

# THE APPEARANCE



*Ephesians 2:20-22*

*Ephesians 4:11-16*

A P O S T L E S   A N D  
P R O P H E T S  
P R E P A R I N G   T H E  
E M E R G I N G  
A R M Y  
R E L E A S I N G   T H E  
A B I L I T I E S   A N D  
N A T U R A L  
C A L L I N G S   O F  
E V E R Y O N E



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NEWSLETTER

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## "BEHOLD, THE GREAT SHAKING"

**T**he great day of the Lord is near, it is near, and hastens quickly, even the voice of the day of the Lord. There the mighty man shall cry out bitterly. Seek you the Lord, all you meek of the earth that keep his commands; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be you shall be hidden in the day of the Lord's anger. Zephaniah 1:14; 2:3.

I remember when I was a little boy, all the cartoons I used to watch on TV. Many of the TV cartoons back then, unlike the ones today, contained valuable moral lessons which you could glean by watching them. There was one in particular that I remember to this day. It is *the story of the boy who cried "wolf" once too many*. If you remember the story, the boy in trying to draw attention to himself, cried "wolf" falsely so many times, that when the time came there really was a wolf, nobody believed him.

Somehow, I feel the same thing is happening today with Christianity in America and in the whole world. From "88 Reasons Why the Lord Will Return in 1988" to the "Y2K Scare", preachers have cried "wolf" so many times, that many people have become desensitized. *Everything is reeling and shaking, from the economy to the weather, as the signs of the Day of Lord are beginning to take place so fast you can barely keep up.*

The Day of the Lord is mentioned in the Bible 29 times; the Last Day is mentioned 12 times; the Day of Judgment 8 times; the Day of Wrath 4 times; the Day of Vengeance 4 times; the Great Day 3 times; Day of Darkness 3 times; the Day of God 2 times and the Day of Destruction once. All of these scriptures in the Bible mention the same event that will take place at the end of times a total of 66 times. We did not include many of the scriptures that allude or make reference to it.

You would think that an event that is mentioned in the Bible 66 times is important enough to be preached, yet you will not hear any message preached from the pulpits regarding this very important and timely topic. It is just not politically correct. *The early church fathers all talked about the Day of the Lord, a terrible day, but also a glorious day.* The Day of the Lord has to do with the return of Jesus to gather His persecuted Bride before pouring out His wrath undiluted upon a wicked and unrepentant world.

*"Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give its light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other" (Matthew 24:29-31).*

The Lord clearly speaks of a time called the Day of the Lord, when great tribulation and cataclysmic events will come upon the earth, at which time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven and He will send His angels to gather His elect (Bride) from all over this earth. *I call this event the Pre-Wrath Gathering of the Saints, an event that takes place just prior to God's wrath being poured out upon the earth.*

This is not to be confused with the *Secret Pre-Tribulation Rapture* doctrine made popular by the *Left Behind* movies. Most Christians in America today have been taught for the last century that they will not suffer tribulation, but rather they will be *raptured secretly* before anything bad happens to them. This doctrine is not only biblically unsound, but it has no foundation in the word of God. This belief system is dangerous because it leaves the Christian weak, vulnerable and unprepared to face the difficult times ahead.

The Lord never promised the church that it would not experience tribulation on the earth. On the contrary, He said: *"These things I have spoken unto you that in me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world"* John 16:33. Throughout the centuries, Christians have experienced tribulation, persecution and even martyrdom at the hands of evil men, religious people and Satan himself. *However, the wrath of God referred to in the Bible takes place during the Day of the Lord and is reserved for the wicked, unrepentant satanic system on the earth, not His children.*

Many of the terrible things that are happening now and those that will take place in the very near future are the result of greed, corruption and the fallen world we live in. *There are physical and spiritual laws in the universe that God has set in place that no one can alter. These laws affect those who do good as well as those who do evil.* The evil actions of a segment of our society can bring about judgments upon the whole city, state or nation that will affect not only those who committed the ungodly acts and defiled the land, but the righteous people who dwell there as well.

The Bride of Christ needs to know and understand these vital truths, for the wonderful but perilous times that are fast coming upon the world will shake us to the very foundation. Only those foundations which are strong and based upon the word of God will remain. We are now living in a time when we all need to check ourselves to see if we are in the faith (*2 Corinthians 13:5*). We need to watch, standing firm in the faith and check all the traditions of men and teachings that have been handed down to us against the Word of God under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord grant you wisdom to receive this word and the courage to act on it. Shalom.