

9-11). But God will restore Israel during the millennium. And Hosea 6:1-2 says, "Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. AFTER TWO DAYS will he revive us: IN THE THIRD DAY he will raise us up, and we shall live **IN HIS SIGHT.**"

Could the THIRD DAY be anything but the millennium? HE WILL REVIVE US! The THIRD DAY we shall live in HIS SIGHT! **HIS SIGHT—can't mean anything but the millennium!** And we are fast approaching the beginning of the THIRD DAY! (see Chart).

Exodus 19:11 says, "And be ready against THE THIRD DAY: for the third day the LORD WILL COME DOWN IN THE SIGHT OF ALL THE PEOPLE. . ."

Just in case you think this is a "scare tactic" because we are nearing the year 2000—**READ THE FOLLOWING!**

The church father Irenaeus wrote in A.D. 150 (over 1800 years ago!) in his book *Against Heresies*, "For the day of the Lord is as a thousand years; and in six days created things were completed; it is evident, therefore, that they will come to an end **IN THE SIXTH THOUSAND YEARS.**" Bishop Latimer wrote in A.D. 1552, "The world was ordained to endure, as all learned men affirm, 6000 years. Now of that number, there be passed 5,552 years [as of A.D. 1552], so there is no more left but 448 years [ending in A.D. 2000]"

Lactantius, wrote in the *Book of Divine Institutions* in 300 A.D.: "Because all the works of God were finished in six days, it is necessary that the world should remain in this state six ages, that is **SIX THOUSAND YEARS.** Because having finished the works He rested on the seventh day and blessed it; it is necessary that at the end of the sixth thousandth year all wickedness should be abolished out of the earth and justice should reign for a thousand years."

### **But do the "SIGNS OF THE TIME" reveal the soon return of Jesus Christ?**

In 1991, over a million Jews returned to their homeland. They came from Russia, Ethiopia, the U.S. and Europe. **Someone is "calling" the Jews back home!** Ezekiel 34:13 says, "And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, AND WILL BRING THEM TO THEIR OWN LAND, . . ." Ariel Sharon, the former Israeli general and defense minister, described the great returning of the Jews as, "the most important thing to happen to the Jewish people in the past 40 years."

But that's not all! *There is presently among the Jews, an unprecedented, earnest longing for the return of their Messiah!* Bumper stickers now appearing in Jerusalem say, "WE WANT MESSIAH NOW." Recently near Tel Aviv a large sign

was put up proclaiming the soon return of their Messiah! *The Jerusalem Post* and other newspapers in Jerusalem are continually referring to the soon appearance of the Messiah. **As never before seen, the Jewish people are anticipating the soon appearance of their Messiah!**

John Walvoord, in his best selling book, *Armageddon, Oil and the Middle East Crisis*, (p.113), says, "A Peace settlement in the Middle East is one of the most important events predicted for the end time." **And on September 13, 1993, the peace treaty process began.** As the world stood in awe, Israel and the PLO signed an historic peace treaty.

Friend, something very significant is about to happen. It's so obvious, *Time* magazine of September 13, 1993, made these remarkable statements, "The Past few years have been an age of miracles. . . The Berlin Wall tumbles. The Soviet empire melts away. . . Now comes what must be considered one of THE GREATEST MIRACLES OF ALL: the first acknowledgement by Israelis and Palestinians that they share the land both call home." And the article said this, "**Unimaginable events, consummations devoutly wished for but never really expected, have succeeded one another AS IF THE CREATOR HAD WHISPERED UP A NEW WORLD.**"

The rapture could happen literally any day, any minute! **And it is going to happen! VERY SOON!** *There is no way possible that what is happening could be just a coincidence—NOT BY THE WILDEST IMAGINATION!* Friend, you are about to witness the greatest event in history!

### **FRIEND, DO NOT MISS THE RAPTURE!**

It's simple to be saved. Pray this prayer, and mean it with all your heart: Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and unless you save me I am lost forever. I thank you for dying for me. I now receive you as my Saviour. In Jesus Name. Amen.

Dial-the-Truth Ministries is dedicated to presenting the truth in these last days before the "**glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.**" We have a recorded message at (205) 680-9206.



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by Dr. Terry Watkins, Th.D.

The time of the second coming of Jesus Christ has always been a hot topic. And as the day fast approaches, the question is continually asked—*does the Bible tell when Jesus will return?*

Though Matthew 24:36 says, "that day and hour knoweth no man. . .", I believe the Bible does give a clear and definite time *period* for the return of Jesus Christ. Prayerfully look up the following verses. And you decide. Is Jesus Christ about to return? **IT MAY SURPRISE YOU!**

Any one who has seriously studied the Bible knows some numbers have certain meanings. For instance, the number six is connected with man. Man was created on the sixth day. Revelation 13:18 says, "Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is THE NUMBER OF A MAN; and his number is Six hundred three-score and six."

And the number seven represents rest or completion. Genesis 2:2,3 says, "And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and HE RESTED ON THE SEVENTH DAY. . . And God BLESSED THE SEVENTH DAY, and sanctified it." The Lord told the Jews: "Six days thou shalt do thy work, and ON THE SEVENTH DAY thou shalt rest." They were also told in Leviticus 23:24, ". . . In the SEVENTH MONTH, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a SABBATH. . ." Leviticus 25:3 says, "Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; BUT IN THE SEVENTH YEAR SHALL BE A SABBATH OF REST. . ."

