

Wake up Church! Be Ready!

Our Lord Jesus Is Coming Soon! For His Bride, Judgment and Reward



Men of Galilee, this same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw him go into heaven.(ACT1:11)
Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him even they who pierced Him[at His second coming] Even so, Amen!(REV1:7;P96:11-)

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The [Holy] Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who is listening say, Come! (Rev.22:17)

Amen! Yes, come, Lord Jesus!

Note: This article is not for sale, doctorate or self-glory. but for all those who love and fear God, looking for the soon return of our loving Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us surrender/consecrate/dedicate ourselves to Christ as his bondservants. Be faithful stewards of mysteries of God. Keep on doing the greater work Jesus left us to do. Pray for the later rain. Encourage one another. It is the Lord who judges us. Therefore, judge nothing nor condemn others before the appointed time, wait till the Lord comes. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and might be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!

The Blessed Hope

"Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who stays awake, and keeps his garments!"(REV16:15)Therefore you also be ready:for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect Him.(MAT24:44)There is great concern for those who believe and their faith in Christ is all that needed is to prepare one for the Rapture [caught-up; departure or catching away] when the Lord comes to receive His Own unto Himself. While coming to know Christ as our Savior and Lord is absolutely important, there are many admonitions given to believers to "watch and be ready" for Lord's Coming. There is a remnant, faithful by grace will be taken away, rapture from this earth, when Bridegroom Himself, Jesus is returning for His Bride. (ROM11:5) Jesus said He would return "I will come again"(JOH14:3) "Surely I come quickly"(REV22:20) And we "await the coming of His Son from heaven"(1TH1:10) It is the "blessed hope" of the believer in Christ. Bible teaching us that: we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,(TIT2:12-13) The "blessed hope" as the glorious appearing of Jesus Christ, our great God and Savior. It brings us joy, glory, we will be blessed beyond measure when we see Christ. The trials of this life will be over, and we will see that "our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us"(ROM8:18)

When Jesus Christ ascended to heaven, immediately two angels appeared and said "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.(ACT1:9-11) From that moment, apostles waited for Christ's Second Coming. When we speak of the imminence of Christ's return, we mean that He could come back at any moment. Take heed, keep on the alert and pray; for you do not know when the appointed time will come"(MAR13:32-33) Jesus could come back at any time for His church. So, people have hope and to be alert for the Lord's return. We are waiting for this event now. "the time is near."(REV22:10)

If looking for our Lord's return and our gathering together unto him, we want to be ready for that glorious event! As we read in IJO3:2-3, when He appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see Him as He is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as He [Jesus] is pure. Because the Bride of Christ have hope, and anticipate being with Jesus for eternity, they pursue a pure life and holy as our Groom. The goal of living a pure life is to be like Christ. He is pure, and believers seek to live like Him. For Christ enters into a covenant (engagement) with His Bride and sealed it with a cup of wine, the word of His promise. He paid the Bride price, by redeemed with His life. Then He departed to his Father's house to prepare bridal chamber and sent His Bride gifts of the Holy Spirit. While the consecrated Bride has to wait for return of Bridegroom, they will receive a glorified body and be united forever with the Lord.(PHI3:21;1CO15:35-) Surely, revival must come to the heart of person living in disobedience to the will of God upon realizing their carelessness and indifference. This condition which constitutes backslidden or luke-warmness or lacking zeal could result in their want of being ready when Lord returns. It is greatly needed to be awoken to the nearness of our Lord's return, along with preparing you to the need of living daily for Christ in order that we may win/gain Christ whom we love Him. We hope for what we do not see yet, but we wait for it with patience.(ROM8:25) "May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love, and into the patient waiting for His return"(2TH3:5)

It is time for the Bride to be ready with lamps full of oil burning brightly and go forth to meet the Bridegroom. Only those who have kept His Promise, found eagerly, constantly, patiently waiting for Him without spot or blemish will be counted worthy to escape the coming tribulation.(2PE3:14) They receive a door standing open in heaven! They heard God's trumpet call, Come up here! The church is at a very critical point, even as the Jews at the time of Christ's first coming did not be aware of the day of their visitation.(JOH1:11) Jesus is getting ready to remove a remnant from this earth followed by the horrible Tribulation. Those who are overcomers will be caught-up to the throne of God while all others will be required to be overcomers by give up their life for Christ through martyrdom in Tribulation. Rev.7:9-17, warns of a great multitude which no man could number it, coming out of the great Tribulation. It is time for the Church to wake up before it is too late. Those who reject Jesus Christ will be unable to be saved; it is dangerous to reject the truth and the life. Repent by today!

"But you are not in darkness, brethren, for that day to overtake you by surprise like a thief"(1TH5:4) Christians should not be surprised that day. Hosea 4:6 warns us: "my people are destroyed from lack of [spiritual] knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge" We should approach with an open mind, teachable spirit and heart of love. We all need to be like the Berean Christians who searched the Scriptures daily to be sure what preach them was the truth. If we fail to properly divide the word of Truth, subsequently fall into errors/deceptions and may find themselves in the Tribulation.(MAT22:29) Awake, awake; O Zion, put on thy strength; put on thy beautiful garment.(ISA52:1) because "now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed"(REV13:11) Final salvation of body will take place at the time of the resurrection-Rapture of overcomers.

As the Church came to near end of the sixth millennium [4000 years from creation until Christ, 2000 years since His birth] mankind will then move into 7th day the 1,000 years of rest described in the book.(REV20:6) This 1000-year reign of Jesus can be likened to Sabbath rest that God ordained for man.(HEB4:1,9) Let's be careful that we are not like the Pharisees and Seduces who were rebuked by Jesus.(MAT16:2-3) Bible says a wedding will take place in Rev19:7. Bride of Christ [Lord's true & faithful] will rejoice at her Wedding to the Lamb, at the Great Banquet/wedding feast when Lord establishes His millennium kingdom upon the earth. where joyous wedding procession to Jerusalem to become King's Bride. Go forth, O daughters of Zion, And see King with the crown On the day of his wedding, The day of the gladness of his heart.(SOS3:6-11)

Lord Jesus is coming soon!

