

The Revelation of God

Part 1

By Boyd Yahn

Hello everyone, it is October the fourth, of 2024 and the title of this study today is, "The Revelation of God." We had a wonderful feast this year and I want to pass along our thanks to Austin and his family for hosting it. Ah, the rafting down the river episode on the afternoon of the seventh day a physical highlight in the beauty of the mountains of Glacier National Park.

0:00:28

The fellowship was great and the ability to talk openly about a variety of topics without the concerns of the past, was simply refreshing. On top of all that, having a tailwind both going and coming to and from the feast, is something that never happens to me. So, I have to wonder. My kids instinctively know to go the opposite direction of where I'm headed, to have a tailwind and get better gas milage. Oh well.

0:01:00

Many years ago, now in conversation with a young person, who had grown up in the faith, they explained that they knew God's way and would keep it when forced to, but for now they would just live their lives as they wanted, and this in fact is exactly what they did.

0:01:26

At least part of the reason for taking such a position was that "understanding", and I use that word in quotation marks, as you can imagine, that in the second resurrection, as the term was used, all the influences would be right and it would be so much easier, and generally accepted, to live God's way.

0:01:47

What I don't believe they recognized at the time was that their choice, their heart was shown by their decision at that time. In I Corinthians 7, and verse 14 we are told that even if one of the parents is of the faith, the children have, or are given to be able to understand what others simply cannot.

0:02:13

That doesn't make their decision for them, but it does provide a knowledge that there is a decision. Let's read that.

¹⁴For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise, your children would be unclean, but now they are holy.

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So, there seems to be some connection there, that those who cannot understand, would be considered unclean, but those who can, are considered holy, and maybe we need to think about that a bit.

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For the most part, from what I've observed, the vast majority are not aware that there is a decision, and very likely wouldn't believe what that decision is, even if told. Yehovah, and His purpose for man, is hidden or scoffed at, if it ever comes up for discussion.

0:03:15

It's pretty easy to do a litmus test on that yourself and see how that works out for you. Unless the individual you broach the idea with is being called, it would be an interesting time, I am sure.

0:03:33

Unbeknownst to many, Satan has gone to great lengths to reveal himself, in such that ways opposite to God seem pretty normal, and just the way it is. At the feast we looked at the synonyms for the word envy, so, it was simple to see the underlying spirit that infests the world today.

0:03:59

The contrast with the time when Satan's sway and influence is gone, is a stark contrast indeed. The world we live in currently, a distant memory, a testament to following the spirit that leads to destruction. There's going to come a time when this whole time of Satan's influence is no longer in the memory bank.

0:04:22

The world, as I write this is a powder keg, with skirmishes cropping up all over the place, and war a near certainty. When the world's old hegemon gets long in the tooth, the rising powers jostle for dominance, and war becomes a given. This time appears to be no different. So, we need to keep our chinstraps buttoned up, best we can.

0:04:49

The future may well bring many surprises, and I'm not talking about years here, possibly months and maybe even weeks. We're treading into some very dangerous waters. Listening to the news, I've been looking for any kind of reference to maybe God is somehow displeased with how much we have rejected Him. And the wars and natural disasters are just natural cycles and God isn't involved.

0:05:25

Yet the connection between the weather disturbances and the wars are written about in fact, if we are prepared to actually have a look. And we looked at that briefly awhile ago, so I would kind of like to walk down that road a little more.

0:05:48

If we go to Leviticus 26, and we'll just review this. Some instruction by Yehovah to mankind, and certainly to His people. It says:

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¹ 'You shall not make idols for yourselves; neither a carved image nor a sacred pillar shall you rear up for yourselves; nor shall you set up an engraved stone in your land, to bow down to it; for I am Yehovah your God. ² You shall keep My Sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary: I am Yehovah. ³ 'If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments, and perform them, ⁴ then I will give you rain in its season, the land shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. ⁵ Your threshing shall last till the time of vintage, and the vintage shall last till the time of sowing; you shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely. ⁶ I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none will make you afraid; I will rid the land of evil beasts, and the sword will not go through your land. ⁷ You will chase your enemies, and they shall fall by the sword before you. ⁸ Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight; your enemies shall fall by the sword before you. ⁹ For I will look on you favorably and make you fruitful, multiply you and confirm My covenant with you. ¹⁰ You shall eat the old harvest, and clear out the old because of the new. ¹¹ I will set My tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you. ¹² I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people. ¹³ I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that you should not be their slaves; I have broken the bands of your yoke and made you walk upright.

