

## Those Who Are Wise Will Understand The Bible

'Many people will purify themselves, make themselves white and be refined but the wicked will do wickedly. None of the wicked will understand but those who are wise will understand' (Daniel 12:10). 'Surely the Lord will do nothing unless He reveals His secrets to His servants the prophets' (Amos 3:7).

The first verse means many people will turn to God, accept the sacrifice of Jesus, accept the purifying Word of God, be cleansed and refined spiritually and fully understand what God is saying to all humanity through the Bible. The second verse reveals to believers, God shares His secrets only with His people, both Jewish people and since Jesus came, to Christians. People who refuse to accept God are called wicked, and they will never be able to understand what is happening in the unseen spiritual world. They do not realise there is a vast wicked spiritual world between heaven and earth. 'God intends, through the Assembly (church) to reveal the manifold wisdom of God, to the (wicked) principalities and the powers in the heavenly places' ... 'Our wrestling (troubles, sicknesses, strife etc) is not against flesh and blood but against the (wicked) principalities, against the (wicked) powers, against the world's rulers of the darkness of this age and against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places' (Ephesians 3:10; 6:12). 'By nailing them to the cross, Jesus stripped the principalities and the powers, He made a show of them openly, triumphing over them' (Colossians 2:14 & 15). The futile efforts of the wicked to understand events taking place in the world, is referred to as 'running back and forth as knowledge is increased' (Daniel 12:4). Scientists are desperately trying to make sense of events happening around the world. However, Bible believing Christians are at peace because God told us thousands of years ago through His prophets, these changes would occur before the second coming of the Lord Jesus. The unsaved scientists cannot comprehend the wicked invisible spiritual world that is causing the world's catastrophes. Those wicked invisible forces inspire evil men to start wars, bring civil unrest, earthquakes, volcanoes, violent storms, lightning strikes, natural disasters, changes in weather patterns, mental illnesses, depression, serious illnesses, epidemics, global unemployment, family breakdown, violence, financial difficulties and anything else negative that happens to mankind. 'Woe to the earth and to the sea, because the devil has gone down to you having great wrath, knowing he has but a short time' (Revelation 12:12).

Christians understand it is God Who changes the times and the seasons. 'God changes the times and the seasons. He removes kings (world leaders, politicians) and sets up kings. God gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals His deep and secret things. He knows what is in the darkness and the light dwells with Him' (Daniel 2:21). God said the sun would shine seven times brighter than normal causing so-called 'global warming' and scorching mankind for the purpose of trying to turn ungodly people to repentance and be saved from damnation (Isaiah 30:26; Revelation 16:8 & 9). If the scientists would read the Bible they would be able to see humanity's pollution has not caused changes in the weather, it is overall sin that is doing it. Ungodly people call evil behaviours good, and they call good things bad. "Woe to those who call evil good and good, evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness ... Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight ... They have rejected the laws of God and despised the Word (Bible) of the Holy One of Israel" (Isaiah 5:20, 21 & 24). It is the endless sin in the world that is incurring God's wrath and the list of sin in the world is immense. Sins like the acceptance of immorality and all types of sexual sin, acceptance of abortion, euthanasia and other forms of murder, slack educational standards and omitting Bible teachings in schools, parents failing to teach their children about the truth of God, despising authority, rioting, drug abuse/alcoholism, domestic violence, child abuse, regular wars both civil and between nations, demonic music, tattoos, robberies, crime, acceptance of idols, charms, Hindu chimes, occult, witchcraft and the like in modern homes, belief in evolution which totally opposes God's account of creation. These sins amongst mankind is what incurs God's wrath. 'The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of mankind who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what is known of God is revealed in them for God revealed it to them. The invisible things of God since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through His creation, even His everlasting power and divinity so they are without excuse. Knowing about God, they did not glorify Him as God, neither gave thanks but became vain in their reasoning and their senseless heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools' (Romans 1:18 to 22). When the overall sin of mankind plus the unseen wicked forces are at work, it results in world chaos and that is exactly what is happening on earth today, just like Jesus revealed to this generation (Luke 17:26 to 30).

The promise of understanding what is happening in the world is given to those who are wise. Wise people are the people who have God's wisdom and the only way to receive God's wisdom is by obeying Him. 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and all those who do His work have good understanding' (Psalm 111:10). Wisdom and knowledge go hand in hand (Colossians 1:9). In His wisdom, the Lord forewarned us so we would not become stressed about the 'Great Tribulation', which actually means a time of great pressure. The Book of Revelation reveals to us, Christians will be forced to endure the time of intense pressure and persecution right to the end, right up to the time when Jesus actually comes again (Matthew

10:22). Those people who have been erroneously told they would be 'raptured off' before the tribulation will be so disappointed many will fall away from the faith (1 Timothy 4:1 & 2). What Jesus did tell us was to be ready for it (Luke 12:40). There are many people, Christians and non-Christians, who do not believe the warnings in the Bible (2 Peter 3:4).