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We are currently living at a time when the Scriptures shouting: **Jesus is coming!** Unfortunately, not everyone has the "ears to hear" or the "eyes to see", what is transpiring before them? Religious/Sect/Denomination - party spirit! Fixedness in peculiar opinion! Vainly puffed up!(GAL5:20;1CO1:29-;1PE5:5;PRO18:2) People cannot know about timing of end-time events because of legalistic tradition, contrary to scripture, toleration of immoral acts, worship of idols and unrepentant Jezebel. (MAR7:13;1CO3:1-4) They "*ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth*"(2TI3:7) Many people will be caught off guard at the coming spiritual earthquake. In MAT24:36. *No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.* what most people fail to remember is the preceding verse: *Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.* The day and hour that no one knew about that timing will occur at the end of millennium. *Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.*(REV21:1)

The Seven Feasts (LEV23)

1. Passover - Fourteenth day of the first month. Jesus was crucified. Jesus became our Passover Lamb.
2. Unleavened Bread - Fifteenth day of the first month. The loaf of bread is hidden. Jesus body buried.
3. First-fruits - Sunday following Unleavened bread, Jesus resurrected. He became the First-fruits.
4. Pentecost - Fiftieth day after First-fruits. The Holy Spirit came in fullness as promised.
5. Trumpets - First day of the seventh month. The Rapture, next major event (not yet fulfilled)
6. Atonement - Tenth day of the seventh month. Repentance of Israel, Restoration (not yet fulfilled)
7. Tabernacles - Fifteenth day of the seventh month. The Sabbath rest. Jesus reigns on earth (not yet fulfilled)

Be ready to meet your Lord (Amos 4:12)

For the son of man is a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, each with assigned task, and commanded the one at the door to keep watch. Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back--whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn"(MAR13:34)

When Master arrives, His servants are to be ready. His coming is the most important priority and faithful in the pursuit of his duties. We should view ourselves as stewards who have been entrusted with gifts, talents, skills, callings and ministries, which we are to use for our Master's kingdom. At some time our Lord will return and we must give an account to Him of how we used of what He gave us. The wise, faithful servant will know his masters' will and will be engaged in obedient fulfillment of the master's work. They are with their lamps full of oil burning, standing on the door, loins girded with truth, watching for the Lord's return and be prepared/ready to meet the Master.(LUK12:37-48) Wearing white garment signifies growing in intimacy with God and being fruitful for Him. Watch means to stay awake. It is that we awake out of spiritual sleep! It is spiritual watching with prayer that gives one the strength to endure temptations and difficulties. *Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.*(ROM8:23) Christ is the owner, head, master of the Church. Therefore, be diligent about serving his master's household and purge himself from false teachings, doctrines and corrupt practices. Servants who were disobedient were judged unfaithful. To the unfaithful servant who abused stewardship will not know the day or hour of His coming.

Let us not give up meeting together[fellowship] ...as you see the Day approaching.(HEB10:25;ACT2:42) It will be those who are awake will, see the Day approaching, they should be waiting for Him. "*he(Jesus) will appear a second time, ..to bring final salvation to those who are eagerly waiting for him without sin*"(HEB9:28) Christ's return, in victory, signals God's plan to judge sin and save His people: *Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you"*(REV3:2-3) Church of Sardis was dead. Lord rebuked and warned it to repent and wake up! By implication, if this church will obey His admonition, they will not be surprised like a thief. *For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together.*(MAT24:28) These eagles refer to angels who will accompany the "dead in Christ" who shall rise first at the sounding of the trumpet of God. When rapture takes place, everything in the world will be going on as usual. Christ will appear at an hour when world is not aware of, separation will take place. He will break into the house and steal which is most precious to Him, His Bride. Lord's coming should not surprise Christians while rest of the world, that the day will be surprised like a thief. We are to take on the armor of light against the darkness. *Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left behind.*(MAT24:40)

Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door.(MAT24:3,32) Just prior to telling us the fig tree parable, Jesus listed all the signs of the times and the end of age that we would see, such as: wars, rumors of wars, nation rising against nation, famines, earthquakes, epidemic diseases in diverse places, which is increasing in our day that we are living in the end times. Jesus warned counterfeit christs, false prophets would arise in the last days will perform signs/miracles and deceive many. These were just beginning of birth pains, indicating that the time for delivery (Tribulation) was just about due. *All these are beginning of sorrows.*(MAT24:6-8) Then Jesus gives us one of clues to knowing His return is near, i.e. to learn parable from the Fig Tree, represents the nation of Israel that is blossom again!(HOS9:10; MAR13:28) For about 2000 years Jewish people had been scattered throughout world, now the Israel was founded, people re-gathered from the four corners of the earth. *For yet a little while. "He who is coming will come and will not delay.*(HEB10:37)

The Day of the Lord

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When the Lord returns it will be as it was in the days of Noah and Lot. In 2TI3:1-5 verse indicate there will be terrible times in the last days, "*as it was in the days of Noah*" The earth was corrupt before God and was full of violence.(GEN6:11) that the peoples of Noah's day continued eating and drinking until the day the Flood swept them away.(LUK17:27)By faith Noah entered the ark(safety of Christ) and the one left is left for judgment, even as the people outside the ark were left for judgment. In Luk 17:28 "*as it was in the days of Lot*" The days of Lot was characterized by Sodom and Gomorrah, their sin so grievous.(GEN18:20) In Rev.18:4 tells us that terrible judgment is coming to Mystery Babylon, the great whore, the mother of harlots and that we must come out of her so we don't receive her plagues. "*for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly.*" (1TH5:2) In fact the world is crying for Peace and Safety. The nations say they want peace, but there will be no true peace until the "Prince of Peace" Jesus Christ reigns. Watch out! Bible declares when they are saying peace and safety then will be sudden destruction. This sudden destruction will usher in time, as the day of the Lord which begins with the seven year tribulation period. It will be one of most horrible times for inhabitants of the earth, time of testing, great trial. "*The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come*"(JOE2:31; ACT2:20;MAT24:21)The day of the Lord identifies events that take place at the end of age. It deals with nearness.(ISA13:6) It refers to divine judgments that will take place toward the end of the age.(ZEC14:1) Be on your guard, so that your minds are not dulled (spend your time) from carousing (take great pleasure, wild feasting, sexual immorality), drunkenness, anxieties [feeling of worry] of life (for money, worldly things), and that day will come on you unexpectedly like a trap.(LUK21:34)

