

What is Going On?

By Pastor John Ward

Where are we right now in time and why are these things happening?

Generally speaking, Jesus tells us in Matthew 24. Let's go there...

Matthew 24:3-8

And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? 4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

1. Wednesday, March 18
A 5.7 magnitude **earthquake** hit Utah on Wednesday morning, the U.S. Geological Survey said, knocking out power and rattling residents ...
2. 6 AM today
Croatia's Zagreb rocked by powerful **earthquake**: magnitude 5.3 quake wrecks buildings and causes fires...
3. We are at ***the beginning of sorrows...***

The Lord woke me up twice thorough the night and again when I finally got out of bed with this phrase, "perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord."

2 For 7:1

Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, **perfecting holiness** in the fear of God.

1. NOTICE: Self-purification is required
2. "**Perfecting**"- Gr. epi-teleō - to finish, to perform, to accomplish
3. "**Holiness**"- Gr. hagiōsynē (hag-ee-o-soo'-nay) - moral purity
 - a. 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you: 13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.
 - b. 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the

coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

- c. 1 Corinthians 6:9-14 (KJV Strong's) 9 -- Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. 12 All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. 13 Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body. 14 And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.
 - i. Satan will do everything he can to get you to return to bondage and lose your reward.

Ever since Coronavirus began to greatly effect North America, I kept hearing the Spirit of God say, "there was light in Goshen."

1. Exodus 10:22-23 And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days: 23 They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.
2. Ephesians 5:8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light.
3. 1 Thessalonians 5:4-9 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. 7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. 8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. 9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.
4. Proverbs 4:18-19 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. 19 The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.

There is a difference between the body of schist in the earth and the world:

Exodus 11:6-7 (NLT) 6 Then a loud wail will rise throughout the land of Egypt, a wail like no one has heard before or will ever hear again. 7 But among the Israelites it will be so peaceful that not even a dog will bark. Then you will know that the Lord makes a distinction between the Egyptians and the Israelites.

Go to Isaiah 55. God's purpose is one, but there is a strong difference between His people and the world.

Isaiah 55:1-3

1 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the **waters**, ← 1.
and he that hath no money;
come ye, buy, and eat; ← 3. ← 2.
yea, come, buy **wine** and **milk** without money and without price.
2 Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not **bread**? ← 4.
and your labour for **that which satisfieth** not? ← 5.
hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye **that which is good**, ← 6.
and let your soul delight itself in **fatness**. ← 7.
3 Incline your ear, and come unto me:
hear, and **your soul shall live**; ← 8.
and I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
even the sure mercies of David.

Eight Things Offered by God

1. **Waters** (Isa. 54:1):
 - a. Of salvation (Isa. 12:3)
 - b. Of everlasting life (Jn. 4:14; Rev. 7:16; 21:6; 22:1; Jer. 2:13; 17:13)
 - c. Purification by the Word (Eph. 5:26)
 - d. Of satisfaction (Isa. 32:2; 44:3)
 - e. Of growth, fruitfulness, and success (Ps. 1:3; Jer. 17:5-8)
 - f. Peace (Ps. 23:2)
 - g. Of spiritual power (Jn. 7:37-39)
2. **Wine** (Isa. 55:1). **Figurative of the blood of Jesus** Christ by which we have forgiveness of sins (Mt. 26:26-29 1Cor. 10:16-21; 11:25-27)
3. **Milk** (Isa. 55:10). Figurative of the simplicity of Truth/Word (1Cor. 3:2; Heb. 5:12-13 1Pet. 2:2)
 - a. 1 Peter 2:2 (NLT) 2 Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment,
4. **Bread** (Isa. 55:2):
 - a. Of life (Jn. 6:35-58)
 - b. Of sincerity and truth (1Cor. 5:8)
 - c. Of healing (Mt. 15:26)
 - d. Of the broken body of Christ by which we receive healing (Mt. 26:26-29 1Cor. 10:16-21; 11:23-30 1Pet. 2:24 with Isa. 53:4-5)
5. **Things that satisfy** (Isa. 55:2):
 - a. With the fatness of God's house (Ps. 36:8)
 - b. Drinking of the river of God's pleasure (Ps. 36:8)
 - c. God's supply (Ps. 37:19)
 - d. God's goodness (Ps. 65:4; Jer. 31:14)

- e. Good things (Ps. 103:5)
 - f. Long life (Ps. 91:16)
 - g. Bread (Ps. 132:15)
 - h. Being in His likeness (Ps. 17:15)
6. **Good things** (Isa. 55:2):
- a. They shall not lack any good thing (Ps. 34:9-10)
 - b. No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly (Ps. 84:11)
 - c. Satisfies your mouth with good things (Ps. 103:5)
 - d. Good things to them that ask Him (Mt. 7:7-11)
 - e. Good things to come (Heb. 9:11)
 - f. Shadow of good things to come (Heb. 10:1)
7. **Fatness** (Isa. 55:2):
- a. Your dwelling shall be the fatness of the earth (Gen. 27:39)
 - b. Your table shall be full of fatness (Job 36:16).
 - c. Satisfied with the fatness of Your house (Ps. 36:8)
 - d. Your paths drop fatness (Ps. 65:11).
 - e. Let your soul delight itself in fatness (Isa. 55:2).
 - f. Partake of the root and fatness of the olive tree (Rom. 11:17).
8. **Spiritual life** (Isa. 55:3):
- a. Show me paths of life (Ps. 16:11).
 - b. With You is the fountain of life (Ps. 36:9).
 - c. With long life will I satisfy him (Ps. 91:16).
 - d. Redeems your life from destruction (Ps. 103:4).
 - e. Life forevermore (Ps. 133:3)
 - f. They shall be life to your soul (Prov. 3:1-23; 4:20-27).

Continued...

Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

So, what is God saying...?

1 Peter 4:17-19

For the time is come that **judgment** must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? 18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? 19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

Judgment Gr. kríma, judgment, damnation, punishment. If the righteous are found sinning, He deals with them first (Hebrews 12:3-11), and if they are found righteous He delivers them from judgment (Gen. 18:23-32; 19:22; Ex. 14:13-31 Ezek. 9:1-11 etc.). The idea here is that if God will punish the righteous when they sin, He will surely punish the ungodly.

If the ones who are righteous are scarcely saved, there is no possible hope of sinners being saved.

Hebrews 12:25-29

25 See that ye refuse not (through unbelief/stubbornness) him that speaketh...

(This indicates that it was the voice of God that spoke the law on Sinai (Heb. 1:1-2).)

...For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: 26 Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven(s).

(JFB) Vs. 26.

- **Then shook**--when He gave the law on Sinai.
- **Now shaking**--under the Gospel (TODAY).
- **Promised**--The announcement of His coming to break up the present order of things, is to the ungodly a terror, to the godly a promise, the fulfilment of which they look for with joyful hope.

27 And this word, Yet once more, signifieth **the removing of those things that are shaken**, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

- Hebrews 12:27 (TLB) 27 By this he means that he will sift out everything without solid foundations so that only unshakable things will be left.
- Hebrews 12:27 (NCV) 27 The words "once again" clearly show us that everything that was made--things that can be shaken--will be destroyed. Only the things that cannot be shaken will remain. **We allow things in our life that defiles our garments—idols.**
 - 2 Corinthians 6:16-18 for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.
 - **There's a whole lot of shaking going on so that God's people can see what they have allowed in their lives and receive this opportunity to repent.**
 - 1 Corinthians 11:31-32 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: 29 For our God is a consuming fire.

1 John 5:21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

1 John 2:15-17 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.