven? (Revelation 6, 14) Well, they don't, because *they* are not in heaven and because if you are repentant and baptised, you are already sealed, (2nd Corinthians 1:21) and hopefully prepared for the Resurrection. Those in Revelation 7 do need sealing, however, because, deceived, they did not fully repent in time, though they **keep** most **of God's commands.** So, they miss the Resurrection at the 6th Seal and end up in the Great Tribulation, Rev. 7:14. 'And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which **came out of great tribulation**, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.'

At the last, after watching our Saviour return, and take his Bride to be, safely away to Heaven, for 3½ years, they recognise their terrible error, and repent, but at the likely cost of their lives. If you are thinking that those in Revelation 7 will be in the First Resurrection, think again. *Notice the future tense,* and compare v16-17 with Revelation 21:4, and 23. *They* are resurrected in the 2nd Resurrection, and so miss the Millennium, but serve God in the **New Jerusalem**.

As for those who fled for their lives from Jerusalem, and those who financed them and their broadcast of Hope to captive Israel, and all the rest of God's children who died in faith around the world down through history from the time of Adam, till now, let us honour them for their *active faith*, and pray that **we** will not be found wanting, but be as brave and **actively faithful** to God's commands, instructions and service, as the little flock always are.

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