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What Will the World Look Like in the 22nd Century?

Matthew 6:10: (NASB) *Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

There is something about looking into the future that is really fascinating to humanity. What will things be like one hundred years from now? Will cancer be cured? Will the world powers we have today be the world powers of tomorrow? Will our reality be experienced virtually? Will we get along? Will the world be a scene of utter destruction caused by man-made global warming, or will it be destroyed by nuclear winter or disease? Will an asteroid end life as we know it or will the wrath of God burn the planet and all on it to a crisp? We believe biblical prophecy tells us a lot about the future with a startling measure of detail. Stay with us as we walk down a path of prophecy and look back so we can see the future!

Many people have a sense of "doom on the horizon." When you look at things biblically from a prophetic perspective, it may not be that way at all.

Our approach is based entirely on biblical prophecy and as such, is most certainly subject to interpretation. What we reveal on this program is a result of the serious and collective study of many students of prophecy over many years, revealing what we believe to be an accurate representation of God's plan for mankind and the earth.

Here is a really big hint as to the answer to the future of the earth and mankind:

Matthew 6:9-10: (NASB) ⁹Pray, then, in this way: *Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

Notice the simplicity of this often-repeated prayer. The first thing Jesus models us to pray for after honoring God is God's kingdom and His will to be functioning on earth - how? Just like they are in heaven! *Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.* He is telling us to look forward to the future.

To get to the fulfillment of that prayer, there is an order of events. Here is a simplified list of things that need to happen: 1. Spiritual desolation, 2. Deep trouble, 3. Deliverance, 4. Resurrection, 5. Judgment and reconciliation, 6. Peace.

Please see CQ programs, "Is Jesus Really Returning?" (Parts I and II) from January 1, 2014 and February 2, 2014 for more information on this topic.

First, a prophecy that deals with matters of the spirit - setting up Jesus' return. Jesus was explaining his return to his followers weeks before his crucifixion:

Matthew 24:14-15: (NASB) ¹⁴*This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come. (This gives us a sense that this particular prophecy covers a long time) ¹⁵Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION, which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand).*

For the sake of time, we will only consider a very brief look: 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4:

The Abomination of Desolation: *Who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.*

We do not believe the Abomination of Desolation is a *person* but rather a *system*. When you look at the history of Christianity, there has been one system that has set themselves up above every other system of Christianity (self-exalted) and proclaimed to be the voice of God on earth - the Papal system.

Self-exalted - sits in the temple of God - what temple? The Scriptures say we are the temple of God's spirit. This system is sitting in place of the true church and overriding what the true church was supposed to be. That created in Christianity *desolation* (corruption). It is in this context that this "lawless one" calls himself God.

When you (spiritual Israelites) see this corrupting of spiritual Israel during the Papal reign then: Matthew 24:16: (NASB) *then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains...* (Time context verified in Luke 21:20-24)



Judea is a picture of Christendom and not the literal countryside. Those people flee to the pure source of truth. They are supposed to run away from the spiritual desolation.

Jesus continues laying out details that cover a very long time. Matthew 24:17: (NASB) *Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house.*

Those truly most spiritual but not separated from the corruption have to decide to walk away. Peter prayed on the housetop when given the vision to convert Cornelius. It was a matter of wasting no time - leave all behind!

Christianity is not defined by *the systems* of Christianity but is defined by *the individual faithfulness* of those who hold true to scriptural truth.

Matthew 24:18: (NASB) *Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak.*

One coming from the world (represented by *the field*) and seeing these corruptions of Christianity must walk away.

Revelation 18:4: *And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.*

Matthew 24:19: (NASB) *But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!*

Jesus is talking about the difficulties people have when trying to become his followers. It may be hard to walk away from what is comfortable to what is true.

When we look back in history, these are the things that had been happening in this space of spiritual desolation. God is not happy with the state of Christianity.

Matthew 24:20-22: (NASB) ²⁰*Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a sabbath.*

This personal approach sets the scene for the verses to come - the Sabbath being the end of the week - the end of the spiritually corrupted experience. The spiritual corruption or desolation does not last forever. We follow this long trail of experiences that brings us to what is described as the *time of trouble*. But how does this unfold? Who does it affect? It will be a more severe time of trouble than we have ever seen.

Jesus saying, "*unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved*" is an indication there is a pattern established that is positively deadly.

We do not believe we are in the big time of trouble yet but we are getting close.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3: *Peace and safety - labor pains - sudden destruction - no escape.* We need to go through the misery of this deep trouble to be able to get to deliverance.

A quick look at a prophecy that gives a general overview of physical events: Daniel 12:1-4: (NKJV) ¹*At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; (The favor of Israel to be restored. This has already begun. There is an overlapping of the phases.) And there shall be a time of trouble; such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. (There is deliverance in this time for God's elect - the spiritual resurrection.)* ²*And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt. (This time will lead to the earthly resurrection.)* ³*Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever. (This leads to a new way of governance.)* ⁴*But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; (This time was when the spiritual desolation took place.) many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase. (This "time of the end" has another sign - the great increase of knowledge and running to and fro. These signs are very obvious today.)*

Many people have great fear and worry that the world is going to come to an end. If Jesus said, pray for *God's kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven*, then we need not worry. We need to see how the prophecies back that up rather than refute it. The world is *not* going to be burned up.

After we see the beginning of Israel's deliverance, the next step will be resurrection that follows the great trouble.



It will be a time of firm governing and Jesus will be in control: John 5:26-29: (NASB) ²⁶For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in himself; ²⁷and He gave him authority to execute **judgment <2920>**, because he is the Son of Man. ²⁸Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice, ²⁹and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of **judgment <2920>**.

