

# Orlando Bible Students Newsletter

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## God's Change is Coming

America is currently selecting its next President. Candidates are vying for the chance to lead the United States through the many challenges that it faces: terrorism, financial crisis, poor economy and lack of affordable health care. The candidates promise "change" and solutions to these many problems. While Americans are hopeful that the next President will be able to fix these problems, many are filled with anxiety about the future. Our Lord Jesus described our day in Luke 21:25-26 (RSV): "and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

Can America's next President or any human being solve all of these problems? The Scriptures say no! Our Lord prophesied in Matt 24:21-22: (*Darby*) "for then shall there be great tribulation, such as has not been from *the beginning of the world* until now, nor ever shall be; and if those days had not been cut short, no flesh had been saved; but on account of the elect those days shall be cut short."

This great time of trouble will culminate in a final cataclysm called Armageddon when God directly intervenes in man's affairs to bring this trouble to an end. (Rev. 16:16-18) God will intervene through the individual He has chosen to be leader of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul confirms this in Acts 17:31 "Because he [God] hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that man* [Jesus] whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead."

Jesus earned this role by his faithfulness unto

death during his first advent. Paul writes in Heb. 5:8-10 (*Phillips*): "but, Son though he was, he had to prove the meaning of obedience through all that he suffered. Then, when he had been proved the perfect Son, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who should obey him, being now recognized by God himself as High Priest 'after the order of Melchizedek.'"

Following Armageddon, Jesus will establish an earthly kingdom that will bless all the families of the earth. (Gen. 22:16-18) In that kingdom, Jesus will be a spiritual priest and king, like Melchizedek. (Zech. 6:13) As king, he will rule over man's civil affairs. Under his leadership, men will be beat their swords into plowshares and the nations will learn war no more. (Isa. 2:4) None shall hurt nor destroy in all his holy kingdom. (Isa. 11:9) As high priest, Jesus will lead mankind up a way of holiness back into harmony with God. (Isa. 35:8-10) Under his teaching, all mankind shall know God from the least unto the greatest.—Jer. 31:34

Jesus will apply the merit of his sacrifice to release Adam and all his descendents from the condemnation of death. This will heal men from all of the diseases that plague mankind. (Isa. 33:24) All in the grave will be brought to life and given an opportunity, along with those still living, to learn righteousness and gain everlasting life by obedience to the laws of that kingdom. (John 5:28-29; 1 Cor. 15:21-22) Jesus will solve the problems of natural disasters by removing the curse upon the earth and the earth will yield her increase. (Psa. 67:7) Sound too good to be true? This is the leader we should expect from a loving Heavenly Father.

*For more information, see our offer for "God's Remedy for a World Gone Mad."*

# “Knowledge”

**K**nowledge is the knowing of facts or information based on experience, association or learning. Knowledge touches all areas of human endeavor—science, arts, history, language, etc. But the most important knowledge anyone can acquire is the knowledge of God and his plans.

The knowledge of God must be sought through the study of his word, the Bible. “You will find him [God], if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul.” (Deu 4:29) David writes that if we seek after the knowledge of God as one would seek for silver and hidden treasure, “then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.”—Prov. 2:5

By His knowledge, God teaches us about His righteous character. He introduces us to His son Jesus, whom he hath appointed heir of the world. (Heb. 1:2) He teaches us about Christ’s future earthly kingdom wherein Jesus will bless all the families of the earth. (Gal. 3:8) By knowledge, God invites us to sacrifice our earthly lives and follow in Jesus’ footsteps to gain a place in heaven as part of God’s spiritual family. (Matt. 16:24) Through knowledge God gives us the opportunity as well as the direction and help we need to gain eternal life.

Oh, how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day. Thy commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.— Psa 119:97-98 (RSV) ■

## Gospel of the Kingdom

—Internet Radio Station—

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## Fall Into Sin

**A**fter creating our first parents, Adam and Eve, God told them they could eat of every tree in the garden except for one, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If they ate of that tree, they would surely die. (Gen. 2:16-17) God placed this test upon Adam and Eve to determine whether or not they would be obedient to his instructions. Though this test was not onerous, Adam and Eve disobeyed, eating of the forbidden fruit, and suffered the punishment, death, which God had stated would occur.

