

The End of All Things

In the book of **1 Peter 4:7**, the Scripture says that the end of all things is at hand. Notice that the verb **“is”** is in the present tense. The phrase **“at hand”** in the original Greek language is **“eggus”** which means **“near, nigh, ready, at hand”**. This phrase appears 18 times in the New Testament. When Peter wrote this Epistle, the end **WAS** near back in the first century. When the phrase the end was used, it did not mean the end of planet Earth, but the end of the Age. **(Matthew 24:3)**

The word for **“world”** in this verse comes from the Greek word **“aion”** G#165 or **“Age”**. In **1 Peter 4:17**, we read how the time **IS** come. Again, the word **“is”** is in the present tense which means that it has now come.

The time had **now** come, **(back in the first century)**, that judgment must begin at the house of God which was the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. This was the Temple that God told Moses to make according to the pattern that He showed him at Mt Sinai 1500 years earlier after He had delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage. **(Hebrews 8:5)** This was also when the Lord made a covenant with Israel. **(Exodus 19:3-6)**

It was at this Temple that the people of Israel learned from the priesthood about God, His Laws, and His Covenant. It was the priesthood that taught the people about worship, animal sacrifices, and God’s moral and ceremonial Laws.

In **2 Peter 3:10-12**, we read that the judgment of God was coming upon the covenant-breaking nation of Israel. **(Isaiah 24:5)** In AD 70 of the first century, the City of Jerusalem and the Jewish Temple were both destroyed. Jesus said that He came into the world to bring judgment. **(John 9:39)**

In **2 Peter 3:12**, it says that the heavens would be on fire and the elements would melt with fervent heat. Today, many church people do not understand what these Scriptures are actually saying nor do they understand what these verses mean.

The word **“heavens”** in this verse does not refer to the clouds or the atmosphere, but this is an example where physical words are denoting spiritual realities which are expressions relating to God’s Covenant which He made with Israel at Mt Sinai.

In **2 Peter 3:13**, Peter speaks about a New Covenant with new heavens and a new earth which is the New Covenant which Jesus established when He came in AD 70. The arrival of this New Covenant with new heavens and a new earth was prophesied by the Old Testament prophets. **(Isaiah 65:17, Jeremiah 31:31-33, 32:38-40)**

In **2 Peter 3:13**, notice that the Apostle Peter uses the word **“we”**. The **“we”** was the first century believers. The Old Covenant was getting ready to end.

A New Eternal Everlasting Covenant, one that would never end, was on the horizon. **(Hebrews 8:7-8, 13)**

Notice the words used by the Apostle Peter in **2 Peter 3:12**. The word “**elements**” in this verse does not refer to the physical elements contained in the earth. The word “**elements**” is translated from the Greek word “**stoicheion**” **G#4747** which means basic instructions, rudiments of the Law.

It has everything to do with the education of the people of Israel and about learning all about God’s Covenant which He had made with them. **(Galatians 4:3,9)** This concept of the word “**elements**” is used today.

The first few years of our education are called elementary education. The Greek word “**stoicheion**” is used four times in the Bible. Each time, it deals with learning about the Covenant that was taught by the priest at the Temple.

Everything about the Old Covenant was coming to an end in AD 70.

The Israel of God was being changed from the physical to the spiritual. The Spiritual Kingdom of God will never end.

In **1 Corinthians chapter 13**, we read about things that were about to end. When Jesus returned in AD 70, He did away with the Old Covenant and consummated the New Covenant. The gifts of the Spirit were in operation while the Church was growing, maturing, and waiting for the Return of Jesus in AD 70.

Notice in **1 Corinthians 1:7-8**, it says that Jesus would come in the end. At this time, the gifts would cease. **1 Corinthians 13:8**, it says that charity would never fail. The word “**charity**” comes from the Greek word “**agapao**” which means **unconditional love**. We read in **1 John 4:8** that God is love and God will never end.

Notice that **1 Corinthians 13:8** also states that knowledge will vanish away. This knowledge is not referring to the knowledge that we possess today but refers to the knowledge of the Old Covenant that God had made with Israel.

This knowledge involved everything about the Temple cultus. It was this knowledge that would all vanish away when the Old Covenant vanished away. **(Hebrews 8:13)**

It also states in this same verse: “whether there be prophecies, they shall fail” What this means is that all the “**modern-day prophecies**” regarding the future Return of Jesus, they shall all fail because Jesus has already returned. Jesus returned when He said He would.

When Jesus returned in AD 70 of the first century, He married His Bride, the Church who the Apostle Paul had espoused to Him. Espoused means to betrothed to or to be engaged to. **(2 Corinthians 11:2)**

1 Corinthians 13:10 states that the perfect was coming. The word “**perfect**” comes from the Greek word “**teleios**” which means completeness, of full age, or finished.

The Church was mature and complete and ready to be married to the Lamb. (**Hebrews 12:22-24, Revelation 21:1-3**) The Marriage Supper of the Lamb took place in AD 70 when Jesus returned. Jesus is here right now and will be here forever with His Bride the Church. (**Ezekiel 37:27-28**)

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is forever. (**Revelation 14:6**) It is the same message that first began to be preached on the Day of Pentecost in **Acts 2:37-41**. Jesus talked about this born-again message of the Everlasting Gospel in **John 3:3,5,7**.

This message will never change. (**1 Corinthians 1:10**) So many Church people today have been blinded by hand-me-down religion and by tradition. They do not realize that when you change the message of the Gospel, the results of the Gospel message are changed.

Without a new covenant connection, you cannot see or enter the Kingdom of God and receive eternal life. (John 11:25) Jesus is the life giver. (1 John 2:25)

There is **NO** end to everlasting life. Remember, Jesus came to restore what Adam lost that day in the Garden of Eden. (**Genesis 2:17**) That day, Adam sinned and died. Adam did not die physically that day, but Adam died spiritually. His disobedience brought sin and death by sin to all humanity, past, present, and future. (**Romans 5:12, Hebrews 9:27**)

Conclusion

The end of all things mentioned in **1 Peter 4:7** was **NOT** the end of all physical things of the planet, but it was the end of everything that had to do with the Old Covenant that God had made with the Nation of Israel.

This end is the only end mentioned in the Bible. The “**last days**” or the “**end times**” took place from AD 30 – AD 70. It was this 40-year period when the end times took place.

There are no last days, or end times now nor ever will be. So, unpack your bags and get involved with proclaiming the Kingdom of God to our world.

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