

THE CHOICES FOR HUMANITY (Rev. 3: 7a-8, 3: 14-15, 11: 3-10; 13: 1-5, 11-12-14)

Why in our days are many Christians avoiding eschatology?

- ✓ Misinterpretations (heresies of false teachers)
- ✓ The overwhelming and unattractive content of it for contemporary theologians (cosmic cataclysms, geographic devastation-earthquakes, tidal waves, tsunami, poisoning of drinking waters)
- ✓ The judgment message causing discomfort for some contemporary churches

Why is relevant to study prophecies?

You can measure the time-frame of the last days through the prophetic events

- ✓ *1 Chronicles 12: 32 “from Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do—200 chiefs, with all their relatives under their command;”*

The Bible is a prophetic book

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,” II Timothy 3: 16

a) Prophecies produces hope (Titus 2: 13)

- ✓ Evidence of the nearness of Christ’s coming
- ✓ Israel is in the land
- ✓ Israel is looking for help
- ✓ Europe is untying and from there will come the antichrist
- ✓ The rupture will occur

Hope – How can you define hope it. It is desire with expectancy.

b) Produces patience endurance (I Thess. 1: 3)

c) Prophecies produces Joy (Rom. 12: 12)

Thinking of see Christ, have a new body, see heaven these produces hope and joy

d) It produces assurance (Hebrews 6: 11)

With hope we know what will happen. We have confidence

e) It produces purity (I John 3: 1-3)

Holiness is part of the believer because of the hope.

WE NEVER EVER HAVE BEEN SO CLOSE TO THE END.

The fascination of the book of Revelation

- 7 churches
- 7 seals
- 7 trumpets
- 7 bowls
- 7 years before the millennial rule of Christ

GENESIS – APOCALYPSE

- Beginning – Moses wrote about God's creation of the heavens and the earth
- End – John wrote about God's creation of the new heavens and a new earth

The Revelation of Scriptures

- Moses climbs the mountain to receive divine revelations and see part of the glory
- John on an island saw all the glory of the resurrected Christ and starts to receive the revelations of the end of the present System and the beginning of the new kingdom

Both with the same message: God is in search of man. God is talking to man.

- Moses presents two voices speaking to man: the voice of God and the voice of Satan
- John presents two voices through four witnesses

The book shows a period of 7 years before the implantation of Christ's millennial reign on earth

- Two opposing forces revealing their agendas –
- Cataclysms in the Solar System
- Wars between angels and demons
- The Lord's Last Call to a Decaying, Backslidden Race
- The world will make its decision: God or Satan

THE TWO PAIRS OF WITNESSES MANIFESTING TWO VOICES IN THE WORLD

Antagonistic messages and a parallelism between good and evil

- i. **IN THE LAST BOOK OF THE BIBLE JESUS REVEALED TO JOHN TWO KINDS OF VOICES**

THE VOICE OF GOD - THE TWO WITNESSES OF JESUS

NINE TOPICS TO BE CONSIDERED

JESUS IS THE SOURCE OF THEIR POWER – 11: 3

- a) v. 3- They are Christ's Witnesses (My Two)
- b) v. 3- They will prophesy - The word of God to the world (let them prophesy)
- c) v. 2-3 -They will have a divinely determined mission with a specific period (3 ½ years) (42 months ÷1260 days)
- d) v. 3- HUMILITY - They will be dressed in sackcloth - (grief, intercession, lament, pain in the soul)
- e) v. 3 and 6 - They have divine authority (Mt. 28:18) (I will give my two witnesses)
- f) v.6, They will have authority and power – They will show signs and, wonders (the angels working for them 8: 7- 12)
- g) v. 7 - They will be martyred (killed) after the mission is completed
- h) V. 10 – They will exposed ungodliness of the world system
- i) v. 12They will ascend to heaven to eternal glory

AFTER 3 ½ YEARS OF JESUS WITNESSES PROPHECIES AND WARNINGS

IF YOU DO NOT LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF GOD YOU WILL LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF THE DEVIL. IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN THE TRUTH, YOU WILL BELIEVE IN LIE

THE TWO DEVIL'S WITNESSES

Chapter 13: the three beings

REMEMBER: GOD SPOKE FOR 3 ½ YEARS TO HUMANITY

Who are they? What they do? Where do they come from?