0:07:46

If we go on, we can see some rather unpleasant results that Yehovah has used in the past, and this specifically upon a nation that was His own people. Correction can be a bit unpleasant. So, failing the parameters of Leviticus 26, we need to take a look at the latter end of Leviticus 26, the passage or passages are not read very often. Maybe the reasons become obvious as we look at it, but they are there nonetheless.

0:08:30

This is a message from Yehovah to His people. Let's pick it up in verse 16

¹⁶ I also will do this to you: I will even appoint terror over you, wasting disease and fever which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. ¹⁷ I will set My face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies. Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall flee when no one pursues you.

0:09:11

And of course, that is brought about by not following the directives in Leviticus 26, and God makes that clear in verses 14 and 15.

¹⁴ 'But if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, ¹⁵ and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, but break My covenant, ¹⁶ I also will do this to you:

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And we read what He would do. Verse 19

¹⁹I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze. ²⁰And your strength shall be spent in vain; for your land shall not yield its produce, nor shall the trees of the land yield their fruit.

0:10:05

Is there a connection in the real world between what goes on spiritually for God's people, and the blessings or cursings we endure because of it? And, of course the answer is, absolutely, there certainly is. If we go to verse 25.

²⁵And I will bring a sword against you that will execute the vengeance of the covenant; when you are gathered together within your cities I will send pestilence among you; and you shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy.

0:10:44

So, did God speak these words in vain in the past? Did this actually happen to His people? And if He did it before, is it possible, maybe even probable, that the same experience will happen, because God has shown how He deals with these things. If we go on to verse 27, it says:

²⁷And after all this, if you do not obey Me, but walk contrary to Me, ²⁸then I also will walk contrary to you in fury and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins. ²⁹You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters. ³⁰I will destroy your high places, cut down your incense altars, and cast your carcasses on the lifeless forms of your idols; and My soul shall abhor you. ³¹I will lay your cities waste and bring your sanctuaries to desolation, and I will not smell the fragrance of your sweet aromas. ³²I will bring the land to desolation, and your enemies who dwell in it shall be astonished at it. ³³I will scatter you among the nations and draw out a sword after you; your land shall be desolate and your cities waste.

0:12:10

Has that happened, would God do such a thing? Verse 36

³⁶And as for those of you who are left, I will send faintness into their hearts

So, God is able to adjust our attitudes as He sees fit, He is the author of our spirits.

... the sound of a shaken leaf shall cause them to flee; they shall flee as though fleeing from a sword, and they shall fall when no one pursues. ³⁷They shall stumble over one another, as it were before a sword, when no one pursues; and you shall have no power to stand before your enemies. ³⁸You shall perish among the nations, and the land of your enemies shall eat you up. ³⁹And those of you who are left shall

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waste away in their iniquity in your enemies' lands; also in their fathers' iniquities, which are with them, they shall waste away. ⁴⁰But if they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers, with their unfaithfulness in which they were unfaithful to Me, and that they also have walked contrary to Me,

0:13:27

And you go on in the passage, God offers repentance, but He certainly lays out some of the things that He's going to do, or has done in the past. He's certainly capable of it, because God is all about correcting people.

0:13:47

We can see similar kinds of things in Deuteronomy 28; and again, these passages are not used generally speaking, because they are rather unpleasant. If we just review some of the obedient blessings.

¹¹And Yehovah will grant you plenty of goods,

Deuteronomy 28:11

in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which Yehovah swore to your fathers to give you. ¹²Yehovah will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. ¹³And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of Yehovah your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them.

0:14:48

Well, today, at least in our land, we borrow endlessly from nations that will not prove to be friendly all the time. We are not lending to the world; we are borrowing from the world. And it's not possible to look around and see the Gentile among you rising up higher and higher, unless we're simply not willing to look.

0:15:17

Well, if we go on to verse 22. What I want to show is the comparison between the two.

²²Yehovah will strike you with consumption, with fever, with inflammation, with severe burning fever, with the sword, with scorching, and with mildew; they shall pursue you until you perish. ²³And your heavens which are over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you shall be iron. ²⁴Yehovah will change the rain of your land to powder and dust; from the heaven it shall come down on you until you are destroyed. ²⁵Yehovah will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them; and you shall become troublesome to all the kingdoms of the earth.

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Well, it isn't really hard to look at our current situation and think, you know, that seems to tick a few boxes. Are we seeing those things starting to occur? Are we becoming a problem to the world? How many boxes do you think that ticks?