The great day of the Lord is near--near and coming quickly. Listen! The cry on the day of the Lord will be bitter, the shouting of the warrior there. That day will be a day of wrath,(ZEP1:14-15) While this coming period of destruction will be horrible for those left behind on the earth, the Word of God does indicate that there is a way of escape those who take refuge in Him. "*Seek the Lord, all you humble of the land, you who have kept His commandments. Seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you will be sheltered on the day of the Lord's anger.*"(ZEP2:3;NAH1:7) The prophet indicated that some of those who are seeking the Lord, may be able to be hid from the day of God's wrath. Prophet says to seek the Lord and flee from the wrath to come. The Lord Jesus promises that who are watching and praying will "escape all these things" "*Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man*"(LUK21:36) This indicates that escape is possible, but is conditioned upon being accounted worthy in the Lord's eyes, which would mean that not everyone would be able to escape. It is not guaranteed or assured for any one. The word of God makes it clear that not all Christians are worthy and not all will escape the Tribulation. All believers are saved by the grace of God, but not all believers live a victorious or overcoming life. We must be overcomers! "*When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near*"(LUK21:28)

The second and third chapters of Revelation list seven churches, which represent Christians. They are all believers in Christ, but only a few have the promise of escaping the Great Tribulation. "*Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not defiled their garments. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy*"(REV3:4) We see that the Church of Sardis had a few members who stood out from the rest. Overall, the Church of Sardis was dead; but it did have a few who were found worthy because they had not defiled their garments. were able to walk with the Lord dressed in white. Jesus is returning for His Bride, a Glorious Church, not having spot or wrinkle that she should be holy and without blemish, washed white in the blood of the Lamb(EPH5:27) Jesus is telling His Bride not to get her wedding garment dirty by this dark or dying world that would cause her to get her dress wrinkled/spotted. For being pure before the Lord, take away the filthy garments(sin), submit to God's righteousness.(ZEC3:1-4;EPH4:22-24;ROM13:14;ISA64:6) "*Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling. so that you may become blameless...in the midst of a crooked and wicked generation.*"(PHI2:12,15)

Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial [tribulation] that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth.(REV3:8,10) It is clear that the Philadelphian church, which were overcomers and the one type of all the churches that they have kept the Word, abide in Him and brought forth fruit unto perfection. They were committed observing its truth in their lives and ministry. They kept themselves pure, put on righteousness, have sanctified life. They denied ungodliness, worldly lusts, steadfast in affliction, endured suffering till end. "*you have kept My word, and have not denied My name.*" They had kept Jesus' word, His commands, remained loyal to Him. Bride can be confident to be with Him prior to tribulation by being living life worthy of the Lord, please Him in every way.

Let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. Be zealous therefore to enter His rest that no one may fall or perish by the same kind of unbelief/disobedience.(HEB4:1-11;1CO10:5) Those who heard it in the wilderness perished because they did not believe the word of God. They did not have faith in it. They rejected it thru unbelief and lack of faith. They were destroyed in the wilderness and could not enter into that rest which is the promised land, Canaan.(NUM14:24,30) For we also received the good news just as they did; but the word which they heard did not profit them. since they did not share the faith of those who heard it. Now we who have believed enter that rest. *Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, as on the day of testing [trial] in the wilderness.*(HEB3:7)

Wedding Invitation

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In Matthew 2:2-8,14 that gives a parable points out several truths about God's quest for a Bride *The kingdom of heaven is like a king, which made a marriage for his son. He sent his servants to tell those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they refused to come. Again he sent other servants, saying, Tell those who are invited, I have prepared my dinner, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast. "But they paid no attention to it, and went off--one to his field, another to his business. Then he said to his servants, The wedding is prepared, but those invited were not worthy.* Here a group of believers who are not considered worthy, because they did not pay attention to the invitation to come to wedding banquet. In the parable, the king sends his servants out to gather the wedding guests to the wedding feast. But those invited refused to come, because they were too busy with their own worldly pursuits. We had seen that only those who are accounted worthy by the Lord, will be able to escape the Tribulation period. Since this group pays no attention to it and makes despise of the message, they will find themselves in the Tribulation. In Luk14:16-24 everyone makes excuses on why they cannot come to wedding feast. Many Christians pay no attention to it, when the concern of return of Christ is brought up, they are caught up with things of this world by means of unrighteous mammon (deceitful riches) *Be not conformed to this world,* (ROM12:2) But to be concerned true riches with thoughts of heaven and those things that are above, where Christ Jesus is seated at the right hand of God. (COL3:1-3) Jesus is calling us! An invitation to live a life together with Him. An invitation to be Jesus' disciples, follow in His footsteps and experiencing the fulfillment that brings to life. Ultimately, to spend eternity with Him! If we listen with our spiritual ears to hear the truth by respond to invitation, that is, Yes! to the calling, be set apart from the world, consecrated to God and follow Jesus as a faithful disciple. Those who are chosen are who wholeheartedly accept the invitation. It requires commitment from us, that we deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Christ every moment. And live a life worthy of our calling. (EPH4:1; LUK9:23-24; 14:26) Bible shows how few in the body of Christ/Church will be ready when Jesus returns for His Bride, *For many are called/invited, but few are chosen.* (MAT22:14)

Ten Virgins

"At midnight there was a shout, Behold, the bridegroom! Go out to meet him! Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out." "No," they replied, "There may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves" But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to wedding feast. And the door was shut! (MAT25:6-10) While it appears five foolish virgins were busy, they were not properly prepared or ready when the Bridegroom arrived. This is a picture of the Church today. Many appear to be very busy, but they are not making the proper preparations to meet their Bridegroom. Therefore, this shows us that many will lose vision of the fact Jesus will return and will grow spiritually sleepy. The wise had been busy while waiting for Him to arrive, despite growing weary, sleepy. The ten virgins do not represent the Bride, all slumbered, fell asleep. *But my dove, my undefiled is one.* (SOS6:9) Bride of Christ is pure as a chaste virgin, undefiled; singleness, sincere devotion to Christ, waiting and looking for the Bridegroom to return. And not been deceived by Satan's cunning, whose minds are not corrupted, who have their minds on Jesus. (2CO11:1-3) Lord Himself word to Martha, *"But one thing is needful"* (LUK10:42) i.e. to sit at His feet and find our delight in Him. Mary chose that good part, sitting at Jesus' feet implies having submitted and believed. We must rely on Him; He must be our hope. We must have no idols. Lord requires, we be not only called and chosen, but also faithful.

