



A Systematic Expository Study of the Word of God

READINESS FOR THE GREAT DAY OF THE LORD 2 Peter 3:10,11.

“The Day of the Lord will come”. The Day of the Lord is not our 24-hour day but a prophetic day. This period of man’s time of probation is man’s day of rebellion. God’s day of retribution is coming. Now during man’s day of freedom, man makes himself lord without submission to the will of his Creator. The Day of the Lord will come when the Lord will be Lord indeed and He will reward man according to his deeds.

“The Day of the Lord” is a prophetic term, used in the Scripture to describe the time when Jesus comes back to bring the flaming fury and anger of God on all the sinners of the world. It is a future, eschatological day of devastation, doom, and damnation; the day of God’s vengeance. The Day of the Lord has a definite future and final fulfilment in prophecy. Its fulfilment will affect the sky, the sun, the moon, the stars, in short the heavens and the earth. The coming Day of the Lord will be ***“the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men”*** (2 Peter 3:7). The Day of the Lord is associated with the final judgment of the ungodly in the whole world. And when it comes who shall be counted worthy to escape the judgment and wrath of God? (Luke 21:34-36; Revelation 6:17).

PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE DAY OF THE LORD

2 Peter 3:10a; Luke 12:39,40; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-4; Revelation 16:15; Matthew 24:27; 1 Corinthians 4:5; Hebrews 10:25,37; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12; 1:7-10.

“The Day of the Lord” is the time when the Lord Jesus Christ will be manifested as Judge with all power and authority. It is called His Day because He will then be the central, grand, and prominent Actor as the Judge of all. ***“The Day of the Lord will come”***. The Lord came the first time to save sinners but He is coming the second time to judge sinners who reject His love and refuse to be saved.

The Second Coming of Christ is prophesied in Scripture. Of the 333 prophecies concerning Christ, 109 were fulfilled at His first coming and 224 are still to be fulfilled at His Second Coming. There are over 1500 Old Testament passages referring to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. 1 out of every 25 New Testament verses directly refers to the Second Coming of Christ. Jesus refers to His Second Coming 21 times and over 50 times we are told to be ready for His return. Christ’s Second Coming is a major theme in the Word of God. In the Book of Revelation, Christ’s Second Coming is announced from the first chapter to the last chapter (Revelation 1:7; 2:25; 3:11; 16:15; 22:7,12,20). It will be sudden and unannounced; it ***“will come as a thief in the night.”***

PERPLEXITIES CONNECTED WITH THE DAY OF THE LORD

2 Peter 3:10b; Luke 21:25-27; Isaiah 13:6-11; Ezekiel 30:1-3; Zephaniah 1:14,15; Matthew 24:29,30; Acts 2:19,20; Jude 14-16; Revelation 6:14-17; Luke 21:34-36.

The pain, perplexity and loss associated with the coming Day of the Lord is almost indescribable. Man has his day of anger against God, his day of rejecting the Lord now; the Lord is soon going to have His Day of anger, wrath and retribution. On that ***“Day”***, ***“the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat: the earth also, and the works that are therein, shall be burned up”***. What a Day that will be! The heavens, the starry sphere, being explored by man will pass away and the conflagration will be with a great noise. The fire that burns everything up will be more than the heat of a million suns. All the ***“elements”*** in man’s sphere, space and atmosphere above shall melt with fervent heat. And ***“the earth”*** which has been given to man but polluted by man, will be destroyed by fire. Even ***“the works that are therein”***, all of man’s works, developments, inventions on which man has concentrated all his efforts and which have taken man’s heart away from God, all the works therein shall be burnt up. Where will you be and what will you have left when everything man has laboured for is burnt up?

PREPARING FOR THE COMING DAY OF THE LORD

2 Peter 3:11; 1 John 3:2,3; Ephesians 5:25-27; Titus 2:11-14; Isaiah 33:15-17; Psalms 15:1-5; 24:3,4; Hebrews 12:14-17; Revelation 19:6-9.

“Seeing then that these things shall be dissolved”, knowing that all the things men are labouring and suffering for shall eventually be burnt up, the wisest thing to do is to labour to possess eternal life which cannot be dissolved or burnt up. Even if it were possible to gain the whole world and all things which the heart of man desires today, what will the ultimate gain be when all shall be lost, forever lost in the fire of the earth’s judgment?

“What manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness”. The fact that all that we see on earth, all things acquired properly or fraudulently, will be destroyed ought to exert a deep and lasting influence on us and lead us to seek and maintain that holiness without which no man shall see the Lord. Because there is nothing of abiding, lasting value on earth, our real interests should be on holy living and godliness. Should the earth suddenly burst into flames, are you prepared to meet the Lord?

*If you are blessed by these bible study outlines, we'd like to hear from you.
You can email the pastor@deeperlife-liverpool.org.uk with your comments.*