

to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels.

2Thessalonians 1:7

Store In My Heart

Numbers 10:11-12

Now in the second year, in the second month, on the twentieth of the month, the cloud was lifted from over the tabernacle of the testimony; and the sons of Israel set out on their journeys from the wilderness of Sinai. Then the cloud settled down in the wilderness of Paran.

We all remember that the book of Numbers includes the counting of the nation and the listing of the various dedications and sacrifices for the tabernacle. Do you remember that most of their travels are also found in this book?

Numbers is the book to read if you want to consider their travel from Sinai to Canaan. It tells of their 40 years of wilderness wandering because of unbelief.

Do you know who is included in both numberings of the nation of Israel? There's only 2!

“Every Eye Shall See Him”

George Hutto

New Testament teaching is that Jesus Christ will return in the clouds on the Last Day. Of course, different people react differently to that doctrine. Some do not worry about the Lord's return because they simply do not believe. Others believe enough to be afraid, but not enough to do anything about it. And, there are those who are ready for the Last Day and welcome the Lord's return.

Who are these prepared people?

Those who engage in the Good Fight. The admonition to the young preacher Timothy was *“Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”* (**1Timothy 6:12**) Those who fight are looking for a victory, and that victory will come to faithful Christians when Christ returns in the sky.

What kind of fight? *“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”* (**Ephesians 6:12**) There are powers in the world which encourage fornication, deceit, greed, disrespect for authorities, strife, profanity, etc. The faithful Christian stands against these forces. My fear is that so many of our neighbors might not even recognize that such a warfare is taking place. They will not be ready.

Those who “love His appearing.” *“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.”* (**2Timothy 4:7-8**)

When the Law was given at Mt Sinai the elders of the Israelites refused to go with Moses to receive the Law. They said *“You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.”* (**Exodus 20:19**) When Jesus came in the flesh, He was more approachable. He said *“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”* (**Matthew 11:28-30**)



Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

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For Our Information

John Jackson physical therapy is going well.

Joyce Venable is doing a little better.

Ruben Keisler is scheduled for shoulder surgery at St Vincent March 4.

Dottie Henderson is in the hospital with fluid build up and some pneumonia.

Tonight we will review some and start our study in Ruth 3 at 5 pm.

Wednesday night we will start with 2Corinthians 5:6.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

Although Peter and others were apprehensive (**Luke 5:8**), they and the multitudes found Jesus to be gracious, open, forgiving and obliging. Therefore, when we think now about His appearing in the sky, we can look with happy anticipation to the event.

Those Who Worship. Listen to Luke's record of His ascension: "*While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy....*" (**Luke 24:51-52**) The worship mentioned here may have been informal, but we know that the Lord wants us to worship in heartfelt and prescribed ways, "*in spirit and in truth.*" (**John 4:23-24**) To think of the Lord's return in the sky is to alert our hearts of the need to give the Lord His due.

When Jesus spoke of His return being like a thief in the night, He said "*Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.*" (**Matthew 24:45-46**) He surely refers to the constructive work of the Christian, in service in the local church as well as being a good neighbor. (**Luke 10:29ff**)

Concerning the unfaithful He said "*The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know and will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*" (**Matthew 24:50-51**)

As has been said, if folk don't want to worship the Lord here on earth, will they ever be able to enjoy His company in heaven?

Those Who Are In Christ. "*For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.*" (**1Corinthians 15:22-23**) But how does one get into Christ?

Getting into Christ is a conversion process. "*For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*" (**Galatians 3:26-27**. See also **Romans 6:3**.) So, we are baptized into Christ.

That baptism, of course, follows hearing the gospel, where instruction is for believing, repentance from sin, and confession of faith. Baptizing a non-believer would be meaningless, as also baptizing a non-repentant sinner, or one who is not willing to confess his allegiance to Christ would mean nothing. In the New Testament those baptized are believing, repentant, and confessing individuals. Such are baptized into Christ.

Baptism is the point at which one is saved from his past sins. Saul of Tarsus was told "*And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.*" (**Acts 22:16**) When one's sins are washed away, nothing stands between him and God's acceptance in the Last Day. (Note, however, that Saul's sins were washed away. He did not carry the guilt of Adam or his parents or of mankind.)

As surely as Christ came the first time, so shall He come again.

"Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen." (**Revelation 1:7**)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!