The Shulamite Bride (SOS7:10)

You are altogether fair, my love; there is no spot in you. (SOS4:7) A young woman, a shepherdess, called the Shulamite, has fallen in love with a man, whom she calls "my beloved." The Shulamite and the Beloved are identified as types of the church and Christ, that bride and groom were passionately in love and that there were mutual respect and friendship, as well. Here, scene opens with guests gathered around feast, in the marriage hall as the bridegroom and his bride speak to each other tender words of praise. He begins to draw special attention to the Shulamite's and admired her character as well as her beauty, reaffirming His love for her maturity and perfection. Shulamite adorned with the plants of a garden. God designed our heart to grow like a garden to bear herbs (leaves as beauty), flowers (blossoms emit a fragrance) fruit (offers nourishment) according to the spiritual maturity we cultivate in our relationship with Him. These three reflect our character in the Christ because they all reflect the loveliness and aroma of His character. Bride is, in reality, a mirror-image of Him reflecting His character. SOS-7 tells how the bride and her beloved go out together to check the vineyards. The bride says to her beloved, *"Come, my beloved, let us go forth into the field. Let us get up early to the vineyards; let us see if the vine flourish, the tender grape appear, the pomegranates bud forth"* The Lord and His beloved pictured here are working together, being attentive to the signs of new spiritual growth and fruit in her life. *Your eyes are like the doves behind your veil.* One who has "doves' eyes" is seen as beautiful, like turtledove with singleness of purpose and devotion, veiled with a beauty and love set apart for the Jesus alone. *"the king greatly desire thy beauty: honor him, for he is your lord* (PSA45:11) Jesus is as lovely and fragrant as a Rose of Sharon, beautifully reflect His tender Love to His bride as the church. The Bridegroom is Jesus, is returning for His Bride, who transformed into His likeness and image from glory to glory. Bride of Christ adorned herself with the incorruptible beauty of a meek and quiet spirit, ready for her marriage with the Lamb. The wedding garment is divine character the bestowing righteousness. *You ought to live holy and godly lives* (2PE3:11; 1PE3:4)

Run the Race

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Apostle Paul realized that being counted worthy before God was of vital importance and was constantly striving for the prize of the high calling. *"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and do my best to reach what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"*(PHI3:10-15;1CO9:25) Paul want to know Jesus and the fellowship of His sufferings, otherwise he will not reign with Him. He want to know the power of His resurrection in his life, so that one day he can attain the resurrection from among the dead that is going to take place. Paul knew that he was saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. And yet, he knew that there was this high calling to which he was not guaranteed. This is analogous to a runner in a race. Our everyday life in Christ is described as a race. All the while, we know that God has provided the way we're supposed to take. We get our start in the race of life by remembering that we're not alone. We're to keep continuing along on narrow way, *"let us lay aside everything that hinders, and the sin which so easily beset us, (i.e. burden) and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."*(HEB12:1) So let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. We ought to live by faith looking unto Jesus, look forward to an eternity with the Lord. Every participant strives to do his best in the hope of winning the top prize. No one is assured of that prize, and everyone strives to be the winner. In a race, there is always the possibility of stumbling or falling. The runner may not even be able to finish the race. *"All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you"*(JAM1:5;PRO19:2;LUK18:17)Not everyone would understand the meaning of upward calling; but they should if they are mature; pursue Christ above all else. Spiritual life is a growth to attain, a task to accomplish, a race to run, a course to finish-all triumphantly and at the same it is warfare to fight and overcome. God with you in Christ has anointed. May you be strengthened with all power, so that you may have great endurance, patience, joy.

Six visions of Revelation 14

- 1) First fruits – in heaven (verses 1-5)
- 2) Hour of Judgment has come (verses 6-7)
- 3) Babylon the great has fallen (verse 8)
- 4) Persecution by the beast (verses 9-13)
- 5) Jesus returns in clouds – final harvest (14-16)
- 6) Vintage – in winepress of God's wrath (verses 17-20)

First-fruits - Mount Zion

In Rev. 14:1 we see that the one hundred forty-four thousand first-fruits are stand with the Lamb, Christ, on mount Zion in heaven before tribulation begins. *"Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads"* This group on Mount Zion is different from 144,000 Jews described in Rev. 7:3,4 *"Do not harm the earth, the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God. Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel"* These were servants of God chosen and sealed from the 12 tribes of Israel before Great tribulation begins. These two groups have different details written on their foreheads. The firstfruits found in Rev 14:1 will be raptured before the tribulation begins. They are 144,000 saints in Christ, "called, chosen, faithful". They kept themselves pure and holy, chaste virgin for Christ. They had the garments of fine white linen, arrayed in robe of righteousness. They learn to sing the new song: It is heavenly song, song of victory won, praising the Lord. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes, walked in faith the Way of Holiness. They were obedient who stand for God's perfect Will and God's Kingdom till end. These are the ones who renewed their minds, progressively sanctified. They are perfected and had the work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope. They are well pleasing to God and do it all in love for the glory of God without murmuring, complaining or disputing. They took up their cross and denied self-daily. They speak the truth always and no guile be found in their mouths. They had cleansed out from all unrighteousness from their lives. These overcomers are called "blameless" without fault before the throne of God. They were redeemed from the earth, purchased from among men and offered as first-fruits to God and the Lamb. From foregoing this group who had made necessary preparations to meet the Bridegroom and were found worthy before God. They were escaping tribulation because of their pure condition, blameless, spotless, undefiled. They were taken to heaven as first-fruit offering, earliest ones of God's crop to mature. There are two feasts that celebrate First-fruits.(LEV23:10-13,17,29) By offering one sheaf of the first-fruits of the harvest before the Lord along with meat offering of unleavened bread and wine. Jesus lived a sinless life and He was resurrected from the dead as firstfruits.(COL1:18) Next feast Pentecost also called Day of Firstfruits. It is celebrated by offering two loaves of bread baked with leaven. The waving of two loaves represents all of mankind chosen by God – the Israel [O.T.Saints] and the Gentiles [N.T.Church] *They are the Firstfruits unto the Lord.* Those who described in Rev.7 are sealed for protection from the judgments of Great Tribulation, and from persecution of the Anti-Christ by God's angels. *Go thru the city of Jerusalem and put a mark on the foreheads. Slay outright, but do not touch anyone on whom has the mark.*(EZE9:4,6) they will welcome Lord Yeshuah Messiah, on earthly Mount Zion!(ZEC12:10) Those who in Rev. 14:1, are having their minds and attitudes like Christ, the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. First-fruits, Bride of Christ entered into Zion the promised land of Rest with thanksgiving and singing, everlasting joy will crown their heads. *Shouting, Grace, grace to it! They go from strength to strength; till each one appears before God in Zion.*

