

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Are these the only prophecies concerning the Lord Jesus?
If not, can you name others?
2. Have these prophecies been completely fulfilled?
3. What part do we have today in the fulfillment of prophecy?
4. With so many prophecies pointing to Christ's birth, why did only a handful of men from the East find Him?
How about His second coming?

SUMMARY:

A beautiful story is unfolded for us of the coming of the Messiah, of the type of His ministry and the establishing of His kingdom. How people must have longed for the fulfillment of these signs and yet had failed to recognize them. Today we can look back upon the pages of history and see these things, but like the people of old times, unless we become partakers by faith we cannot know the blessedness of fellowship with Christ in His kingdom.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #13

December 25, 2022

Fourth Quarter

THE KING'S COMING FORETOLD

LESSON TEXT: *Isaiah 7:10-16; 9:1-7; 11:1-5*

LESSON SETTING: Israel is comforted with the promise of deliverance through the seed of David.

TIME: About 740 B.C.

I. A SUPERNATURAL SIGN. Isaiah 7:10-16

A. Born of a Virgin (vs. 14) Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:26-35

II. A SPIRITUAL MINISTRY. Isaiah 11:1-5

A. "The Spirit Shall Rest on Him" (vs. 2) Isaiah 42:1; 61:1

B. Spiritual Discernment (vs. 3) 1 Corinthians 2:14

C. Divine Justice (vs. 4) Psalm 103:6; John 5:30

III. AN ETERNAL KINGDOM. Isaiah 9:1-7

A. Dominion of Jesus (vs. 6) Zechariah 9:10; Matthew 8:27;
Ephesians 1:22; 1 Peter 3:22

B. His Kingdom Shall Grow (vs. 7) Isaiah 55:5 Isaiah 60:5;
Mark 4:31-32

C. A Kingdom Forever (vs. 7) Daniel 2:44; 7:13-14; Luke 1:32-33;
2 Peter 1:11; Revelation 11:15

GOLDEN TEXT: *FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN, UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN: AND THE GOVERNMENT SHALL BE UPON HIS SHOULDER.*

Isaiah 9:6

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Matthew 24:1-31

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Mark 13:1-23; Luke 21:5-19;
2 Timothy 3:1-17

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ - King and Savior

TOPIC: THE KING FORETELLS THE FUTURE

INTRODUCTION:

Christ as our King knows what all the future holds for His children, and for the world. In these chapters He tells us of the End Time and what to expect just prior to His coming again to set up His Kingdom. If we read these chapters in the light of what our current events are, we can readily see that we are actually living in the End Time. How much longer it will be before He comes, no one knows. We do know that we must be ready to meet Him at any moment.

Trials and tribulations seem to be on the increase, but these should only inspire us to be more watchful and faithful. How precious the promise in Matthew 24:13 "But he that shall endure unto the end the same shall be saved." So we must put on the armour of God in order to be able to endure, as these days become more and more treacherous. Faith and patience are needful to endure the hardships. He says in Luke 21:19 "In your patience possess ye your souls." The amplified translation says, "By your steadfastness and patient endurance, you shall win the true life of your souls." So let us prayerfully commit ourselves anew into His service and keeping.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Prophetic truths should prepare our hearts and lives for the coming of the Lord.

GOLDEN TEXT: *AS THE LIGHTNING COMETH OUT OF THE EAST, AND SHINETH EVEN UNTO THE WEST; SO SHALL ALSO THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN BE.* Matthew 24:27

The example that Jesus gave His disciples comparing His second coming with a flash of lightning is easily understood by all who have experienced electrical storms.

A spaceship that circles the earth in an hour is almost beyond our imagination. Yet a flash of lightning spans the sky from horizon to horizon in an instant. We can tell when conditions are right for the lightning flash, but we cannot know when the flash will occur.

Now, in our time, in our generation, the national, international and the natural conditions are just as Jesus foretold would precede His coming. Nations search for peace, yet there are "wars and rumors of wars", some people live in prosperity while others starve, and there is an increase of natural calamities such as earthquakes, tidal waves, hurricanes, floods, and famine. Truly conditions are such that we should all "give diligence to make our calling and election sure." (2 Peter 1:10) Surely the "lightning" could flash at anytime!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Dec. 26 – Jan. 1

- M. *The Disciples' Questions. Matthew 24:1-8
- T. *The Prospect of Persecution. Matthew 24:9-14
- W. *The Master's Advice. Matthew 24:15-21
- T. *The Master's Return. Matthew 24:23-31
- F. The Sinfulness of Men. 2 Timothy 3:1-8
- S. The Apostle's Example. 2 Timothy 3:9-13
- S. The Foundation for Faithfulness. 2 Timothy 3:14-17

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