

May 4, 2024

West Valley End-Time Ministries Newsletter

“In the beginning...” — John 1:1

The Gospel of John is perhaps the richest account of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, and John, the disciple who was closest to Jesus during His time with us on earth, paints the most passionate word picture of Jesus in the entire Bible. (See also 1 John 1:1-4!)

Today Jesus' followers need more than ever to see Jesus as their Savior and coming King. We need to understand His heart toward the sinner and witness His passionate desire for our salvation. We need to know just how safe we are in His boundless grace, as we face “a time of trouble such as has never been, nor ever will be”. This time of trouble is on the horizon, and the forces of evil are gathering for the great “intifada” of God's people.

Last week, in our virtual Bible study, we discussed the first 13 verses of the Gospel of John. In that discussion we saw John:

- ♦ Quote the first words of the Bible, “In the beginning” and paint for us a portrait of the Jesus of creation as the divine One of Three, present at creation, and one with each other — the Father, Son and Spirit.
- ♦ Light, the first creation of Christ in the beginning, is what Jesus came to be and is to a world in darkness, and “His life is the Light of men.”
- ♦ “In Him was life” as well — life brought to His creation in Eden — and life brought to a lost world as our Redeemer.
- ♦ When He came to us, “we” rejected Him. “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God” — the gospel that an end-time world needs to hear and grasp in faith before Jesus returns!

In Him,

Pastor Chilson



Pastor Darrell Chilson

***“We are living in
the season of
Christ's return.”***

***Jesus said, “Watch
and be ready, for
the Son of Man is
coming at an hour
you do not expect.”***

***The mission of
West Valley Minis-
tries is to help
Christ's followers
recognize the signs
of His approaching
return and be pre-
pared for that
Great Day.***



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

THE WORD BECAME FLESH


John 1 – **14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. **15** John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.' " **16** And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. **17** For the law was given through Moses, [but] grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. **18** No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared [Him].

A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

19 Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" **20** He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." **21** And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." **22** Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" **23** He said: "I [am] 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Make straight the way of the LORD," ' as the prophet Isaiah said." **24** Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. **25** And they asked him, saying, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" **26** John answered them, saying, "I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. **27** "It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." **28** These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) Why does John call Jesus "the Word", and what does that title imply?
 - 2) Where else do we find this language used in reference to Jesus?
 - 3) When did "the Word become flesh", and how did that occur?
 - 4) Where else do we find the word "begotten" of the Father?
 - 5) Compare the contrasting words, "begotten" and "eternal". (John 1:14, 15)
 - 6) Compare John 1:19-22 with Matthew 16:13-16.
 - 7) What do you think the attitude of the Jewish leaders might have been to this "unorthodox" prophet?
 - 8) Do you think John the Baptist's experience is in any way similar to those who have been voices for Christ in the more recent past — OR might be in the not-to-distant-future?
 - 9) Why would the priests ask John if he was Elijah? And is Elijah and end-time figure?
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A BIBLICAL ANALYSIS OF CURRENT EVENTS

The Bible says, “Know this — that in the last days **perilous times** will come...” 2 Timothy 3:1. It should be no surprise then, to the followers of Christ, that what we are seeing in our nation is actually just what we are told would one day be “IN THE LAST DAYS.”

We are truly living in unprecedented “**times**” of evil, corruption, and anarchy — in this nation which once represented a “nation under God” — a country where right prevailed, and a place where “liberty and justice for all” was the norm. Once, we were a republic. Once, truth and honor were celebrated by all but a few. Faith in God and principles of right were applauded. These attributes of national greatness no longer represent the majority of those who live in and govern this country — the America most of us once knew.

Revelation 13:11-18 details the future of our nation as it plays its role in the prophetic landscape of the Bible — in the final conflict between Christ and Satan, between the Church and the “axis of evil” (the dragon, the beast and the false prophet” (Revelation 16:13). What we are seeing around us is nothing less than the stage being set for “the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world” (Revelation 3:10).

America is very much in the center of this picture, according to the Book of Revelation. We are told that OUR NATION will be the leading power in calling the world to an allegiance to the Antichrist (Revelation 13:11-18). What’s happening today as moral and political corruption ravage our nation, both in society and government, must happen in order for prophecy to be fulfilled. The abandonment of constitutional law and order, which is evident everywhere, must occur in order for the “worship” of the Antichrist to ultimately be demanded — at the risk of death (Revelation 13:15). Think about it!

The Great Tribulation which Jesus said would come just before His return (Matthew 24:21) is soon to break upon us. **What’s happening to Jews today will soon happen to followers of Christ!**

Recognizing the signs of trouble ahead should drive every Christian to a study of the prophecies of the Bible, for they are a road map that will help us navigate the “perilous times” ahead. It’s time to give your heart anew to Christ. Seek His Spirit as you once again study His Word and fellowship with His followers for strength and encouragement. “Watch and be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect” — the words of Jesus.

Join us each week (2 p.m. Pacific and Arizona Time; 5 p.m. Eastern Time; 4 p.m. Central Time; 3 p.m. Mountain Time) for our class discussions. Click: <https://westvalleyend-timeministries-511.my.webex.com/meet/pastor> to join. To receive our weekly newsletter, please send an email with “Subscribe to Newsletter” in the subject line to: Pastor@wvetm.com. **HELP US BUILD OUR ONLINE COMMUNITY OF FAITH!**