

Berean Christian Fellowship DEVOTIONAL 14.0

January 23 2014

The Day of the Lord—P2

"Then they will see THE SON OF MAN **COMING IN A CLOUD with power and great** glory." (Luke 21:27)

In the last devotional, we concluded with Christ's second coming, marking the end of the Tribulation and the beginning of Christ's one-thousand year rule on earth, which we call the Millennium. As you recall, the Beast and False Prophet are cast into the Lake of Fire, then an angel lays "hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed" (Revelation 20:2-3a). This period of one-thousand years is when "the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne" (Matthew 19:28b). Sometimes we confuse Christ's rule here with the creation of the New Heaven and the Earth, when God makes all things new and dwells with man, but that is still to come. The Millennium is a forced peace on the post-Tribulation earth, where Jesus' rule will be in righteousness upon an unrighteous earth, for "from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron" (Revelation 19:15a). He "will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, And His glory will be before His elders" (Isaiah 24:23b), while His disciples "shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel" (Matthew 19:28b). And "The law will go forth from Zion And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And He will judge between the nations, And will render decisions for many peoples; And they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift

up sword against nation, And never again will they learn war" (Isaiah 2:3b-4).

At this time, "the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus [during the Tribulation] and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand...came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years" (Revelation 20:4b). John refers to this as the first resurrection. The second resurrection will occur after this time. which we will see in the next Devotional.

Unlike all the former kingdoms and governments of the world, when Jesus rules the earth as King during the thousand years, He "will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make a decision by what His ears hear; But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slav the wicked. Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins, And faithfulness the belt about His waist. And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, And the leopard will lie down with the young goat, And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little boy will lead them. Also the cow and the bear will graze, Their young will lie down together, And the lion will eat straw like the ox. The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, And the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den. They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:3b-9). What a blessed time that will be! Yet man will still be deceived.

In the next devotional, we'll look at satan's final deception, the Great White Throne of Judgment, and the New Heaven and Earth.