Trumpet

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Blow the trumpets for breaking the assembly[signal for gather/moving out](NUM10:2,7;2CO5:1-) *Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed-in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.*(1CO15:51,55 Those who are dead in Christ will be raised, resurrection bodies will be incorruptible, glorious, powerful and spiritual. The redemption of the body is the rapture. At the resurrection death will have been defeated. *Where, O death, is your victory? Where O death, is your sting?* Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. *For the Lord himself will descend from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are alive and left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.*(1TH4:16) With trumpet call of God, signifies that His voice is being heard, the First-fruits are caught up to Mount Zion followed by the Harvest will be taken in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the midair. (Heavenly Jerusalem)(JOH5:25;HEB12:22) Praise be to God!

The Man Child

The Lord shall count, when He registers the peoples, that this man was born in Zion.(PSA87:4-7) In Isa 66:7 describe about a woman who gave birth. *Before[Zion] travailed, she gave birth; before her pain came upon her, she was delivered of a man child.* Zion speaks of earthly and heavenly, it refers first-fruits. *"Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you (the Jews), and given to a people (the Church) who will produce its fruit* (MAT21:43;ROM9:33) In Rev.12, we see a woman who gives birth to a Man Child. Bible gives many descriptions of those who live exemplary lives before God. Jesus called them: "Overcomers" (victorious). *"To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God" "To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on His throne. To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations"*(REV2:7,26;3:21) Christlike conquerors are called to be overcomers, rule nations with Jesus Christ, with an iron rod. (REV3:12) This is the precise description of the Man child, given in Rev12:5 *"She gave birth to a son, a man child, who will rule all the nations with an iron rod, And her child was caught up to God and to His throne"*. Once the man-child is brought forth, he will be caught up to the throne of God. God will choose overcomers, select group of saints who will be taken to the throne of God, mount Zion in heaven. Lucifer who became Satan attempted to enter into this place in heaven, involved his ascent into the dwelling of God, "throne above the stars of God" and "be like the Most High"(ISA14:13-14) The dragon seeks to devour the male child when the woman is expected to deliver, but God caught the child to His throne. At the same time a war will occur in heaven. Michael, archangel and Holy angels fight against the dragon, The red dragon, identified with Satan and his fallen angels fight back, could not prevail it and will be defeated. There was no longer a place for them in the second heaven and all cast down to earth.(REV12:7-12) When Satan is expelled from heaven, there will be great rejoicing in heaven. He will enter the antichrist called the beast and gave him his power, seat and authority.(REV13:4) Incidentally, imagery of a dishonorable woman—called "the great harlot" to represent the Kingdom of Satan.(REV17:1) The woman in REV12:14, is of totality of God's people [Church+Israel], as in Joseph's dream.(GEN37:9) The woman represents Kingdom of God who brought forth the man child, was fled into wilderness for 3½ yrs, it is wilderness of apostasy or darkness

The Final Harvest

When first 3 ½ years of tribulation period is about over, Christ will return in the clouds to gather His elect unto glory.(MAT 24:22,29-31) *"I looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one "like a son of man" with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. "Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is ripe"*(REV14:14-15) Final harvest to signify gathering of the righteous by the mercies of God. *At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.*(MAR13:24-27) Master told the servants to let both(wheat/tares) grow together in the field until the Harvest. And those who did not respond to call, who cry saying; *The harvest is past, summer is ended and we are not saved.*(JER8:20) Let us make our calling and election sure. The angels will be the instruments used for this harvest and they will be harvesting souls, final gathering of all the harvest.

Vintage

In Luke 4:17-21, It is written: *to proclaim the 'year of the Lord's favor'* [Grace and Truth] Jesus quoted this verse concerning Himself related to His' first coming as a suffering servant. Then he rolled up the scroll, Jesus didn't read the last part of the same verse in Isa 61:1-2 because *'the day of vengeance of our God'* relates to His second coming.(ISA26:21) The vintage of the grape season is when the grapes are trodden down in the winepress. The winepress is the wrath of God, terrible calamity, probably the sword, shedding the blood of the wicked. *"The angel swung his sickle on the earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath."*(REV14:19-20) This is a picture of the blood that will flow at the final battle of Armageddon. *"He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty"*(REV19:15) Jesus will return in power and great glory. His coming will be final manifestation of the wrath of God upon a sinful world and puts down all unrighteousness. The rebellion of Satan, demons, wicked men is contained, put down and judged. Thus, this world will be destroyed because its people have left God, and worships the Beast, his image, receives his mark. Those who experience judgments, *For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand before it?*(REV6:17;20:14;HEB10:28-31;NAH1:2-6)

The man of lawlessness, the Antichrist

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"Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, who is destined for hell"(2TH2:3-4,7) Notice, what is holding back now! *For the mystery of iniquity already works, only he holding back now, until it comes out of the midst.* "he" is in the above verse, is the Holy Spirit, whose presence on earth effectively prevents him from manifest himself. The day of the Lord cannot occur until the Bride rapture takes place. Then falling away the man of lawlessness, the son of perdition, antichrist is revealed. In Rev. 6, seen the white horse carries a rider who conquers the earth. The rider is the Antichrist who will promise the world false peace. He is a great deceiver, dictator and a living devil. The spirit of Antichrist is that of a liar-denying Jesus is the Christ. Christ was empowered by God but source of the antichrist's power is Satan. Christ was a lamb, antichrist is called a beast rises out of the "sea" refers gentile nations.(REV13:1-3) Antichrist mean opposed to Christ, rebellion against God and deceive many people. He is a man of lawlessness, will counterfeit Christ, imitate miracles. In Rev 13 beast known by the number 666 refers to unholy trinity. Satan works through the Antichrist, who will walk into rebuilt Jerusalem temple, claim to be Messiah and God. He begins sign covenant for seven years with Israel. His ten nation union will merge into a world empire.(DAN7:1-8;24-25;8:25) He will try to change set times, God's laws. He is apparently killed, raised, will blaspheme, exalt himself above all, persecute God's people. He will sit in the temple, displaying himself as being God, demands worship. The false prophet makes all inhabitants of the earth to worship him. The Abomination of desolation will occur in the temple leading unto the Battle of Armageddon.

