



Good News for All People

Jesus' Return

I. John's Revelation

Revelation 1:9-19 (NIV)

⁹ I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

¹⁰ On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, ¹¹ which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

¹² I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and among the lampstands was someone "like a son of man," dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴ His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. ¹⁵ His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "**Do not be afraid.** I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸ I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. ¹⁹ "Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later.

A. Brother "in the Kingdom"

B. Triumphant Jesus

C. Do not be afraid!

D. Write what will take place

II. Understanding the Season

A. Jesus' Commentary

Matthew 24:3-8 (NIV)

³ As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" ⁴ Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. . . . ⁸ All these are the beginning of birth pains.

1. Deception

2. Beginning of birth pains

B. Parallels with "Days of Noah & Lot"

Matthew 24:37-39 (NIV)

³⁷ **As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.** ³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

Luke 17:26-29 (NIV)

²⁶ **"Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man.** ²⁷ People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all. ²⁸ **"It was the same in the days of Lot.** People were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building. ²⁹ But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all.

1. Eating & drinking
2. Marrying & giving in marriage
3. Buying & selling
4. Planting & building
5. "Knew nothing about what would happen"

C. Seasonal Signs

Matthew 24:10-14 (NIV)

¹⁰ At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, ¹¹ and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. ¹² Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, ¹³ but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. ¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and **then the end will come.**

1. Turning away
2. False prophets/deception
3. Increase of wickedness
4. Stand firm
5. Gospel of the Kingdom

III. The Church

Revelation 21:7-8 (NIV)

⁷ He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son. ⁸ But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars--their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

A. Overcomers inherit a kingdom

B. Outside the kingdom

C. Do Not be Afraid

Psalm 56:11 (NIV)

¹¹ in God I trust; I will not be afraid. Prayer

Prayer

Let all the earth give glory and honor and praise to the Living God. Through Him all things are created and sustained. Let the name of Jesus be exalted throughout the nations, may those who oppose Him be brought down. May the people of God be awakened to His purposes as never before. Through the Spirit of Almighty God grant boldness and wisdom to the Church in this generation. Come quickly Lord Jesus. We pray in your name, amen.