

The Return of the King –an overview

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Introduction

For two years now I have as my desk top background the words “The Return of the King” written under a warrior battle scene taken from the movie “The Last Samurai”. It is an imposing and constant reminder of the return of King. This subject is so vast, that the words of this message are really just an overview. There is much more for each of us to learn and have personal revelation upon.

In relation to Jesus’ return, many Christians think their role is just to win souls and wait for the rapture and let Jesus do the clean up job. This is an escapist and defeatist mentality. The real task is to demonstrate the kingdom of God in every sphere of our planet where Jesus has the capacity to be made know and glorified. We are also to take territory and occupy till He comes. This is the church’s mandate!

Part 1-The heart of Jesus

a) I want you to capture the heart of Jesus on this important subject.

-It is His desire to return and reclaim what is rightfully His... all of Creation

-there is a misconception... that we are all He cares about. This is not so. *Jesus is concerned about all and every aspect of His creation. It is His intention to get it all back!*

-another misconception, just to mention it upfront is: *we are the victims of the great tribulation. This is an outright lie.. It is in fact that the exact opposite is true. We are the ones, the end-time Bride who, by praying Jesus’ instructions will bring the devastating tribulation on the antichrist and his forces.*

We need to change our mindset on these two subjects.

In the heart of Jesus you will find these three passions dominating:

-He is a passionate Bridegroom *and He loves His bride the church.*

-He is the King *but with a servant heart.*

-He is the Judge *and all that hinders His love will be removed.*

-On His return we will see all of these three facets of His character openly displayed.

b) He has a battle plan...it is described in detail in the book of Revelation. The book of Revelation IS His battle plan.

-we are a major part of the plan...we are His end time bride, who prays in accordance with Jesus’ plan, the 21 judgements on the antichrist and his evil empire.

-most of today’s church does not know this yet.... they are asleep and need to awaken and rise up to join their king. It is time. The time is now! There is no more time to waste.

-the awakening of His church is starting to happen....a new church is emerging...Babylon is falling...the religious structure is beginning to fall.....His true bride who bases her relationship with her king on intimacy and truth is emerging.

Part 2-His Return. *The sequence of events leading to His return as scripture tells it and as I currently understand it.*

Revelation from Ch6 to end of Ch16 gives the chronological sequence of events.

-It is Jesus' 21 part battle plan to destroy the enemy.

-In the plan there are the 7 seal judgements, the 7 trumpet judgements, and the 7 bowl judgements.

-all these are critical for us to memorise, study and understand.

-for believers who are uninformed of these events, as we head into these times, it will be potentially disastrous.

-we will be offended because we had not taken time to understand that He brings the judgements *because of His love*.

-There are numerous scenarios given by many scholars as to how these events will play out. I currently believe in a literal and chronological sequence. We the saints on earth, at the beginning of the tribulation period (the seven years) join Jesus and pray all these 21 judgements into reality.

Please note that it is not necessary to pray in relation to any of these judgements until the right time.

We will know the 7 year period has commenced, when there is a lasting peace treaty signed with Israel. This is when the antichrist will rise to power.

JESUS releases all the 7 seal judgements.

a) In **the first seal**, Rev 6:2, at the beginning of the 7 year period, God judges the harlot church (also known as Babylon), by raising the antichrist up against her. He (the antichrist) was given a crown and an arrowless bow. He was given authority over every tribe, tongue and nation. His white horse, while representing purity, is the counterfeit to Jesus who rides the white horse with truth. Rev.19 v11.

-The true church is viewed as intolerant by the false harlot church. I understand the true bride will eventually separate from the harlot church. In fact it is beginning to happen.

b) In **the second seal**, Rev 6:3-4, the release of the red fiery horse whose rider brings conflict to the earth. The great sword represents world war breaking out. The kingdom of darkness wages war against itself.

c) **The third seal**, Rev 6:5-6, is the release of the black horse whose rider has a pair of scales in his hand. This speaks of the world economic crisis that will follow the world war. There will also be the most severe famine on the earth affecting those who embrace the harlot church and the Antichrist.

d) **The fourth seal**, Rev 6:7-8, is the release of the pale horse and rider who brings widespread death to one quarter of the earth, being about 2 billion people. There will be widespread fatal diseases and death by wild animals. These are the same 4 judgements as mentioned in Ezekiel 35-38.

e) **The fifth seal**, Rev 6:9-11. The cry of the martyrs is one of the most misunderstood judgements of Jesus. The martyrs are not crying out for personal revenge but for God to do justice against the kingdom of darkness.