Disobedience of our first parents was the act by which all of their progeny, the world of mankind, was plunged also into sin and death. Through the procreation process, all of Adam’s children inherited the imperfec-

tion and the fallen tendencies which manifested themselves in their first parents. As a result, all mankind, descending from Adam, have likewise fallen into sin and suffered its penalty, death.

Jesus gave his perfect human life and thus, provided the ransom price needed to release Adam from the condemnation he fell under because of sin. When Jesus applies his blood to release Adam from this penalty, at the beginning of Christ’s earthly kingdom, the release of all the rest of mankind, all descending from Adam, will also take place. “Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.” —Rom 5:18 ■

# A Special Gift in a Prophecy

**T**here are many prophecies in the Holy Scriptures, but there is one that stands out very prominently. It is the prophecy of a special gift, not for just a few but for the entire world of mankind. It's the gift of the Heavenly Father's dear and only begotten son, Jesus.

How important was it for this prophecy to be fulfilled? Without it, the whole plan of God could not be fulfilled and the whole world would still be lost to sin and death. What a terrible thought! We find this prophecy in the book of Isaiah 7th and 9th chapters.

“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” (Isa 7:14)

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” (Isa 9:6)

These prophecies not only foretell about the birth of our dear Lord Jesus, but it also shows the immeasurable Love that the Heavenly Father has for his creation. John writes about God's great love in John 3:16, “God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son ...” In further amazement we learn this gift was planned before the foundation of this world! Jehovah God, knowing the end from the beginning, gave his only begotten son to be mankind's SAVIOR, or Life Giver. Jesus, the MESSIAH, was made flesh to rescue the race from the sentence of death so that he could give them life in his Kingdom. Let us do as the angels did by praising God, saying, “Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace good will toward men!”—Luke 2:13-14 ■

## “The World of Tomorrow”

Close your eyes a moment  
To misery and woe,  
And all earth's degradations  
Which from sin and sorry grow

And let your mental vision  
Behold a perfect earth  
Without a stain of sin to mar  
The things of grander worth.

No bitter thought nor unkind word  
Will ever find a part,  
And only love will meet response  
In every kindred heart.

Benevolence shall mark each act,  
And sickness be no more.  
No evidence of dread decay  
Shall lodge at mortal's door.

Where health and radiant beauty march  
In unsurpassed array.  
And inward purity shines forth,  
As all seek to obey.

And such will be perfection,  
In a world that's freed from sin,  
With all earth's tears and sorrow  
As tho they had not been.

For those we've loved and cherished  
And laid within the grave,  
Shall rise as one great army,  
For Christ died all to save.

So lift your heads, take courage!  
There'll come an end to sorrow,  
When Christ as King shall then reign o'er  
The blest world of tomorrow.

—Poems of the Way

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## Calendar of Events

### **Orlando Bible Students Convention**

October 18, 19, 2008  
Garden Club of Sanford  
200 Fairmont Drive (Corner of Hwy. 17-92)  
Sanford, Florida  
[Free admission, no collection]

For further information contact:

**Orlando Bible Students**  
**PO Box 180216, Casselberry, FL 32718-0216**

Or contact us at our website:

**[www.orlandobible.org](http://www.orlandobible.org)**

The Orlando Bible Students is a nondenominational group that meets for Bible studies and devotions on Sunday mornings at the Eastbrook branch YMCA, Winter Park, FL and in area homes during the week.

For further information call: (407) 831-2098

## Special Offer

We would like to send you a complimentary copy of the booklet, **“God’s Remedy for a World Gone Mad.”** This booklet describes how the kingdom of God will bless all the families of the earth.

For your FREE copy, call (407) 831-2098 and request a copy, or fill in your address below and mail this coupon to:

**Orlando Bible Students**  
**PO Box 180216**  
**Casselberry, FL 32718-0216**

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