

“NEWS FLASH” –

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...

Conformed to this world =
Eph 2:1-3

And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked **according to the course of this world**, according to the prince of the power of the air, the **spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience**, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were **by nature children of wrath**, just as the others.

Who's agenda is shaping this present age? 1*

Renew By =

- 1.) Power of the Spirit – (2 pet 1:3)
- 2.) Word of God – Knowledge of Him (2Pet 1:3)

REALITY CHECKS

1.) **The name of God** (Names of Jesus)

- a. Jesus is **THE REALITY**. All things were made by him, through him, and for him (Col. 1:16)
- b. Unity comes through focusing on the name of Jesus (John 12:32; John 17:23)
- c. Meditating on the name of Jesus is an Experience (John 17:3)
- d. There is safety in Jesus name! (Pro. 18:10)
- e. Some of Jesus names...
 - i. Alpha (Rev. 1:8; 22:13)
 - ii. Bread of life (John 6:35)
 - iii. Counselor (Is. 9:6)
 - iv. Bridegroom (John 3:28-30)
 - v. Faithful (Rev. 19:11)

2.) **Great and Terrible day of the Lord** (Joel 2:10-11; 2:28-32; Joe 3:14-16; Hag. 2:6-8; Heb.12:26; Mal 4:1-6; Amos 5:18-20; Isaiah 2:12; 13:6-13)

- a. **The Lord is going to Judge the earth to cleanse it from sin so that Jesus can rule over the planet for 1000 years** (Mat 24:22; Rev. 20:2-4) **His Righteous Judgments will include...**
 - i. War (Rev. 6:3-4)
 - ii. Famine and economic crises (Rev. 6:5-6)
 - iii. Disease leading to ¼ of the earth dying (Rev. 6:7-8 pestilence)
 - iv. Cosmic Disturbances – Sun black, moon blood, Meteor showers coming to earth (Rev. 6:12-17; Joel 2:31)

- v. Earth's vegetation being burned (Rev. 8:7)
- vi. Much of the worlds drinking water becomes poisonous (Rev. 8:10-11)

This will cause a major pastoral crises – ‘How can a good loving God be destroying the cities of the earth?’ ‘How do I tell my neighbors that God destroyed their house and 2nd born daughter?’

What about a secret rapture where the Church leaves before the Tribulation? What about those who say the Tribulation was fulfilled in 70AD? See endnote 2**

- b. The Church will move in the greatest power ever!** (Acts 2:17-21)
 - i. Great move of radical Holiness (Eph 5:26-27)
 - ii. Great move of unity (Eph 4:13)
 - iii. Great move of Intimacy (Eph 4:13 *Knowledge of the Son of God*)
 - iv. Great move of God's tangible glory (John 17:24)
 - v. Great move of prophetic revelation – all believers will prophesy (Acts 2:17-21)
 - vi. Great harvest of souls coming into the kingdom (Rev. 14:6-7; Acts 2:21)
 - vii. Israel will be saved through faith in Jesus Christ (Rom. 11:12-15, 25-26)
- c. The Lord will use Satan's rage against the church to cleanse and refine her**
 - i. Some believers will be Martyred (Dan 11:35; Rev 13:7)
 - ii. Most believers will face a major Economic Crisis (Rev.13:16-17) How do I provide for my family and still follow Jesus?
- d. People will either love God or hate him – their will be no lukewarm Church** (Rev. 9:20-21; Rev16:9 ; Rev. 16:11)
- e. How do we respond to a great and terrible day coming?**
 - i. Store up intimacy with Jesus Now! (Matt. 25:1-13)
 - ii. Get compromise out (Song 2:15)
 - 1. Sin keeps us from reality (Eph 5:8-14)
 - iii. Let God love you as a bridegroom. Have times devoted to just letting God love you. (1John 4:10)
 - iv. Study end-times in a way where you are growing in love for Jesus not a competitive, argumentative spirit

3.) God moves through humility and weakness not strength and ability

- a. God uses weak vessels
 - i. Disciples arguing over who's the greatest (Mark 9:34)

- ii. Peter not able to stand up to little slave girl (Matt 26:69-70)
- b. Every Believer has potential for both great failure and success
 - i. Mark 14:37-38 -"The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak."
- c. Weakness not strength is what he's looking for in us
 - i. 2Co 12:9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
- d. God's power rests on Humility
Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

4.) The Believer will never die

- a. We will never have a time of experiencing death
 - i. John 11:26 – And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. (John 4:14; 6:50; 10:28)
 - ii. Those who die before Christ's return will spend a period of time in blissful fellowship with God without a physical body before the resurrection (2Cor 5:8)
- b. At Christ's return, all believers will be given new Physical bodies to rule on this Physical earth (1Thes. 4:13-18; 1Cor. 15:12-19; 1Cor 15:51-55)
- c. We spend eternity on earth, because heaven comes to earth! (John 21:2; Rev. 21:10; Eph 1:9-10)
- d. This reality helps us when we see the prosperity of the wicked.
Don't fret for the righteous will inherit the earth. Ps. 37:9-11

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* Sociologists conducted a survey of 104 of Hollywood's Elite, asking the most influential writers and producers a number of ideological questions. The findings showed:

- 97 percent believe in a woman's right to abort
- 5 percent strongly agree that homosexuality is wrong
- 16 percent agree that adultery is wrong
- 99 percent believe that television should be "more critical" of Judeo-Christian values
 - o "Violence and Promiscuity Set the Stage for Televisions' Moral Collapse" Issue#248
www.Frc.org/get.cfm?I=IS02E4

2

** 1. The Great and Terrible day of the Lord is Future. Some believe that it was fulfilled in the Roman invasion of Jerusalem and the destruction of the temple in 70 AD. This can not be because...

- a. There has never been a world wide event where life almost became extinct as Jesus predicts will happen (Matt. 24:22)

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- b. There has never been an event since Jesus time that fulfills the abomination of desolation (Matt 24:15) (Dan. 9:27;11;31; 12:11)
 - i. The Prophecies of the abomination of desolation seemed to have been fulfilled before Jesus in the political figure Antiochus Epiphanies. However Jesus refers to this as a future event which shows that there is a second fulfillment.
 - ii. Antiochus Epiphanies fulfilled these by setting up worship to Zeus in Jerusalem (he thought he was Zeus), causing sacrifices to cease, and slaughtering pigs in the temple ("Antiquities of the Jews" Vol X11, Chapter four and five of Works of Josephus")
 - iii. Though the temple was destroyed in 70A.D. -- That doesn't fulfill the Matt. 24:15 scripture of an abomination of desolation.

 - 2.) The church will be present instead of secretly being raptured away
 - a. The bible teaches that believers will meet Jesus in the air when he returns not before.
 - i. Dead rise, then we meet Jesus in the air (1Thes 4:15-16)
 - ii. 1Thes 4:15-16 is a verse many have used to describe a secret rapture. It seems to show however, an end time move of martyrdom

 - b. Many say God would not let his church be persecuted- however,
 - i. 171,000 Christians martyred per year (Gordon -Cornwall theological seminary 2006)
 - i. God uses this as a means of refining his church (Dan 11:35; Rev 13:7)

 - c. You don't want to be secretly raptured! This is the church's greatest hour!