f) **The sixth seal**, Rev 6:12-17, takes heaven's tribulation activity to a higher level. Cosmic disturbances are released by the prayer movement of those saints in heaven and on earth. A great earthquake or a worldwide geophysical upheaval will take place. The sun and moon will be darkened possibly by volcanic ash; asteroids will be showered upon the earth. The sky recedes as a scroll, meaning that the veil is lifted and heaven becomes visible to those on the earth.

g) **The seventh seal**, Rev 8:1-6, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. This is an awesome moment. It is the transition preceding the trumpet judgements which will increase pressure on the antichrist's regime. The censer is filled with fire from the alter in the throne room and thrown down on the earth bringing earthquakes, as the smoke from the incense (being prayers of the saints) ascends before the throne of God.

JESUS commands and releases all the trumpet judgements.

The saints on earth join with Jesus in anointed prayer, and pray these 7 judgements into being. It is the time of transition to the age to come: history will be shifted on the earth and in the heavens to the millennial kingdom.

The first 4 trumpets destroy the resources of the antichrist's empire. Their purpose is to punish not to kill. These are further warnings which still allow time for repentance. They are supernatural acts brought about by God. They parallel the plagues brought against Egypt. In these 4 judgements God lifts His restraining hand off the human race allowing sin to become fully manifest.

a) **The first trumpet**, Rev 8:7, destroys the food supply by burning up one third of the earth's vegetation. It may be described as a supernatural meteor storm-like event bringing with it hail and fire.

b) **The second trumpet**, Rev 8:8-9, further destroys food supply in the seas as they become blood. Shipping trade is disrupted. A huge fiery object, like a great mountain is thrown from the sky. The second trumpet corresponds to the first plague of Egypt.

c) **The third trumpet**, Rev 8:10-11, a great meteor, like a flaming torch, falls from the sky and causes the poisoning of one third of the waters (the rivers and streams) of the earth and they are turned bitter. People in the antichrist's regime die from drinking the bitter water. The saints will be protected as were the Hebrews during the plague on the river Nile in Egypt.

d) **The fourth trumpet**, Rev 8:12, will destroy light and heat by the darkening of the sun, the moon and the stars causing chaos on the earth. Health, agriculture and navigation will be affected.

The fifth and sixth trumpets are different from the first four. They release two demonic armies on the earth. In these two judgements people will be turned over to Satan and experience the terrors of his rage. They will still have an opportunity to repent of their evil acts. In these 2 judgements God lifts His restraining hand off the demonic realm allowing Satan's hatred to be fully manifested.

e) **The fifth trumpet**, Rev 9:1-12 this trumpet releases an army of demonic beings like horses but with human faces prepared for battle. They are however like scorpions who sting people and inflict great pain. Men will seek to die but not be able to do so. These evil beings are released by the angel who opens the abyss. They go out to inflict torment on those who have the mark of the beast but are not allowed to touch the saints.

f) **The sixth trumpet**, Rev 9:12-21 this trumpet releases 4 demonic beings who lead a large demonic cavalry force who kill one third of the human race. This is a parallel of the 10th plague in Egypt where all the first born were killed by the angel of death. The sixth angel is commissioned to do this by the angel who serves at the golden alter (the prayer room) of intercession in answer to the end-time prayer movement. The demonic horsemen are 200 million in number and are specifically prepared for this time in history and their work is to kill. Possibly 4 billion people will be killed in the last three and half years. Rev. 9:20-21 says 'that those who were not killed (during the 6th trumpet) still did not repent of their murders, sorceries, sexual immorality or their thefts.'

This is the trumpet that the saints have all been waiting for. It is the moment when His church (the true bride of Christ) is raptured just prior to Jesus triumphal return. All of heaven has been waiting for this moment. I am convinced that this is the timing for the rapture.

g) **The seventh trumpet**, Rev 11:15-18 “The seventh angel sounded...loud voices in heaven saying, the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord...The nations were angry, and your wrath has come, and the time ..that you should reward...the saints...and destroy those who destroy the earth.”

-and so the sequence is:

-The seventh trumpet proclaims the kingdom of our Lord has come.

-the saints are raptured and receive their rewards and immortal bodies.

-Jesus appears in the sky and shows himself to all mankind over a period of time.

-the trumpets sound worldwide for a number of days. Those on the earth know something is happening like never before.

-the New Jerusalem is descending to the earth so as to be positioned above the Millennial Jerusalem.