After the 1000 year reign of Christ on earth is finished, Satan is loosed from the bottomless pit for a little season. Satan goes out again with evil angels, resurrected wicked men to deceive nations. Finally rebellion against Lord Jesus in the battle of Gog/Magog at the end-millennium but fire came down from heaven, consumed them in a moment.(EZE38:2,22;REV13:3,2;20:7-)

The Tribulation period

After the Man-child rapture, remnant church will have to suffer persecution. Rev13:14-18 tells us that mark of the Beast is the mark of the Antichrist. In order to participate in the global economy will have to agree to satanically controlled world government and its anti-Christian world religion. When make this pledge, they will be issued a number (mark of the Beast). Without this number they will not be allowed to buy or sell anything. And will be forced to worship the image of the beast. A person who takes this mark has effectively denied Jesus as his exclusive ways to salvation and will be eternally lost. (REV14:9-12) But true Christians being sacrifice their lives for the testimony of Christ and die as martyrs. (MAT24:14,22) *They overcame him (anti-christ) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives to death*"(REV12:11) There will be a great multitude from every nation around the world to come out. It will be a large group of people, numerous to count. In all probability, this great multitude of believers will be comprised of many of believers in our Churches today[judge our-self]. At the opening of the sixth seal marks end of first half of seven years tribulation period with its cataclysmic upheavals.(REV6:12-17) "a great earthquake, the sun shall be darkened the moon shall not give its light, and the stars of heaven fell" referred to as signs in the sky.(LUK21:25-27) There will be visible appearance of Jesus coming in the clouds of heaven to gather his saints. *For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.*(MAT24:27) Immediately followed resurrection of the tribulation martyrs & remain in Christ[Harvest (MAT24:29-31) It is then the tribes of Israel will mourn and seek the Lord. The nation of Israel is blind in part, who their Messiah is i.e. the Christ.(ROM11:25) Many will turn to the Lord thru ministry of two Witnesses [Enoch & Elijah] (REV11:3) They recognize Jesus whom they have crucified.(ZEC12:10-14;ACT2:36) And confessed: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*(MAT23:39) In Dan 9:24-27 God allotted seventy weeks unto Jews, to fulfill His purposes in them. The first sixty-nine weeks (483 years) are accounted for in period between the time Daniel received message and time when the Messiah was cut off. This leaves one week (7 years) is associated with the time when the Anti-Christ makes a seven-year covenant with Israel. Jesus' earthly ministry to Israel people, from His baptism to His ascension, was 3½ yrs. There has been a gap of two thousand years since Messiah was crucified and still the last week of years to be fulfilled. *And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week.* In the middle of seven year peace agreement he breaks it which is coming will be the *'time of Jacob's trouble...but He will be saved out of it'*(JER30:6,7;HOS5:15) The sounding of seven trumpets and warning by the angels to the inhabitants of the earth which will signal forthcoming judgments of God. Seven judgments come upon antichrist, false prophet and inhabitants of the earth, which take the form of plagues.(REV9:3-6) In Rev 5:4-5, sees a scroll in heaven, which no being except for the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David (Christ) can open. *When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.*(REV8:1) The seventh seal is broken has closed door of heaven and the day of God's wrath has come. The wrath of God speaks of the judgments of God is released on wicked world. The children of Israel took Jericho with trumpets.(JOS6:4) Now, God prepares to take earthly kingdom from Satan. Seven seals are broken, seventh seal has seven trumpets, the trumpets are sounded one at time and when the seventh trumpet sounds the cities of the nation fall. The seventh angel sounded trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven. *"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever"*(REV11:15) Rev.19:11-21, presents moments of victory: Heaven open and a rider on a white horse, identified as Jesus "Faithful and True." Christ is faithful to avenge the death of the martyrs and to keep His promises. Jesus, at the head of armies of heaven, returns to the earth and reign of the world begins as He is King of kings, and Lord of lords, *Hallelu-Yah!*

In Rev.20:4-6, the "first resurrection" mentioned is the raising or rising up of all overcomers from the dead and have new glorified bodies. *For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming* (1CO15:20-23;HEB9:27;11:35;REV1:18;ROM6:5,8:11;LUK20:35)The first resurrection takes place in various stages, sequences and will occur at the time of the rapture. Jesus Christ Himself the first fruits, next come "they that are Christ's at His coming." Jesus said, *those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead.* Those who are worthy will be raised in the first resurrection. All those who have placed their trust in Jesus Christ and have died, will be resurrected before tribulation begins. And believers who died during the Tribulation will be resurrected at Christ's return. *"I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands.*(REV20:4) There are two groups; first consists of those who were seated on thrones with the authority to judge. (LUK19:17)First-fruits are given the right to sit on throne of God. The second who had been martyred for Jesus were given honor of reigning with Christ. In view, first resurrection includes those who are: The First-fruits, Faithful witnesses, Tribulation martyrs, O.T. saints. God shall speak thus to the faithful. Go your way; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days. Then Daniel and the saints, shall arise for everlasting life.(DAN12:2,13) Those brought back to life will reign as Kings and Priests on earth. *Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years."*