0:16:42

If we go on to verse 43 and 44. It says:

⁴³"The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. ⁴⁴He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail. ⁴⁵Moreover, all these curses shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of Yehovah your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you.

0:17:18

Going down to verse 49, verse 49.

⁴⁹Yehovah will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flies, a nation whose language you will not understand, ⁵⁰a nation of fierce countenance, which does not respect the elderly nor show favor to the young.

0:17:44

It is worth reading these passages, as unpleasant as it might be, to see what a God, who personifies love, is capable of and allows, and in fact, actually invokes it. It is little wonder why folks might opt for a gentle, never hurt anything, Jesus. However, there is no place in eternity for those who will not live Yehovah's way.

0:18:15

And if you are in the camp where the God of the Old Testament was Jesus Christ, how does that square with what we are reading here, with the Jesus that is preached generally today? I think you are going to find that it doesn't square at all. My point is this, if you and I go to listen to the news today, how many things are viewed as curses from God, in terms of cause and effect?

0:18:52

I couldn't help but think, as missiles were beginning to rain down on Tel Aviv here recently, if the fact that it is known to be a top choice destination for the homosexual community had anything to do with the fact that it was? Further, if someone suggested it be so, how might that be received in today's world?

0:19:20

God, for the most part, has been removed from society. I remember at the democratic convention in the USA, several years back when Obama was still a thing,

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they actually wanted God, at the convention, right out of their business. Well, it seems they are beginning to get their decision, and it isn't looking like it's going to work out really well when God's blessings are withdrawn, because we have read of what He is capable of and what He easily could do.

0:20:03

If we think that God has been removed from society, and look about us, that would be a fact that would be quite difficult to refute. The result of that, the result of kicking God out of our nation, or any nation for that matter, is kind of laid out for us in the book of Romans. Romans 1, verses 18 – 22.

0:20:34

Where it tells us:

¹⁸For the wrath of God

And we have just read what the wrath of God could be, and has been in the past.

is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

0:21:21

So, from God's point of view, there is no excuse, and yet man chooses to look away.

²¹because, although they knew (the) God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Professing to be wise, they became fools,

0:21:50

Can we see the flip there? Under Satan's influence, people think they are smart, and they really become fools because of it.

²³and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

0:22:12

So, how many people in the world today, have this mental image of God, that is far removed from an incorruptible Being who lives in righteousness? Because of this

²⁴... God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and

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worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

0:22:49

So, mankind generally just wants to kick God out of there, and they want to worship wood and stone. For this reason, because they've made that choice and it's always about a choice.

²⁶For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

0:23:28

There is a price to pay.

²⁸And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge,

That takes conscious choice.

God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;

God did not design our spirit, our minds, to be debased, but that is something, by the choices mankind has made generally, that falls into place.

²⁹being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, ³⁰backbiters, haters of (the) God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, ³¹undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;

0:24:35

So, there's a real laundry list of issues we can see all around us today, unless we're blind.

³²who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death,

So, I think there would be a general acceptance of people who did those things; they don't deserve to live.

not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

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Buried in such a spirit, what would it take to bring God and His purpose back into consideration? What do you think would have to happen, given where a man is at, to where God would be seen as a thing again? Because, I haven't seen anything in the news, or on line for that matter, that somehow, at least in the mainstream media, that a lot of these problems are self-caused.

0:25:39

Christ commented on this condition in the New Testament in Luke 18; Luke 18, where people are so far removed from God, and many by conscious choice, that His return would be in a world that is rather hostile to Him. Luke 18, verses 1 – 8.

¹ Then He (Christ) spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

0:26:20

So, there's an instruction for the ekklesia. He went on to say:

² saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man.

And there's a mouthful. Do we not see that every place we look?

³ Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.' ⁴ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man, ⁵ yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.'"

0:26:59

It's all about himself.

⁶ Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said. ⁷ And shall God not avenge His own elect

That would be the ekklesia.

who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?

God allows things to happen.

⁸ I tell you that He will avenge them speedily.

Do we believe that?

Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes (the Son of God, not the Father), will He really find faith on the earth?"

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0:27:47

Will He really, when He shows up, will folks have faith in the word of God? Will they even know what it is, so they can have faith in it? It would appear, in the vast majority of cases, folks don't know, and don't want to know, what that is.

0:28:10

There's a similar theme for us in II Peter 3, and we will read verses 1 – 18. And it's an admonition for us all.

