

**'RAISE THE DEAD'**  
***(2018 Resurrection Day Series / Supplement)***  
**Studies in 1 Corinthians 15**

**Signs of the Times**

When you get close to the end zone in football (*20 yards or less*), they say you're in the **red zone**. In basketball, if you're close to the hoop, they say you're **in the paint**. When you are really close to scoring, the way a game is played changes completely and the excitement heightens for the fans watching.

In these last days before the Lord Jesus Christ returns, many prophetic signs foreshadow the end of the Church Age and start of the Tribulation Period. Those watching the biblical signs happening today ought to adjust their lives for what's coming next for planet earth (*1 Thessalonians 4 & 5*). Although we do not know the exact date and time for Christ's return and transition from the 'Church Age' to the Tribulation, there are plenty of good reasons for wise believers to be on extra high *prophetic alert* this time of year.

The prophetic calendar God gave to Israel in the Old Testament is a New Testament chronology of Christ's two visitations. Three (3) holidays each spring are pictures of Christ in His first coming: **Passover, Unleavened Bread & First Fruits** (*1 Corinthians 5:7-8, 15:20*). The Lord Jesus Christ literally fulfilled these springtime Jewish feasts when He came to be Savior and Lord.

50 days later in early summer comes **Pentecost** fulfilled literally in **Acts 2** as the Lord poured out His Spirit on the first disciples. Since these were fulfilled literally in the Son of God's first coming, it is consistent to believe the remaining autumnal feasts are pictures of God the Son's second coming at the end of the age.

In September or October each year, the Jewish people celebrate **Rosh Hashanah or Trumpets** (*the Jewish New Year and end of the harvest*). 10 days later comes **Yom Kippur** (*Day of Atonement*) when Jews around the world weep over their sins and seek God's forgiveness as they turn back to Him for His blessing. The **Feast of Tabernacles** recalls God's Personal presence with Israel in the wilderness wandering years, before entering the Promised Land.

Because of the literal fulfillment of the spring holy days at Christ's first coming, it is to be expected the fall holy days will be literally fulfilled at the end of the age when Christ comes again. **Trumpets** will probably be fulfilled at the rapture of the Church when *the last trump* evacuates believers to meet the Lord in the clouds (*1 Corinthians 15:50-52*). The **Day of Atonement** (*Day of the Lord*) probably pictures '*the time of Jacob's trouble*' (*Jeremiah 30:7*) (*Israel's return to the Lord during the tribulation/ Romans 11:25-26*).

**Tabernacles** is probably a picture of God's Personal presence with His people on the earth during the 1000-year Millennial Kingdom of God on earth (*Revelation 20:1-6*). Thus, yes, it is once again the annual time to believe Christ's return is not only imminent, but even more so during the holiday feast calendar of Israel. Christians should be even more vigilant spiritually and morally than usual this time of year.

Furthermore, God's prophetic word to Daniel (*Daniel 9:24-27*) cites two last days signs of regathered Israel and Jerusalem as main factors when God's prophetic *clock* for the end will begin. Special biblical numbers in prophesy are already fulfilled:

- **70** = Israel became a nation 70 years ago (1948 – 2018);
- **50** = Jerusalem became Jewish territory 50 years ago  
*(1967 – 2017 + 2018 being the final year of the feast of Jubilee which ends this month).*

In addition, according to Jesus' own '*days of Noah*' prediction about the last days (*Noah's building of the vessel of safety - the ark*) needed **120 years** to finish. This is the exact amount of time the Zionist movement has been active providing a homeland, into which all Jewish people are welcome to come, to live safely through these times of tribulation in a hostile, anti-Jewish world. Like the ark, the 120 years it has taken to build a Zionist homeland (*which began in 1898*) makes 2018 another highly possible year for the Lord's return to evacuate believers and for the global Tribulation judgment to begin.

There are also signs that four of the seals in the last days *scroll* of **Revelation 6** are quite possibly already off, with resultant calamities that are escalating on the earth. Natural disasters, international political discord, unending warfare, famine, plague, and spiritual apostasy also indicate *Jesus is coming soon*. People today have no excuse; the signs of the times are everywhere. It is time to take Christ's last words in the Bible seriously: "...*behold, I am coming quickly and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his (or her) work... Surely I am coming quickly*" (*Revelation 22:12, 20*). It's time to live in such a way that like the apostle John we can say without hesitation: "*Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!*" (*Revelation 22:20*). PtL

**'Ready, Set, Gone!'**  
(*The Ultimate 'Get Away' Destination*)  
1 Corinthians 15:50-57

**The Transportation**  
(*The Upper-Taker is coming!*)

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, **I tell you a mystery**: We shall not all sleep, but **we all shall be changed – in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet**. For the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

15:50-52

(John 14:1-3, Colossians 3:4, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

**The Transformation**  
(*The Divine Designer is coming!*)

"For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, and **then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."** "**O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?**" The sting of death is sin and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

15:53-57

(Romans 8:22-25, 2 Corinthians 5:5, Philippians 3:20-21)