THE SOURCE OF THEIR POWER IS SATAN

1. The dragon (13: 1)

12: 9 "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.13: 4

II Tes. 2: 9-12 "The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰and

with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.”

- a) They will receive satanic authority – 13:4 and 12 (Given authority to the beast... Exercises all the authority of the first beast)
- b) They will be the voice of the devil – 13:14 (seduces those who dwell...)
- c) They have a mission with specific period 3 ½ years - 13:5 (authority to act 42 months)
- d) They will manifest signs and wonders before men – 13:13
- e) They will deceive humanity – 13: 14
- f) ARROGANT - They are proud - 13:5 (don't wear sackcloth)
- g) They will blaspheme the name of the Lord and exalt the name of Satan – 13:6 and 4
- h) They will expose the hearts of men – they will not worship God, but will worship Satan – 13:4
- i) They will not be martyred – 19:20
- j) They descended to their eternal destinations – the lake of fire – 19:20

i. IN THE LAST BOOK OF THE BIBLE JESUS SHOWED THE LAST TWO CHURCHES

Would it be a coincidence that Jesus left both as sixth and seventh?

1. Philadelphia – 3: 7-8

The church that fights for two causes: Keeping the Word of Christ and being his faithful witness.

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FAITHFUL CHURCH

- It has no connection with the world, therefore it is not successful, it does not have worldly resources, it does not sell itself for crumbs.
- She is a church dressed in sackcloth.
- A church committed to the Word of God
- A prophetic church (which opposes evil – condemns iniquity)
- An intercessory church
- A missionary church (speaks to all people on earth)

- A despised church.
- A persecuted church.
- A martyred church.

BUT, A CHURCH THAT WILL EXPERIENCE THE GLORY OF THE RAPTURE

Rev. 3: 8 "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, ^[f]and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

They did not have much strength, but kept His word (YOU DID NOT ADD OR TOOK FROM IT) and did not deny Jesus Name.

2. Laodicea – 3: 15-17

SHE IS LUKEWARM AND SELF-SUFFICIENT

- Double mind
- indifferent
- Spiritual pride
- Spiritually naked
- A self-deceived church: YOU SAY...
- A church that does not hear the voice of the Lord
- An unfaithful church that compromises God's word

3:18 – SHE NEEDS GOLD, WHITE ROBES AND EYE DROPS

- a) A church that has lost its spiritual riches (committed to the world, to politics, to ecumenism)
- b) A church that has lost its spiritual vision (doesn't pray, doesn't preach the truth, but preaches half the truth (lukewarm))
- c) A church in worldly attire – Naked (no sackcloth)

3:19 – SHE LOST HIS ZEAL FOR CHRISTIANITY

3:20 - SHE HAS A CHURCH NAME, BUT HAS NO CHRIST IN IT

A church separate from Christ (Left Jesus outside (v. 20))

A church that walks towards apostasy, opening the doors for the manifestation of Satan's witnesses.

“For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.” II Tim. 4: 3-4

JESUS SAID THAT THERE ARE:

- two paths (narrow and wide)
- Two doors (wide and narrow)
- Two groups (many and few)
- Two churches (who have him as Lord and the one who left him outside)
- Two voices (The voice of God and the voice of the devil)
- Two masters (Jesus or the devil)
- Two destinations (heaven or hell)

TWO CHURCHES

- WHICH OF THE TWO DO YOU FIND YOURSELF? – Philadelphia or Laodicea?
- HOW IS YOUR CHRISTIANITY REPRESENTED? — Philadelphia or Laodicea?

CHRIST'S LAST ADVICE TO BOTH CHURCHES

Philadelphia - Ap. 3:11 “I come without delay. Keep what you have, so that no one takes your crown.”

Laodicea – Rev. 3:19 “I rebuke and discipline those I love. Be zealous, therefore, and repent.”