



VICTORIOUS ESCHATOLOGY

Part 7 – October 6, 2013

Eschatological View

Futurist View

Partial Preterist (*that which is past*) View

Full Preterist (*that which is past*) View

Matthew 24 & Revelation

All Fulfilled in the Future

Part Future, Part Past

All Fulfilled in the Past

1 John 2 ¹⁸ Boys (lads), it is the last time (hour, the end of this age). And as you have heard that the antichrist [he who will oppose Christ in the guise of Christ] is coming, even now many antichrists have arisen, which confirms our belief that it is the final (the end) time. AMP

Matthew 16 ²⁸ "Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom." NASU

Matthew 23 ³⁶ "Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation."

³⁸ "Behold, your house is being left to you desolate!" ³⁹ "For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, 'BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'" NASU

Matthew 24 ³⁴ "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place." NASU

1 Corinthians 15 ⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. NASU

1 Thessalonians 4 ¹³ Now also we would not have you ignorant, brethren, about those who fall asleep [in death], that you may not grieve [for them] as the rest do who have no hope [beyond the grave]. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will also bring with Him through Jesus those who have fallen asleep [in death]. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by the Lord's [own] word, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord shall in no way precede [into His presence] or have any advantage at all over those who have previously fallen asleep [in Him in death]. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a loud cry of summons, with the shout of an archangel, and with the blast of the trumpet of God. And those who have departed this life in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we, the living ones who remain [on the earth], shall simultaneously be caught up along with [the resurrected dead] in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so always (through the eternity of the eternities) we shall be with the Lord! ¹⁸ Therefore comfort and encourage one another with these words.

^{5:1} BUT AS to the suitable times and the precise seasons and dates, brethren, you have no necessity for anything being written to you. ² For you yourselves know perfectly well that the day of the [return of the] Lord will come [as unexpectedly and suddenly] as a thief in the night. ⁴ But you are not in [given up to the power of] darkness, brethren, for that day to overtake you by surprise like a thief... ⁹ For God has not appointed us to [incur His] wrath [He did not select us to condemn us], but [that we might] obtain [His] salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah) ¹⁰ Who died for us so that whether we are still alive or are dead [at Christ's appearing], we might live together with Him and share His life. AMP

Matthew 24 ³⁷⁻³⁹ "For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah...there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming." NASU

This passage is not talking about a secret rapture of Christians, but the second coming of Jesus, when He will wipe the unbelievers off of the earth. To confirm this, we can note that the ones who are seen taken away in this passage are not believers, as some futurist teachers say. Jesus is explaining just the opposite. In Noah's day judgment came suddenly and swept the ungodly away. Noah and his family were left behind to inherit the earth. If we apply this, as Jesus did to His coming in judgment, then we will see Christians being protected in the arms of Jesus, as Noah was protected in the ark. Then the ungodly are swept away. After that the righteous are "left behind" to rule and reign with Jesus on earth.

This is exactly what Jesus had taught His disciples in Matthew 13 in the parable of the wheat and tares: "So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father." (Matthew 13:40-43)

Jesus is very clear. It is the ungodly who will be removed, gathered, taken. It is the righteous who will be left behind to shine as the sun.

Contrary to what the futurist would have Christians believe, we want to be "left behind" so we can rule and reign with Jesus. Or as Matthew 5:5 tells us, the meek will inherit the earth.

A portion of Revelation has already been fulfilled and the rest remains to be fulfilled. See it, not as a book of God's destruction upon an evil world, but rather a description of God's kingdom expanding over the whole earth and Jesus Christ being revealed in glory. It was written to be revelation of Jesus Christ. It is not a book focusing on the revelations of destruction, nor the revelations of judgments, nor the revelations of the antichrist. It is a book revealing Jesus Christ as King and Lord of all. It is *the* Revelation.

Jesus begins the book by saying that He was going to reveal "*things which must soon take place*" (Rev 1:1). Jesus was not revealing things that would take place hundreds or thousands of years later. He was revealing things that would begin to unfold in the lives of the original readers by saying, "*the time is near*" (Rev 1:3). Take these words literally and understand that what John saw and reported began during his lifetime in the first century.

Revelation chapters 7 through 11 were fulfilled during the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70. How could the book of Revelation speak prophetically of the coming destruction of Jerusalem if it was not written until A.D. 96?

In chapters 6 through 18, the kingdom of God is progressively extended over the whole world until all of the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our God.