Just as God rested the seventh day; Just as He told the Jews to rest the seventh day; Just as He told the Jews to rest the seventh month; Just as He said to let the land rest the seventh year—*Could this present world of toil and labor continue 6000 years and the 7th-thousand-year period of human history — ALSO BE A SABBATH OR REST?*

The Bible clearly teaches a thousand-year sabbath or period of rest. Revelation 20:2: says, "And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a THOUSAND YEARS," Christians commonly call this "thousand-year" period, "the millennium" (from the Latin: "mille" for thousand and "annum" for year). It is a major topic of the Bible. It will begin after the 7-year great tribulation when Jesus Christ returns. During the millennium, Jesus Christ will set up His kingdom (Acts 1:6) and sit on the throne of David (Isaiah 9:6,7, Luke 1:31-33). During this time, Israel will be restored (Acts 1:6, Amos 9:14-15).

In Hebrews 4, the millennium is referred to as a "sabbath or rest" and even associates it to the seventh day of the "Creation Week." Hebrews 4:4 says, "For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, AND GOD DID REST THE SEVENTH DAY from all his works." And Isaiah 14:7, says of the millennium period, "The whole earth is at REST . . ."

**Do you know what Colossians 2:16-17 says?** "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of THE SABBATH days: WHICH ARE A SHADOW OF THINGS TO COME;"

The scripture that puts it all together is found in 2 Peter 3. The context is the return of Jesus Christ—specifically the **TIME OF HIS COMING!** Much as today, people were asking when is Jesus coming. Verse 4 reads, ". . . Where is the promise of his

coming?" And in verse 8, Peter gives the key to unlock the time of His coming, "But, beloved, **BE NOT IGNORANT OF THIS ONE THING, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.**"

If one day equals a thousand years, and God rested the seventh day, the question comes up—is the 7th-thousand-year period also going to be a rest? We know from Revelation 20, there is coming a "rest or sabbath" of a thousand years—**BUT WILL IT BE AFTER SIX THOUSAND-YEAR DAYS?**

In Matthew 16:28, Jesus Christ makes this amazing statement: "Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in HIS KINGDOM." His kingdom is a reference to His millennial reign! **And do you know what the very next verses—Chapter 17:1-4 says? "AND AFTER SIX DAYS Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, AND WAS TRANSFIGURED before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, LET US MAKE HERE THREE TABERNACLES; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias."**

What Peter, James, and John witnessed in Matthew 17 was a picture of the millennial glory of Jesus Christ. "Bringeth them up to an high mountain . . . Transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light"—**SAME AS THE MILLENNIUM!**

Peter wanted to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles (verse 4—"Let us make here three tabernacles"). The Feast of Tabernacles (Lev. 23:33-43) is the "Harvest Home" celebration to be

observed when Israel goes back to the "Promised Land" during the millennium (Zech. 14:16-21). Scofield says of the Feast of Tabernacles (see footnote Lev. 23:42) in the famous *Scofield Bible*, ". . . prophetic as to the KINGDOM-REST of Israel after her regathering and restoration."

By the way, did you know the Feast of Tabernacles was the **SEVENTH and LAST (completion)** of the Jewish Feasts? And did you also know it occurs the **SEVENTH** month which is a "rest or sabbath" (Lev. 23:33-43)? Clarence Larkin in his excellent book, *Dispensational Truth*, (which was published in 1918 and considered by many the greatest Bible study book ever written) says on page 161 of the Feast of Tabernacles, "What the "Seventh Day," or Sabbath, is to the week, a day of rest; so the "Seventh Month" to the other six months of the "Seven Month Cycle," typifies a period of rest—the "**Sabbatic Rest**" of the "**Millennial Age**" or 1000 years, in relation to the **OTHER SIX THOUSAND YEARS OF THE WORLD'S WORK DAY HISTORY.**"

**There is NO DOUBT Matthew 17 is a picture of the millennium! And the Lord said it happened—AFTER SIX DAYS! Why the number of days? WHY SO SPECIFIC?**

You say—it's just a coincidence. Friend, there are no coincidences in the Word of God. Jesus Christ said in Luke 4:4, ". . . It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by EVERY WORD of God." Every word in the Bible is there for a specific reason. **And when Matthew 17:1 says—AND AFTER SIX DAYS—you'd better believe there's a reason!**

Consider for example, 2 Chronicles 9:18, "And there were **SIX STEPS TO THE THRONE**, . . ." The throne of the Old Testament is a "prophetic" reference to the millennial throne of Jesus Christ. **And they were SIX STEPS TO THE THRONE!**

And what did Job mean in 5:19, "He shall deliver thee in six troubles: yea, **IN SEVEN THERE SHALL NO EVIL TOUCH THEE.**" And what was Ezekiel referring to in 46:1, "Thus saith the Lord GOD; The gate of the inner court that looketh toward the east **SHALL BE SHUT THE SIX WORKING DAYS; BUT ON THE SABBATH** it shall be opened, . . ."

There were approximately 4000 years before the first coming of Jesus Christ (See Chart). Jesus Christ came to earth the beginning of the **FIFTH-THOUSAND YEAR "day"** of human history. Do you know what happened on the **FIFTH DAY** of Genesis 1:20? For the first time—the word **LIFE** shows up! Do you know what John 1:4 says of Jesus Christ, "In him was **LIFE**. . ." **On the fifth-thousand-year day LIFE-JESUS CHRIST shows up! Just another coincidence?**

But probably the clearest reference to the "prophetic" time of the millennium can be found in Hosea 6. When the nation of Israel rejected the Lord Jesus Christ, their Messiah, at His first coming, they were spiritually smitten and outcast (see Romans