Judgment: Strongs #2920 krisis (kree'-sis); decision (for or against); by extension, a tribunal; by implication, justice (especially, divine law)
Thayers: 1) a separating, sundering, separation 2) a trial, contest

The word judgment means a time of trial, not a final proclamation of judgment.

Reconciliation: When you reconcile things that are out of harmony, you make them work together again. When a bookkeeper reconciles numbers, the numbers balance on both sides.

Judgment and reconciliation are tied very closely together.

Jesus speaks of his authority based on Old Testament prophecy: Isaiah 11:1-5: This broad picture shows us there will be mercy, justice, and clarity - God's spirit of wisdom through Jesus on the earth. When Jesus talks about the resurrection to judgment in John 5, it is based on Old Testament prophecies God revealed to him.

Why the Day of Judgment? To follow up the sentence of death upon all men. Hebrews 9:27-28: (NASB) ²⁷And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes **judgment <2920>**, ²⁸so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await him.

Why the Day of Judgment? To give an accounting for idle words. Matthew 12:35-37

Isaiah 11:6-9

Why the Day of Judgment? To judge the angels who sinned. 2 Peter 2:4 Jude 1:6

What do we have so far? A process we began tracing in our day of sin and death. It began with a spiritual judgment on false Christian systems. Sincere followers were called out of those systems. We then saw some hope for Israel as the trouble increased as never before. Then we saw a change of authority from that of Satan, sin and death to that of Jesus, resurrection and life. Judgment comes and it is in the context of a world that is transforming to righteousness.

Isaiah 25:1: God did not create the earth so that it would be destroyed. He created it for the joy of an earthly family.

Why the Day of Judgment? To "punish" (prune) the unjust/ungodly men: 2 Peter 2:5-10

2 Peter 3:7: (NASB) *But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire (fire of reconciliation and purification), kept for the day of **judgment <2920>** and destruction of ungodly men.*

While this important and lifesaving judgment is going on, we can again see it will be done within the context of God's government through Christ: Isaiah 25:6-9

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This "judgment" is a process of discovery - just like in a trial - and not a time of slamming the hammer of punishment down.

Matthew 12:16-18: **Jesus was quoting from Isaiah. Does the following sound like a hammer or a process?** Isaiah 42:1-4: The day of reconciliation is a process of building people up. Jesus brings goodness, grace, mercy, love and justice to the entire world. **As we see the process of judgment, we begin to realize how time consuming and detailed it will be, for each individual will have to be proven in a very new environment:** Jeremiah 31:29-34

What will the world look like in the 22nd century? All these things will begin to fall into place. There is an incredibly detailed process that has been underway for a very long time *because God has planned it so*. He allows sin and death to reign to give Christianity a time to develop and allow it to be corrupted, to pull true Christians out from that corruption and to bring upon the world a time when Israel can begin to be re-gathered and delivered, the great trouble will



come, and then resurrection, judgment and reconciliation. Nothing will end the world. There is a reason humanity is in place on the earth.

Despite all of the advantage given to each, every individual will not succeed: Acts 3:22-23

It would seem unbelievable that some will not progress, but such is the nature of free choice: Isaiah 65:17-25: There will be a period of time when everyone will have the ability to show progress and want righteousness. After resurrection, people will still have corrupt thoughts and will need to wash them away by learning righteousness. By God's mercy they will be given at least 100 years to learn. **Yet, for those who comply with the righteousness and rule of God, the rest of this verse applies:** ²¹*And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.* ²²*They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree shall be the days of my people, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.* ²³*They shall not labor in vain, nor bring forth for calamity; for they are the seed of the blessed of Jehovah, and their offspring with them.* ²⁴*And it shall come to pass that, before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.* ²⁵*The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox; and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith Jehovah.*

We can see how all of the elements that bring God's kingdom had to work together and in order. From the lengthy spiritual desolation that begins the process of the "Time of the End" through the deep trouble and deliverance, (which are comparatively short) to the resurrection and judgment and reconciliation stages, (which are lengthy) - it all leads to *the peaceable, eternal kingdom!* The end of the story is actually the beginning of eternity! Daniel 2:44

Habakkuk 2:14: The entire world will know the glory of God. We do not need to worry about nuclear fallout thousands of years from now; rather we can rejoice in the knowledge of God for all eternity. The role of true Christians is to work with Jesus in that government and to be faithful now so that we can assist in the brand new government of God. Psalms 22:27

What does the organization of this kingdom look like? Micah 4:1-4: (NASB) ¹*And it will come about in the last days that the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, and the peoples will stream to it. (A government to surpass all governments)* ²*Many nations will come and say, Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD and to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may teach us about His ways and that we may walk in His paths. For from Zion will go forth the law, even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. (World capital in Jerusalem)* ³*And He will judge between many peoples and render decisions for mighty, distant nations. (Righteous rule)* *Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; Nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they train for war. (Peace reigns)* ⁴*Each of them will sit under his vine and under his fig tree, with no one to make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken. (Indicates personal responsibility and a prosperous environment - also may indicate a prophetic personal attachment between the human race and those whom God has chosen.)*

The earth becomes bountiful, as the curse of sin is lifted off. Isaiah 35:1-10

Matthew 6:9-10: (NASB) ⁹*Pray, then, in this way: Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.* ¹⁰*Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

Now when you read Matthew 6:9-10, think about the prophecies, the process, and God's plan, which is written in the Scriptures. It brings us to an end of joy, peace, tranquility and God's ways, not man's ways. Jesus told us to pray for God's kingdom to come on earth because it is coming! Be aware of it, want it and look forward to it!

**So, what will the world look like in the 22nd century?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!**