WHY THE CHURCHES WILL NOT UNDERSTAND

If you speak with your pastor about this date of May 21, 2011, as being a date upon which physical destruction will happen to the world, be prepared to be opposed to this fact. It is amazing how much in unison the churches are in declaring “no man knows the day or hour.” However, none should take comfort from their unified stand because, without question, our modern day have greatly fallen away from truth. The churches of the world disagree and teach contrary to one another on numerous points of the Bible’s teachings (which means that they must have error) and therefore, it ought not to be particularly comforting for the churches to finally have unity of agreement on the point of “no man knows the day or hour.” Rather, it ought to be alarming, especially as we realize that in our day God’s judgment is upon the churches of the world due to their unfaithfulness:

1 Peter 4:17 “For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the ungodly do?”

The horrible truth is that the Lord Himself has abandoned the churches of the world. The Bible teaches us that the church age is over (it ended in 1988 A.D.). The Lord has left the churches in spiritual darkness. They cannot see the awful truth that we are now at the very end of the world. The Lord vividly describes the spiritual leaders of the churches today in Isaiah 56:10-11:

Isaiah 56:10-11 His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark…they are shepherds that cannot understand…

God Himself indicates that many who profess to be His people will not see the warning signs of the coming end. The Lord uses Old Testament Israel/Judah as types and figures of the New Testament churches and congregations. In the following verses, we are reminded that God forewarned Old Testament Judah and forewarned them of His intent to judge them, but Judah dismissed and ignored these warnings until they were destroyed—much like the churches of today are doing.

Hebrews 8:7 Year by year, in the appointed times, the High Priest went into the Holy of Holies:

Incredibly, prior to the flood’s occurrence, God told Noah the date of its happening. The Bible points out throughout its pages that God forewarned Noah and the other saved ones of the flood. For instance, Genesis 7:1-4, 10-11 and the Lord said unto Noah…

For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights…And it came to pass after seven days, that the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, in the mountains of Ararat.

The fact that God forewarned Noah and his family, by itself, should cause us to pause and realize that the Lord will do the same thing before Judgment Day comes. However, there is much more for us to consider with God’s workings in Biblical history.

Let us take a look at the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Before the actual Day of Judgment, Abraham, Lot, and Gomorrah, the Lord visited Abraham and revealed His plan of judgment upon those cities. Significantly, we read:

Genesis 18:16-17…The men…looked toward Sodom…And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that which I do;…

God did not hide His plan to destroy Sodom from Abraham. The Lord thought it good to share this information not only with His servant (Abraham), but even with Lot, who at the time the Lord visited Abraham, had married the two daughters of Lot (Genesis 19:25-38). The Lord revealed to Lot what He would do to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, the Lord visited Abraham and revealed His plan of judgment upon those cities. Significantly, we read:

Genesis 19:12-13 And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters…bring them out of this place: For we will destroy this place…

Christ’s coming will be as it was in the days of Noah. The question that anyone honestly seeking truth must now ask is: did anyone know anything about the approaching flood before it came? Or, did no man know the day or timing of the flood? The Bible says that God made this very clear. Matthew 24:38-39 For as in those days in the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away: so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. It is for them that Christ comes “as a thief” to kill and destroy. But notice the next verse:

Matthew 24:39-40 For as in those days in the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away: so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Christ’s coming will be as it was in the days of Noah. The Lord and a few members of his family escaped the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah only because the Lord Himself gave His advance warning, information that Lot attempted to share with his sons-in-law but they did not take him seriously (Genesis 19:14). We also need to consider that Our Lord says that His coming will be as it was in the days of Lot:

Luke 17:28-30 Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

The truth is that in the days of Lot, God warned His people in advance of the awful judgment upon Sodom. Also, others being warned did not take action on the advance information that they had been given. The historical fact that Lot and his family had most of the 120 years demonstrates that the Lord will likewise reveal the timing of the end before Judgment Day comes, and yet there is still much confusion upon this matter.

THE CHURCHES ARE DISMISSING THE WARNING:

A THIEF IN THE NIGHT

Many professing Christians wrongly think that Jesus will come as “a thief” to bless them and then give them their reward of eternal life. But they do not get the idea that a thief comes to take blessings? The Bible tells us exactly what it is that a thief comes to do:

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

Jesus does not come unexpectedly like a thief for His elect people (typified by Noah, Abraham, Lot, etc.), but He comes as He did to Sodom. Obviously, we see that God’s people will not be taken by surprise. How could they be since the Lord does nothing without first warning His people (God warned Noah and Abraham). We need to note that the Lord forewarned Abraham and warned Lot. We also need to note that the Lord forewarned His people that God would warn His people in these lesser types of Judgment Day and not follow His own pattern and warn them in advance. God forewarned Abraham, and yet God forewarned Lot. And the actual Day of Judgment? Additionally, we find that Jesus commanded all to “watch” for they knew not what hour He might come. Christ comes as a thief only to those who are not watching.

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The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas... Matt 12:41 The purpose of this pamphlet is to show from the Bible that God's people know (like the Ninevites) that these dates are the exact timing. For instance, we see this idea in the following passage of Scripture: Daniel 12:4  But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. Acts 17:30-31  And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained...