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The World, The Church, And The KING



By Steven J. Hogan

~ A Saturday Morning Post #128 ~

We live in a world that lies in the power of the devil, and with that, in a world filled with humanists, those who believe that humans, and not God, have the answers to life and life's problems (Humanist Manifesto II). The majority of people, including many leaders, scientists, educators, business men and women, have rejected God and His plan for the world. They are proud, boasting of their achievements. They want power, they want to be in control and run their own lives and the world. They want fame, they want to be recognized, applauded and awarded. They want fortune, they want money, property, nice homes and nice cars. They are lovers of pleasure, desiring to *"take life easy, eat, drink and be merry."* 1 John 5:18; Luke 6:24-26, 12:19; 2 Timothy 3:2-4

They want freedom to do whatever they want, but not freedom from sin. They want peace, but it's man's peace, based on guns, sanctions, and signatures on a piece of paper, not a God-given peace in their hearts. They want the physical salvation of a planet, but they don't see that they are separated from God, and that their primary need is for the spiritual salvation of their soul. They look for saviors, ones who can save the nation, the economy, the environment, and can give them jobs, security, and healthcare, but they shake their fists at God. And God laughs and scoffs at them; and He warns them of coming wrath, and their need to worship His Son, the true Savior and King, the One who will reign over the world. Judges 21:25, Romans 6:15-19, Ephesians 2:1-3, Jeremiah 6:14, Psalm 2

Then there is the church, you and me, and all Christians, and God wants us to be lights in this dark world, and to be fighting for the truth. We are not here for fame, fortune, power, position, and personal glory. We are not to be worldly and set our minds on the things of earth. We are not to get too comfortable, with plans to live long and self-satisfying lives. We are not to be fixated on the political process, thinking that the answer is in secular leaders, for the government cannot do what only God can do. We are to put our hope in God, and not in men. Ephesians 5:8-14, Luke 6:20-23, Colossians 3:1-3, Psalm 146:3-5

We are here for God's glory, and we are to love Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. We are to proclaim and praise His name, and make Him famous. We are to sacrifice our lives for Jesus Christ, and be willing to suffer for Him. We are to preach the gospel, telling people that to enter the kingdom of God, they need to be born again. Our purpose is to build the church, a spiritual kingdom, where Christ is King in believers' hearts. Our purpose is to be seeking God's kingdom, and to be praying for Christ's kingdom to be established on earth. Doing this will bring glory to God, intimacy with Christ, and blessing to your own life. Mark 12:30; Matthew 6:10,33; Luke 6:20-23; John 3:3, 14:21

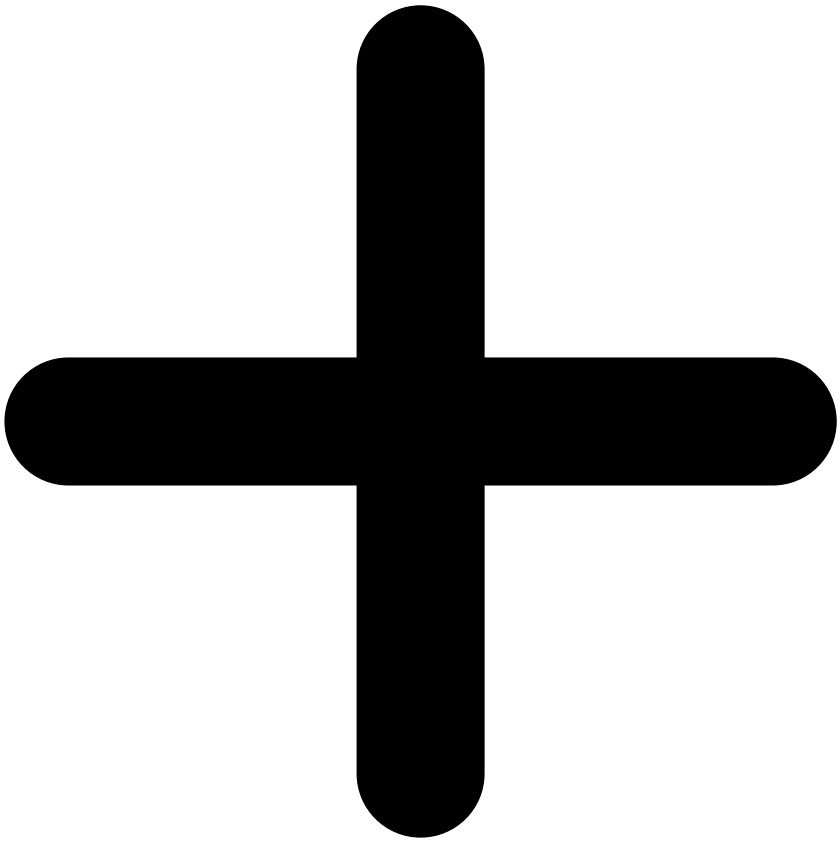
Jesus Christ, the King of kings, is coming soon. We know this because we live in the end-times, which means it won't be long before Christ returns to rapture the church and take over the world. But this is an evil age, and it's hard to live in this wicked world, in the midst of lawlessness and the stench of sin. But this is our time, the time God has chosen for us to be alive. And it will get tougher, for the pseudo-savior, that deceptive and devilish Antichrist, will be ruling this earth and making life difficult and distressing for God's people. But once Christ finishes building the church, He will rapture the Christians on earth, and gather all believers from all time to Himself. Then He will pour out His wrath, righteously punishing the unbelievers on earth. And finally, He will seize that evil Antichrist and cast him into the lake of fire. Matthew 24:9,31; Revelation 8-9,16,19

At the end of Daniel's 70th week, we will be excitedly saying, *"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ"* (Revelation 11:15). At that time, a large remnant of Jews will be saved, and they, along with all glorified believers, will help Christ rule over the world. This will be a very good age, a most glorious time, a 1000-year period called the millennial kingdom. But for now, let's be doing the work God wants us to do, and be looking forward to this future time when Christ the King will bring true peace and prosperity to this earth. 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10, Romans 11:25-27, Revelation 20:1-6

Jesus Christ is coming to reign over this earth, and we will reign with Him. This is our hope, and it will surely come to pass (Revelation 2:26-27, 5:10). Be encouraged by the following verses that speak about our coming King, and the magnificent future we will have with Him. *"The Lord will be King over all the earth; in that day the Lord will be the only One"* – Zechariah 14:9. *"His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the throne of David and over His kingdom"* – Isaiah 9:6-7. *"For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a skillful psalm. God reigns over the nations,*

God sits on His holy throne” – Psalm 47:7-8. *“Let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for You will judge the people with uprightness and guide the nations on the earth”* – Psalm 67:4. *“Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone works wonders. And blessed be His glorious name forever; and may the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen.”* Psalm 72:18-19

P.S. Two previous posts will help you in your understanding of God’s past, present, and future kingdom work on earth, “The Kingdom of God,” and “Kingdom Instructions for the Church.”



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