

THE THINGS THAT MUST TAKE PLACE

The Sixth Seal – Terror from the sky

Revelation 6:12-17

Introduction:

In the year 1999 and seven months

From the sky will come the great King of terror,

To raise again the great King of the Jacquerie,

Before and after, Mars shall reign at will. (Cent X:22)

- A. The above quatrain was written in the 16th Century
 1. The author was Nostradamus who successfully predicted many major events. Many hail him as a p_____.
 2. The above prediction did not come true and therefore no Christian should l_____ to any of his predictions (Deut 18:20-22).
- B. Predictions about the future
 1. Demons
 - a. Act 16 – the slave girl had a demon of d_____, giving her the ability to predict future events with some accuracy.
 - b. Demons can make things happen by c_____ people, animals, and things but are limited because they are not all powerful.
 2. The Lord
 - a. Is 46:9-11 – E_____ the Lord declares will happen.
 - b. The Lord makes the future He declares happen because He is all powerful. There is not one f_____ prophecy in the Bible, God's preserved word to us.
- C. The sixth seal is a revelation from God that Jesus made known to the apostle John, who wrote it down for us to read and hear.
 1. This terror coming from the skies M_____ happen because God has declared it.
 2. People need to stop listening to diviners, fortune tellers, horoscopes, palm readers, prognosticators, etc and listen to the God of truth. The Day of w_____ is coming.

The Predictions in the prophecy

- A. A great s_____ - the Greek word is seismos, (where we get our word seismology) and literally means *a shaking* (see Matt 8:24 where this same Greek word is used but translated as storm – literally, *a great shaking occurred in the sea.*)

1. The whole u_____ shook
 - a. The sun became b_____ like sackcloth made of hair.
 - b. The whole moon became like b_____
 - c. The stars fell to the earth like a bunch of unripe f____ falling off its tree when shaken by a great wind.
 - d. The sky split apart like a s_____ being rolled up.
 2. The whole e_____ shook moving every mountain and island from its original place.
- B. So great a f_____ came upon the people on the earth
1. They knew that the day of God's and the Lamb's w_____ had come.
 2. They tried to h_____ from God, even wishing that they be buried by enough rubble so as not to be seen by God.
- C. Understanding the predictions
1. Some see this as fulfilled in the Christianization of the Roman Empire, by interpreting the stars to represent the p_____ powers (Jdg 5:20; Is 14:12).
 - a. The imagery of stars are used in:
 1. Gen 37:9 to refer to Joseph's b_____
 2. Dan 8:10, 24 to refer to the people of _____
 3. Rev 1:20 to refer to the messengers of the seven churches.
 - b. One cannot choose one imagery over another.
 2. There are other O.T. passages that have similar phenomenon (Is 13:9-13; Joel 2:31; also see Matt 24:29,30)
 3. This prophecy is of the Day of God's wrath that ushers in the v_____ return of Christ.
 - a. Jesus prophesied that the g_____ would be preached to all the ethnicities of the world before His return (Matt 24:14).
 - b. All the unbelievers of the earth have heard the gospel and that Jesus will return to judge those on the earth.
 - c. The picture given of what happens
 - 1) In the universe is not to be taken literally, otherwise everything would cease to e_____. It should be understood as what it looks like to observers on earth (e.g. the sun sets is what we see but not what actually happens).
 - 2) On the earth is to be taken literally, because earth quakes can cause mountains and islands to physically m_____.

The Paradox in the prophecy

- A. How can the Lamb be full of wrath if he sacrificed Himself out of love?
1. God's wrath has to do with j_____ - giving people what they deserve
 2. God's love has to do with g_____ - giving people what they don't deserve.
 3. God's character cannot allow sin to go unpunished for anyone. He cannot simply forgive sin.
 - a. Jesus became believers' propitiation for sin (Rom 3:25)
 - 1) Many translations s_____ the meaning of the Greek word to *atoning sacrifice*.
 - 2) The word refers to a p_____ that satisfies wrath.
 - b. There are only two ways that God's wrath cannot be satisfied in regard to our sins.
 - 1) It must be paid in f_____ by the Lamb of God – the payment must be applied by f_____ (Rom 3:25)
 - 2) It must be paid for e_____ by suffering in the Lake of Fire.
- B. Where are the believers in this prophecy?
1. They are not seen here, but further details of this sixth seal are given in another revelation.
 2. When Jesus comes where does the bible state that believers will be? In the a_____ with Jesus (1 Thess 4:15-17)

A Proposal in light of the prophecy

- A. Pray for the salvation of at least one lost person that you have a connection with.
- B. Pray for an opportunity to have a spiritual conversation.
- C. Look for that opportunity and grab it.
- D. If you would like to learn about conversational witnessing, we can have training sessions – let me know.