A New Age - 1000 years

But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished (REV10:7) This is the mystery of Israel and the Church.(EPH2:11-19;3:6) that through gospel the Gentiles are fellow heirs with Israel, members of the same body and joint partakers of His promise in Christ.(COL1:24-27;ROM11:9-26)This dispensation of Grace Church age, is hidden by God found nowhere in OT prophesy. God's plan of salvation begins with the chosen nation of Israel, then moves to include all the nations of the earth that the world might know the true God,(ISA49:6) but Jews rejected their Messiah(ROM11:15-36) The church was formed, all nations should be made disciples.(1P2:4-6) *They too will listen to My voice, and so there will be one flock under one Shepherd.*(JOH10:16) Messiah's return to the earth is the final stroke of God that comes in the last days, Israel's spiritual redemption, Israel's restoration, re-establish the throne and Kingdom of David. Israel will be greatly travail in pain during the Tribulation. At the end of great tribulation, Christ will return with His saints His feet will stand upon Mount of Olives to deliver the Israel. *"when the Lord builds up Zion, He will appear in His glory! Behold, the Lord comes with His holy ones.*(JUD14;REV19:14) He will defeat the antichrist and all his forces in the battle of Armageddon. *He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom.*(ISA9:7;LUK1:32,33) *Lord will be King in all the earth.*(ZAK14:5-9)God has made covenants to Israel and promises a Messiah:(2SAM7:14)and promises God (The LORD) made to Jesus (David's Lord)(PSA110) When seventh trumpet sounds, the Messianic Kingdom will be established with justice and righteousness, and peace will begin in Jerusalem. *"For the law shall go forth out of Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem"*(MIC4:2) The 1000-year reign of Jesus on earth is described briefly in ISA11:6-9. Satan is bound during this period. For the whole Creation is waiting for sons of God to be revealed, groaning and travailing now, also will be delivered from the curse and will regain the Eden order.(ROM8:20,17)We are made joint heirs with Christ, His inheritance, blessedness, glory will be shared with His redeemed. *I have anointed my king on Zion, my holy mountain. Sing praises unto our King!*(PSA2:6)

Book of Life

When the thousand years are over,.. Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.(REV20:7,11,15)All the rest of the saved(gleanings to be added) & the wicked will be resurrected at the end of 1000 yrs. They will be judged according to which are written in the books. This is judgment at Great White Throne. All nations are before Him, He separates righteous from unrighteous, as shepherd divides his sheep from goats Those on His right hand are sheep the saved. Those who followed the antichrist's lead are goats.(MAT25:34,46)

The New Jerusalem

*I am making everything new!*a new heaven, a new earth wherein dwells righteousness. God destroys the earth by fire and the heavens passes away with a great noise.(2PE3:7,12;1CO15:24)In John 14:1-3 Jesus told the disciples that He would go to prepare a place for them. *that where I am you may be also.*The holy city, the New Jerusalem is the eternal habitation of the Bride, adorned for her husband; descending out of heaven with the Glory of God. *Jesus is the way,* Christ will hand over eternal Kingdom to the Father. Tabernacle of God is with men, it will be the place where redeemed will live in face-to-face presence with God. He will wipe away joyful tears from their eyes. There will be no more death, sorrow, crying, pain for the old order of things has passed away. And whose names written in Lamb's book will enter the city(RE21:2-4,7,27)The city will have light from glory of God., there will be no night and the Lamb is its lamp. The city will have a pure river of water of life. The city will have a tree of life which is in the Paradise of God. As we worship God, we "shall see His face"(REV22)

Spiritual Earthquake

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When the rapture of the First Fruit saints takes place; many Christians will be utterly devastated. There will be Christians who failed to prepare to meet the Bridegroom. The horror of having to face the testing of Tribulation period will be dreadful, great distress. *And the dragon was furious 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.* (REV12:17) Those who "keep the commandments of God" are Jews. However, those who have testimony of Jesus are New Testament believers. They are remnant of Church remaining being pursued by Antichrist. It will be most horrifying events in history. Those left behind will be completely surprised. Most had been taught all Christians are taken when rapture take place. The horror of being left behind will be devastating. The grief will be over-whelming, blame, guilt, shame will initially fill every believer heart when these very Christians realize they were misled. *Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to.* (MAT23:13; LK11:43; 1CO10:32) Religious party leaders of that time were not teaching what people needed to know. They were keeping others from correct path, blind leaders of the blind, create dissension cause divisions and a class-system. Today the same thing is happening again. Many churches have lost vision of Lord's coming, no longer sound doctrine/holiness/serving Lord encouraged; changed object of worship and glory (from Almighty God to Mary/saints) Man judged saints, declare their destiny (it is God's sovereignty); less often or not at all Holy communion. (JOH6:54) They have boasting, building their own empires instead of God's kingdom, competition between pastors and denominations instead of proclaim gospel and present everyone perfect in Christ. They are guilty of allowing erroneous doctrine to prevail by interpreting the bible on a subject to fit their peculiar opinion/tradition; Seeks to dominate rather than serve people. Changed, taken out, added to the Bible-effected short counsel of God; teaching itching ears want to hear; content to drink its milk [babes in Christ]; failed in their duties as watchmen, become a den of robbers.

Great Multitude

The true Church that remains will need to come together to help and encourage one another to be faithful to Jesus. They will recognize the anti-christ for who he really is and they will not believe the lie. Rev. 12:9 calls him the great dragon ... that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan, who leads the whole world astray will deceive people by performing signs and lying wonders through his subtle power. (IITH2:9,10) People will be required to receive a mark on their right hand or forehead, other alternative will be death. The true Christians will stand up for Jesus and they will refuse to bow down to the antichrist. [like Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego. (Daniel 3:16) They have to refuse the mark of the beast or number of his name and be martyrs [die in the Lord] (REV14:9-13) *Do not be afraid, Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.* (REV2:10; MAT24:13) They will be cleansed in the midst of adversity (wilderness experience) and become overcomers. *"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb"* (REV7:9,14;19:9) Notice these Christians had to wash their robes in order to make them white. This tells us that they had white robes at one time, means they were born again Christians. Secondly, it tells us they somehow had gotten their robes dirty. This is picture of the Christian caught up with the things of this world, vanity. All Christians are betrothed to Him, with responsibility remaining faithful but not all will maintain their sincere and pure devotion to Christ. Some will set their affections on other things over and above Christ and will thereby become guilty of spiritual adultery. (JAM4:4) The lamps represent our confession of faith. It cannot shine without oil, (EXO 27:20) Oil is typical of the Spirit of God. And to maintain close communion with God that keeps Spirit dwelling within soul. so that they can come to a position of humility and obedience. Notice parable of the ten virgins all fell asleep, they were not alert. However, all woke up as they hear the mid-night shout! The wise had prepared when the bridegroom finally came, they trim their lamps. Now they are ready able to go with Him considered worthy invited to the Wedding Supper of the Lamb. The foolish virgins on the other hand ran out of oil, not suitably prepared. And the hour is too late and the door was shut! *"Afterwards five foolish virgins came, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'* (MAT25:11-12) As a result they left behind to face the horrors of the great tribulation by missing the later rapture!

The Final Judgment

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive according to what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. (II CO5:10) First throne-Christ's judgment seat was set up at the beginning of millennium, when the saints were rewarded for faithfulness. (1CO4:2,4) They will be called into account and receive what is due them. (ROM14:12; MAT12:36; GAL6:7; COL3:25) Each man's work will be revealed thru fire (1CO3:9-15) Those that run the race well will receive an imperishable crown (1CO9:25) Those written in the book of life and insures person not worship the beast will receive God's reward of crown of life. Then there will be final judgment, Great white throne set up at the end of millennium in which dead in their sins-unrighteous will be raised [general resurrection] and judged according to their works. *And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened.* (REV20:12-15) For the judgment, books are opened, whose names were not found written in Book of Life, who reject Christ, remain in their sin will be condemned, were thrown into the Lake of Fire, with antichrist, his angels, false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment.

Final Preparations

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Until the catastrophic occurs the believers still has time to prepare and to be included in the first fruits rapture. The one who calls you is faithful, righteous he will strengthen; protect you from the evil one. God is asking "Where Are You?" and call of the Lord! Wake up from spiritual slumber! Arise, examine your condition those who are miserable, poor, blind, naked! Realize your needs! Prepare to meet the Bridegroom! Lord tells church at Ephesus "*Remember therefore from where you have fallen*" there is solution" *Repent and do the deeds you did at first*" as when they first set out in the ways of God. They must endeavor to restore their first love, faith, zeal[consecration]. We must submit ourselves to God by humbly drawing near to Him with a pure heart.(JAM4:7,8) We must cast all our burden on the Lord. God promises to sustain us, cares us, not let us be shaken.(PSA55:22) The end of all things is near. First priority should be seeking His Kingdom and righteousness and willing to give up everything, forsake all that we can have true riches that the Lord offers.(HEB12:28) We're just strangers, pilgrims on the earth, looking forward to the time when we're in the glory and at rest with the Lord. *For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.*(HEB13:14) the Holy city called New Jerusalem; *whose builder and maker is God*" This life complete with the trials, testing, sufferings necessary to be conformed to the image of His Son. *We must go thru many hardships to enter the kingdom of God.* Therefore the believer should continue living a sanctified life. It is important to read and meditate on God's Word with an attitude of self-judgment and to live by every Word. They must trim the wicks of their lamps, keep on being filled with the Holy Spirit, kept burning continually.(1TH5:19) We are reminded to mortify the deeds of the body, crucifying the flesh (the sinful nature) with its passions and desires, yet through the Spirit. Let God's Spirit rise up, led to walk in the Spirit. It is the power that allows you to live an overcoming life and victory. The fruit of the Spirit is the reflection of His image, the character of Christ in our lives as we walk/talk with Jesus. *Just as His anointing has taught you, abide in Him.* We should maintain a hidden life in Christ and found blameless in the sight of God.(EPH5:9-20;1JO2:27;GAL2:20) When we're gathered as the bride of Christ sing hymns, songs of hope, proclaim his love for us. And walk in love, do good, obey His commands.(EPH5:1) Jesus is the light of the world, He is shining with light of righteousness, love, truth. Let us walk in the Light of God, then the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin. Light is the promise of hope and joy. Finally, *Watch and pray always!* Before Enoch was taken up, he was walking with God, possesses a testimony of having pleased God.(HEB11:5) Spiritual progress, maturity had seen in Elijah. Step by step he walked with God, being guided by the Spirit: Gilgal to Bethel; to Jericho; to Jordan before he was raptured by a whirlwind into heaven.(2KI2:2;GEN 19:17) *Remember Lots wife!* She made it almost till the end, then she 'looked back' and was destroyed with the rest.(LUK17:32)

Be an Overcomer

Jesus Christ promised everlasting life in the Kingdom of God to "him who overcomes." The word to overcome means —victory over hostile powers, to subdue something or to prevail over something. An overcomer is a conqueror and a winner. This victory has as its foundation the victory already won by Jesus Christ. Christ is the true overcomer! We can become overcomers is to yield ourselves to Him and allow Him to conquer, subdue, prevail through us. Overcomers are those faithful, obedient, following Christ even in persecution and threat of martyrdom. Overcoming involved repenting of sins and returning to a life of walking with Jesus by faith. An overcomer is one who resists temptation through self-examination, diligent in putting sinful attitudes and behaviors out of his life that emerges from lust and pride. Overcoming requires dependence and trust upon God for direction, purpose, fulfillment, and strength to follow His plan for our lives. "*The Lord is my strength and my shield;*(PSA28:7) Overcomer endures through trials by the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus encourages remain in steadfast through trials and tribulations in life. There are several steps should take if you are about joining Christ's army of overcomers. We should continually submit ourselves to God, draw strength/power from Him, put on full armor of God and resist the devil. We should hate/oppose all sin. There are promises in Word of God that give you power, authority over all the power of the enemy. We can persevere in our efforts to overcome sin because we know that He is faithful to His promises and become more like Christ. Pray/confess the scriptures that talk about victory that you have in Him. Our victory is in Jesus! Jesus was the first Overcomer. He is our Forerunner, Who has already overcome the world, the flesh and the devil. *Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fix our eyes on Jesus!*(HEB12:1-2)

Be the Bride

This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the Church.(EPH5:32) Marriage as an illustration of the union of Christ and the Church. It is the relationship of the husband to his wife. For the Father seeks as He prepares a Bride for His Son. Jesus is zealous for His Bride. The Holy Spirit is at work to call forth, wash, transform, make ready the radiant Bride of Christ. *Let us be glad and shout with joy; and let us give glory to Him; for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife (the bride) has made herself ready*"(REV19:7) *Behold, a greater than Solomon is here!* He is the fairest of the fair. He is the lily of the valley. He is the bright morning star He is the pearl of great price. Our beloved Jesus desires harmony in our lives, Love first followed by obedience and devotion. The Bride will be transformed as she allows her love for Jesus to lead her through wilderness for protection, then coming out victoriously. *church of the firstborn* is the bride,(HEB12:23) the Lamb's wife.(LUK12:32) Bride of Christ is a remnant portion of body of Christ, just as Adam and Eve. Our Bridegroom is coming soon! We are exhorted to be ready at all times, in blessed hope, reflect His character and be holy, pure as chaste virgin. Jesus comes with the trumpet sound, hear His voice "*Rise up, My love, my fair, and come away with Me!*"(SOS2:10)