

The Times of Restoration of All Things

By Robert I. Adams

In the book of Acts, the apostle Peter preached to the people in Jerusalem. He said:

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until *the times of restoration of all things*, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.” (Acts 3:19-21)

Peter said that heaven must receive Jesus until a certain time, and when that time arrives, God is going to send Him from heaven. Then “the times of restoration of all things” will be ushered in.

Peter also said that the holy prophets in the Scriptures spoke of “the times of restoration of all things.” In their writings, they told about the future coming of the Lord when He will establish His universal kingdom of peace on earth, and restore all things (cf. e.g. Is. 59-60, Dan. 7, Mic. 4, Zech. 14).

From what Peter was saying, we understand that Jesus will not descend from heaven until He sets up His kingdom and ushers in “the times of restoration of all things.”

Many years after Peter preached in Jerusalem about the return of Christ, the apostle Paul wrote:

“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.” (1 Thess. 4:16-17)

Paul was not unaware of what Peter preached - that Jesus will not leave heaven until “the times of restoration of all things.” This implies that when Paul wrote, “the Lord himself will descend from heaven,” he was referring to when Jesus will leave heaven to set up His kingdom on earth. We can see this also in 2 Timothy 4:1, where Paul mentioned the return of Jesus together with the setting up of His kingdom. There, he wrote of “His appearing and His kingdom.”

When Jesus spoke of His return, He plainly stated He would come after a short time of great tribulation (Matt. 24:21-31). We see the same in the book of Revelation, where we find a description of the time of great tribulation (Rev. 6-18) followed by the return of Christ (Rev. 19). In line with this, Paul stated that the believers on earth will not get rest from affliction until Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels (2 Thess. 1:3-10).

The end time tribulation will involve the persecution of those who belong to Jesus. God’s enemy, the Antichrist, will be behind this persecution. The book of Revelation says concerning him, “It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them” (Rev. 13:7). Now, since Jesus will not descend from heaven until after the end time tribulation, we must be aware that believers will suffer persecution before He comes back. It is therefore imperative that believers in the end time take to heart what it says in Revelation 13:9-10:

“If anyone has an ear, let him hear: If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes; if anyone is to be slain with the sword, with the sword must he be slain. Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.”

When Christ finally does descend from heaven on His white horse, He will resurrect the saints, glorify those saints who are alive, and gather them all up to Himself. He will then destroy the Antichrist, and usher in “the times of restoration of all things” in His millennial kingdom (cf. Rev. 19:6-20:6).

For more insight concerning the end time, you are welcome to view a book/eBook I have written entitled “THE COMING - The Testimony of the Bible Concerning the Return of Christ.”



In this book, we take a look at what Jesus Himself said together with what His apostles taught, and how all this ties in with what the prophets of God wrote in the Scriptures about the coming of the Lord.

You are welcome to view it at [Amazon](#).

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