Leading up to the second coming of Jesus, two major Christian groups will become increasingly evident. One group we will call Hellenistic Christians or 'Goats', will be the people who believe the 'rapture' will take them out of this world so they will not have to experience what sin is bringing to the earth. They often disregard Israel, the Jewish people and some claim the church has replaced Israel in God's affections, which is opposite to what the Bible teaches. Some, but not all of them are smokers, they drink alcohol, gamble, accept homosexuality, they may be promiscuous, given to divorce, unforgiving and materialistic. They love their religion and traditions more than they love God. Jesus firmly rebuked such people (Luke 11:42 to 52). They have a form of Godliness but deny His power (2 Timothy 3:5). The other group of Christians are 'Sheep', wise, genuine born-again believers, disciples, dedicated to wholly serving the Lord and walk uprightly in His Light. They support Israel, they understand how much the Lord loves the Jewish people and is welcoming them back to His land of Israel as He promised through His ancient prophets. They do not indulge in sin and they shun evil. Ask yourself this question; are you a 'Sheep' or a 'Goat'? Your general behaviour plus your attitude to Israel will answer that question. We will be judged by how we support the blood family of Jesus – the people of Israel (Matthew 25:32 to 46).

Jesus has warned us through the prophets and apostles what to look for prior to His return. Daniel said only the wise will understand. If people have given their lives to Jesus and walk wholly with Him, they will have God's wisdom and will be taught by His Holy Spirit so they will know what to watch for. The following verses are filled with analogies only the wise will understand. 'Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers (and sisters), you have no need for anything to be written to you. You yourselves know well the Day of the Lord (His return) will come as suddenly as a thief in the night. When they (the unsaved) are saying, "Peace and safety," then sudden destruction will come on them and they will in no way escape (God's wrath). You, brothers, are not in (spiritual) darkness so the Day (of Jesus' coming) should not overtake you like a thief. You are all children of Light and children of the Day. We do not belong to the night (spiritual ignorance) nor to darkness (spiritual wickedness), so let us not sleep (not be complacent) as the rest (unsaved or uncommitted Christians) do but let us watch (for Jesus) and be sober (vigilant). Those who sleep (are complacent) sleep in the night (ignorance) and those who are drunk are drunk in the night (spiritual darkness). Let us, since we belong to the Day, be sober (vigilant), putting on the (spiritual) breastplate of faith and love, and for a (spiritual) helmet the hope of salvation. God did not appoint us to His wrath but to the obtaining of salvation through our Lord Jesus' (1 Thessalonians 5:1 to 9).

The Bible is the first and only Book that has told us about the second coming of our Messiah. Any other religion that claims there will be a second coming of their false messiah has taken their information from the Bible. The second coming of Messiah Jesus was mentioned over 300 times by the Lord's prophets thousands of years ago. Jesus will suddenly arrive in Jerusalem and stand on top of the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:4). He will return as suddenly as a bolt of lightning (Matthew 24:27). He will come to earth through clouds, the exact same way as He left (Acts 1:11). He will suddenly appear with a shout of the Archangel Michael and with the trumpeting of a shofar (1 Thessalonians 4:16). We must not be in spiritual darkness on that day because if we are, His coming will overcome us (1 Thessalonians 5:2 to 6). His coming will not be secret because every person on earth will witness His arrival (Revelation 1:7). 'Sheep' and 'goats' will be separated. 'Sheep' will be on His right hand side but 'goats' will be on His left (Matthew 25:33). The 'sheep' who know His voice (John 10:27) will inherit the Kingdom of God. 'The King will tell those on His right hand, "Come, blessed of My Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34). But alas, the 'goats' will be sent to the Lake of Fire. 'Then He will say to those on the left hand, "Depart from Me you cursed, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels" ... These will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life" (Matthew 25:41 & 46). Any lazy and indifferent Christians need to fully commit themselves to the Lord or face the prospect of damnation. Fully committed Christians need to hold on tight to their faith even when life becomes almost unbearable. We cannot opt out. Only those who endure to the end will be saved. 'Whoever is wise will pay attention to these things (warnings)' (Psalm 107:43). Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives, give I to you. Do not let your heart be troubled neither let it be fearful" (John 14:27). 'Jesus, Who testifies to all these things says, "Yes, I will come quickly." Amen! Yes, come Lord Yeshua! May the grace of the Lord Jesus/Yeshua be with you all, Amen' (Revelation 22:20 & 21).

Amen and God bless you.

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