

by Rev. John Cortright 3/8/2009

Notes:

I Peter 1:3-4 We have a "living hope" through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The amount of knowledge, understanding, and thought you have about a future event will greatly influence your level of anticipation.

The Ages of the Earth

II Peter 3:1-13 These things were written to stir up and cause to remember the words of the prophets and the commandments of our Lord and Savior, which were spoken by the apostles.

1. The old world – destroyed by the flood (II Peter 3:3-6)
2. The present heavens and earth (today) – destroyed by a judgment of fire (II Peter 3:7-11)
3. The new heaven and earth – where righteousness dwells forever (II Peter 3:12-13)

The Last Days

The abomination of desolation (Daniel 8:23; 9:27; Matthew 24:15) Many titles for this king: Little Horn (Daniel 7:7-8, 11, 19-21), the Beast (Revelation 13:1-2), the Son of Lawlessness (II Thessalonians 2:3 and 4). This will be a time of Great Tribulation (Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:21; Mark 13:19).

This time is referred to as the Lord's Day, the Day of the Lord, the Day of Christ, and the Day of Wrath of our God. Devastating events will transpire (Isaiah 34:4; Ezekiel 32:7 and 8; Joel 2:1, 2, 10; Micah 1:4; Matthew 24:29; Mark 13:24; II Peter 3:10, 13; Revelation 6:12-14; 8:7-9; 9:18).

The Return of Christ

After the tribulation of those days, Jesus Christ will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise from the dead and meet the Lord in the air (Daniel 12:1-2; Matthew 24:29-31; I Corinthians 15:51 and 52; I Thessalonians 4:16-17). This is the first resurrection.

All of the saints will follow Christ to earth and slay the beast and defeat the kingdoms of this world (Psalms 2:6-12; 110:6-7; Isaiah 11:4; II Thessalonians 1:7-11; 2:8; Jude 1:14-15; Rev 19:1ff).

The Millennium Kingdom

Christ will rule for 1,000 years and bring everything into subjection. The first resurrection, the one of the just, is at the beginning of these 1,000 years. The resurrection of the unjust is at the end of the 1,000 year reign (Revelation 20:1ff). The book of I Corinthians gives a concise description of this time period (I Corinthians 15:24-26).

The prophets have spoken with great detail about this time when the Messiah will reign from Zion (Isaiah 2:2-4; 11:1-9; Isaiah chapters 32-35; Micah 4:1-3).

The Final Paradise

Revelation 21:1ff; 22:1ff

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Matthew 5:8