-Jesus comes to the earth and commences His march up though Jordon to Jerusalem.

-He is literally killing his opposition. The blood is up to the horses bridles as vengeance is in His heart. Rev 14:19-20

JESUS commands and releases all the bowl judgements. (we the saints are with Him)

We now come to the bowl of wrath judgements of Jesus. He is now on the earth and commands these seven catastrophic supernatural events forming the final death blow to the antichrist's empire. In my view the saints are now off the earth, as the bowl judgements are so catastrophic. I do not read any scriptural reference to the saints still being on the earth during the bowl judgements. Rev 15:1-4 gives a picture of the saints standing before the throne on the sea of glass. There will be left on the earth those who did not follow the antichrist or accept Jesus. Some of these resistors will eventually become believers. And there is still the remnant of Israel left who will welcome Jesus as their Messiah when He enters Jerusalem which is prior to the battle of Armageddon.

a) **The first bowl**, Rev 16:2, loathsome sores come upon all those who worshipped the beast. This is similar to the sixth plague in Egypt which was also sores.

b) **The second bowl**, Rev 16:3, the seas become blood, all creatures in the sea die causing lack of sea food. It may be that only the Mediterranean sea is turned to blood as prophesied by Daniel.

c) **The third bowl**, Rev 16:4-7, the waters, rivers turn to blood (poisoning the water supply) and thus causing further hardship.

d) **The fourth bowl**, Rev 16:8-9, men are scorched with heat and fire from the sun (a supernatural act) but they still do not repent.

e) **The fifth bowl**, Rev 16:10-11, a thick evil darkness covers the earth causing alarming chaos in the antichrist's plans to attack Jesus in Jerusalem. The darkness is not only a lack of light but it has a demonic supernatural pain attached to it. This is prophesied in Isa. 60:1-2.

f) **The sixth bowl**, Rev 16:12-16, the great river Euphrates is dried up so as to prepare the way for the kings of the earth to gather for the battle of Armageddon. God orchestrates the drying up of the Euphrates so that the nation's armies, who gather there, will do so believing they can defeat Jesus. The stage is set for the battle the Lord has been waiting for.

g) **The seventh bowl**, Rev 16:17-21, this bowl is poured out into the air which causes the flesh, eyes, and tongues of people to dissolve. It is referenced in Zech. 14:12, 15. The earth is utterly destroyed, earthquakes shake the cities of the nations like never before in history, 100 pound hailstones rain down, the Lord executes His vengeance on His enemies.

The next event is Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Part 3-the Millennial kingdom and beyond has begun

What an exciting time to look forward to, to work towards, to imagine our rewards and the garments we will wear. Everything we do for Jesus now has a bearing on our role in the millennial kingdom. The work we do now, must be only the WORK that He instructs us to be involved in for Him. Any works of our own imagination are as dirty rags and will be burned up. We must really think hard about that day when we stand before Him for evaluation. We must finish our race to hear those words "well done good and faithful servant."

Again, this part 3 is a huge topic and we are just getting a little glimpse and insight as to our future.

- a) We will live in the New Jerusalem, the city of the great king, which will be above but connected to the earthly Millennial Jerusalem. A term that has some basis is: the corridor of glory. This is how the kings of the earth gain access to the new Jerusalem.
- b) We interact and help in the reconstruction of the earth, with the human beings who survive and are left on the earth. We will all have our assignments to carry out. We will come and go via "the corridor of glory". Every aspect of society will need to be rebuilt. Righteousness will need to be established in government, business and commerce, media, the arts, education-the universities etc.
- c) The completion of the great commission: fully disciplining of the nations. Natural birth will continue during the 1000 years. The resisters will become believers and have families. All these will need teaching. It will be a time of heaven on earth.
- d) Satan has to be released again after the 1000year reign, for a short time frame, many will still join him. This is God's final act of mercy in permitting sin to be chosen over righteousness. He is then fully justified by this final act of love: the destruction of the ungodly.
- e) Satan is thrown into the lake of fire, along with the antichrist, the false prophet, and all the rest of the demonic realm.
- f) The great white throne is set in place and judgements begin for all those of the second resurrection and not written in the Lambs book of life. The final and terrible moment of truth for those who refused His love. They are committed to eternal suffering in the lake of fire.
- g) The earth is renovated by fire for total cleansing. A new earth can now begin.
- h) The Father comes to the earth forever to live with His children as He originally planned.
- i) We reign in conjunction with the trinity over the universe for all eternity. I guess you will then say "this is paradise."

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