

20231015 HEAVEN'S JOY AND EARTH'S CRISIS

Revelation 12:12-17

Back to the Future Part 23

12 Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.”

13 When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child.

14 The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the wilderness, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent’s reach.

15 Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent.

16 But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.

17 Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring—those who keep God’s commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus.

THE MAJOR SIGN OF THE LAST DAY: THE NATION ISRAEL

Ezekiel 5:5

⁵ “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: This is Jerusalem, which I have set in the center of the nations, with countries all around her.

Psalms 132:13-14

¹³ For the LORD has chosen Zion,
he has desired it for his dwelling, saying,

¹⁴ “This is my resting place for ever and ever;
here I will sit enthroned, for I have desired it.”

Luke 19:41-42

⁴¹ As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it

⁴² and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.”

Zechariah 12:3

³ On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.

(*There is a big difference between the rapture of the church and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.)

The time of Jacob’s Trouble

Jeremiah 30:7

⁷ How awful that day will be! **No other will be like it.** It will be a time of **trouble for Jacob**, but he will be saved out of it.

Jesus, the King of the Jews

Luke 23:3

³ Then Pilate asked Him, saying, “Are You the King of the Jews?” He answered him and said, **“It is as you say.”**

Jesus being recognized by the Jews in the Last Day

Zechariah 12:8-10

⁸ On that day the LORD will shield those who live in Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them will be like David, and the house of David will be like God, like the angel of the LORD going before them.

⁹ On that day I will set out to destroy all the nations that attack Jerusalem.

¹⁰ And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

APPLICATION FOR US

1. Watch and be sober.

1 Thessalonians 5:5-7

⁵ You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.

⁶ Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.

⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night.

2. Share the good news with others.

Ezekiel 33:7

⁷ Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me.

⁸ When I say to the wicked, 'You wicked person, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood.

⁹ But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

The question: **Am I willing to be used by God? Am I available for His calling?**

Our commitment determines our priority in life!