¹ Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), ²that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of our Lord and Savior,

0:28:42

You know, looking about, how mindful are people of the words of the holy prophets today? Not much.

³knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, ⁴and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."

0:29:13

What do you mean, there's going to be an end to things? What do you mean, there's going to be some kind of intervention? I don't see any evidence of any kind of intervention.

⁵For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, ⁶by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.

0:29:41

You know, don't bother me with any of the facts, I'm not interested.

⁷But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. ⁸But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with God one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

0:30:08

When you live in eternity, the lifetime of a man is just a whisper, it's just a flash in the pan

⁹The LORD is not slack concerning His promise,

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God's word is golden.

as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

0:30:38

Well, how do you accomplish that, if the whole world doesn't believe that you exist, or they have a false understanding of the true God? How does that work?

¹⁰But the day of the LORD will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

0:31:08

God is going to get very, very real at some point.

¹¹Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹²looking for and hastening the coming of the day of the LORD, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? ¹³Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

0:31:42

And indeed, that is the goal that we, as part of the ekklesia, should be looking at and concentrating on. And God said it is going to happen. Do we believe it?

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless; ¹⁵and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, ¹⁶as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

¹⁷You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked

0:32:48

So, we look at the Bible; it talks about these events that are going to happen and you know, can we say, "Well, you know, I don't think that's really going to be a thing." Oh, really?

¹⁸but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

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0:33:11

So, we have an admonition for us all. The ekklesia are those silly enough, if I can say it that way, to actually believe what God tells them. Society, generally today, does not. How might that be accomplished? When does society start to believe in their revelation of God?

0:33:43

Many future events are made certain by Yehovah's word. They will indeed occur, or if they didn't, God's word would be worthless. And you know, Christ actually spoke of these things in terms of how He valued God's word. Let's go to John 17, John 17 and we are going to read verse 12. Christ speaking, He said:

¹²While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

0:34:30

In the Old Testament, there was prophesied, in the book of Psalms, that there would be a son of perdition, and that scripture had to be fulfilled, because it was part of God's word. In John 19; let's take another look here, and in verse 24.

²⁴They said therefore among themselves, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be,"

0:35:01

Why?

that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: "They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots."

It was said in the Old Testament, it happened in the New. It had to happen, because God's word is certain. Verse 28

²⁸After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

0:35:35

So, Christ knew what the scriptures were all about. It has to be fulfilled. Verse 36

³⁶For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "Not one of His bones shall be broken." ³⁷And again another Scripture says, "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."

The smallest details of God's word are fulfilled in their time.

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Matthew 26, verse 56; Matthew 26, verse 56. Christ said:

⁵⁶But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.

And as we read in the book of Peter, we’re reminded, if it’s in the scriptures, best be all about believing it’s very real.

0:36:45

I was thinking, what sort of event might kick off, to consider, or have the world consider there is a God, and His word can be believed, in comparison to the tsunami of lies we are bombarded with in this civilization we live in?

0:37:11

What would it actually take for this world to sit up and take notice? The Bible is filled with snippets of events that will in fact occur. What would the reaction be, if all of a sudden, these events began to be fulfilled, and it was obvious to everybody where these were coming from? How do you think that would go?

0:37:37

Well, let’s take a look at Luke 17, and we’ll read verses 20 – 37. And we’ve touched on some of these things in the past, but it never hurts to look at them again, perhaps in a different light.

²⁰Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, “The kingdom of God does not come with observation; ²¹nor will they say, ‘See here!’ or ‘See there!’ For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.”

0:38:16

So, some will take that particular scripture and run with it; that’s the only thing the kingdom of God actually is, and develop a whole theology based on that, not understanding that the kingdom has kingdom of God references in a variety of entirely different things, and we actually have to turn our brains on and start to think which one of those it is actually talking about.

²²Then He said to the disciples, “The days will come when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it.

0:38:56

So, Christ is pointing out there are more than one day for Him, and yet we seem to have this fixation on there’s one day when He returns as a conquering king, and you can’t back that up with the scriptures, and yet that is what’s taught.

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0:39:18

²³And they will say to you, 'Look here!' or 'Look there!' Do not go after them or follow them. ²⁴For as the lightning that flashes out of one part under heaven shines to the other part under heaven, so also the Son of Man will be in His day.

0:39:36

So, we see an event here that's going to occur, that everybody is going to know. God is suddenly, or the Son of God is suddenly going to become very real. This is prophesied, it will happen. And who will be able to deny that, when it occurs?

0:40:02

Going on:

²⁵But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.

So, one of the comings of God, we're going to see lightning flashing out from one part of heaven to the other. And another coming of God, or the coming of the Son of God, He simply comes as a physical human being; obviously a different time, and He's going to be rejected by them. And, in addition to that:

²⁶And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man:

0:40:51

So, it's describing here multiple appearances, at different times, and for different reasons, and historically we've just rolled those all up into a ball and haven't paid any attention to it at all. So, going on:

as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man:

²⁷they ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

0:41:26

So, it's a time of relative normalcy, whatever that is in this world. Christ is going to come at a time when things are pretty much normal.

²⁸Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;

0:41:53

And then:

²⁹but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. ³⁰Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

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You mean there is a time when Christ is going to be revealed? Yeah, actually there is! And when you look up the word for revealed in Luke 17, verse 30, you will find out it's word G601, *apokalyptō* (ap-ok-al-ooop'-to), it means to uncover, bring to light, or reveal. And from the Helps Word Study on Bible Hub, it means properly, to uncover, revealing what is hidden. (The true Christ hidden, are you kidding me?) Hidden can also be veiled or obstructed, especially it's inner makeup, to make plain or to make manifest, particularly what is immaterial, not physical in this case, or invisible.

0:43:27

Well, now isn't that interesting? The true Christ is going to be revealed at a certain time in one of His appearances. That's actually what it says. Let's go on:

³¹"In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise, the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. ³²Remember Lot's wife. ³³Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it. ³⁴I tell you, in that night there will be two men in one bed: the one will be taken and the other will be left. ³⁵Two women will be grinding together: the one will be taken and the other left. ³⁶Two men will be in the field: the one will be taken and the other left." ³⁷And they answered and said to Him, "Where, Lord?" So, He said to them, "Wherever the body is, (the body of Christ) there the eagles will be gathered together."

0:44:34

So, imagine, in a completely godless world, all of a sudden, that happens at a time you do not expect. Would that not suddenly lend a huge amount of credibility to the word of God? In Matthew 24, the same thing is recorded. We'll pick it up in verse 27.

²⁷For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ²⁸For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together.

0:45:18

It seems a similar passage. And then it goes on to say:

²⁹"Immediately after the tribulation of those days

So, there's references to before the tribulation and after.

the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

0:45:46

Do we see any of that in Luke's account? We do not; it's a different time.

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³⁰Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Will God and His Son suddenly become a whole bunch more real at the time?

³¹And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

0:46:21

Do you think maybe that will become front page news, that God is real? Will this not be a revelation of God and His plan to humanity?

³²Now learn this parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. ³³So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! ³⁴Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. ³⁵Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

0:47:02

So, if Christ said it, it's going to happen.

³⁶But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.

Yehovah is supreme. And as we pick up the passage here it is very, very similar to the Passage in Luke.

³⁷But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ³⁸For as in the days before the flood,

0:47:30

Before the disaster.

they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

0:47:46

So, there's going to be a coming of the Son of Man, before things get real crazy.

⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. ⁴²Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this; that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have

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watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you (the ekklesia) also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

0:48:29

So, if anyone knows their Bible at all, and they have just gone through the tribulation, they're going to know to expect Him. This is talking about the time when they don't know; clearly a different time. There is a coming of Christ before the tribulation to gather some of the saints to salvation.

0:48:54

Revelation 3:10 actually addresses this; these folks do not go through the tribulation, and they are resurrected prior to it, and what a witness to the world, all of a sudden, God is real. Let's read that, Revelation 3:10:

¹⁰Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

0:49:32

These do not go through the tribulation, or face the beast. You can find them referenced in Revelation 14, verses 1 – 5. As we read previously in Matthew 24, verses 24 and 25, there will be a smokescreen of false Christs and false prophets, whose task and purpose it is to attempt to deceive, even the elect.

0:50:03

We are told, when the first raising of saints to spirit will actually be in the Bible, as an antidote to deception. Where would you turn for that in your Bible? If someone asked, where would you direct them? What would you think would be the ramifications of seeing such an event, to those alive at the time?

0:50:29

Would God and His word stand a bit taller, when this was prophesied, and you actually saw it with your own eyes? What if you were actually one of the ekklesia, you saw it, and you weren't on the bus? What if you had bought into one of myriad of one of the false Christs out there? Would the real one suddenly come into focus? Might you want to be on the next bus, if we miss the first one?

0:51:15

Where would the second bus be leaving, and where one might have to go through, to be on it? More in part two.