

24. THE DOOMSDAY CLOCK

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists Cites Wars, Multi-Dimensional Nuclear Threats, Failures to Address the Climate Crisis, Bio-Threats, and Artificial Intelligence.

WASHINGTON, D.C. – January 23, 2024 – The Doomsday Clock was reset at 90 seconds to midnight, still the closest the Clock has ever been to midnight, reflecting the continued state of unprecedented danger the world faces. The *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, stewards of the Doomsday Clock, emphasized in their announcement that the Clock could be turned back, but governments and people needed to take urgent action.

From a biblical point of view we also have:

1. Israel fighting for its life in the Muslim Middle East
2. Israel being condemned by nations and even Christians all over the world

Jesus said: About that day and hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be in the days of the Son of Man.

The Lord saw how wicked the human race had become on Earth and how the thoughts of the human heart continually turned to evil all the time (Gen 6:5). God was unhappy with this situation and destroyed the Earth and most of mankind by water. The present heavens and Earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly (2 Pet 3:7).

After the first trumpet is sounded, hail and fire mixed with blood (Meteorite shower?) After the second trumpet, something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea (asteroid?) After the third trumpet, a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water (comet?)

I don't need to tell you about how evil the world is becoming – not only wars and climate change and AI and nuclear weapons and biological warfare – but things like gender change, LGBT, secularism – removing God from politics and education. Mankind is in open rebellion against God.

Gen 1:27 God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them, male and female, he created them.

Speaking about the end of this age, Jesus said: You'll be handed over to be persecuted and put to death and you'll be hated by all nations because of me. Many will turn away from the faith and hate each other. ... There will be great distress unequaled from the beginning of the world until now.Because of the increase in wickedness, the love of most will grow cold.But the one who stands firm til the end will be saved. This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

When the Lord comes, he'll send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they'll gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

In Isaiah, the Lord said: I will create new heavens and a new Earth, the former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create.

The apostle Peter said: That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But, in keeping with God's promise, we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new Earth, where righteousness dwells.

The new Earth

What are the **new heavens and the new Earth** all about? This planet Earth is the only Earth that is spoken about in the Bible; a new Earth simply means a renewed Earth. The Earth will never be a perfect or sinless place. After Jesus' return, he'll reign from sea to sea over the whole Earth for a thousand years. A little more? A little less? We don't know; let's stick with a thousand years. We are not told that he will appear visibly or live physically on this Earth; only that his glory will appear in the temple at Jerusalem. He will rule the nations with a rod of iron, resulting in peace, righteousness, renewal, and justice. During

the Great Tribulation, warfare, fire, and worldwide earthquakes will destroy much of man's accomplishments.

Ezekiel said he heard someone speaking to him from inside the millennial temple, saying: Son of man, this is the place of my throne and the place for the soles of my feet. This is where I will live among the Israelites forever.

Paul said: I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For creation waits in eager expectation for God's children to be revealed. Creation will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom of the glorious state of God's people.

The godless people of the nations who survive the death and destruction of the Great Tribulation will inhabit the millennial Earth. They'll marry and have children. They'll live longer lives. They'll farm and eat their produce in peace. They're the subjects of the Messianic kingdom.

Zechariah said: If the nations don't make pilgrimages to Jerusalem to worship King Jesus, they'll have no rain.

Israel will be God's people on Earth. There will be a new temple in Jerusalem, and Israel will live in peace in their enlarged land, and they'll fulfill the temple duties for people on Earth. The leaders of the nations will bring their wealth to Jerusalem as an offering to the Lord.

Satan will be bound in the Abyss. There will be no war or armies or corrupt governments. Knowledge of the Lord's glory will fill the Earth as the waters cover the sea.

The new heavens

Where are the saints? Where will the Church be, those who were resurrected and raptured at Jesus' return?

Paul said: We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God and the dead in Christ will

rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in *the air*. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

In the air with the Lord means we will not be in heaven or on Earth. Our home is New Jerusalem, a heavenly city in the heavenly realm.

One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls of wrath of the seven last plagues came and said to me: Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb. And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God (Rev 21:9). The Church is the bride of Christ!

That's our home during the millennium. In our supernatural resurrected bodies, we'll live in New Jerusalem with God and Jesus and the angels. From there, we'll rule the world with Jesus, and we'll see God's face.