

THE BEACON OF TRUTH

March 8, 2020

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” John 17:17

Prophecies About Jesus’ Church

Drew Suttles

The church that belongs to Christ began on the Day of Pentecost in the city of Jerusalem when the Gospel of Christ was preached, received, and obeyed (Acts 2:1-47). It was no accident or coincidence that the events associated with the establishment of the Kingdom took place on that day and in that city. As we look to the Word of God, there are inspired prophecies that point to the Day when the church of Christ would begin. Join me as we examine these prophecies and consider some “Pentecost Pointers.”

In the first place, consider the prophecies regarding the **LOCATION**. The prophet Isaiah prophesied around 740-700 BC. He, through the eyes of inspiration, saw the place in which the mountain of the Lord’s house would be established as he proclaimed the following: “For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem” (Isaiah 2:2-3). The prophet Joel, who prophesied around 830 BC, stated that in Mt. Zion and in Jerusalem would be deliverance (Joel 2:28-32). Incidentally, Peter, who preached the Gospel on the Day of Pentecost, quoted from Joel (Acts 2:16-21). Finally, Jesus told His disciples to tarry in the city of Jerusalem until they were endued with power from on high (Luke 24:49).

In the second place, consider the prophecies regarding the **TIME**. Isaiah, in his prophecy of the church, stated that it would be established in the latter days (Isaiah 2:2) ... The prophet Daniel, who prophesied sometime after 536 BC, heralded the following: “In the days of these kings, (Roman Empire), shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom” (Daniel 2:44). Jesus told some who were listening to Him that they would not taste of death until they saw the Kingdom of God come with power (Mark 9:1). When we come to Acts 2, we notice (continued on page 2)

By the Numbers:

Week of 3/1/20

Contribution – \$2294

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Classes – 36

Sunday Worship – 51*

Wednesday Night – N/A

**Total for the day*

WORKS SUPPORTED:

Marlon Retana - Panama
Brad Harrub - Focus Press

The Gospel of Christ TV Program
Sundays:

6:30am - Ch. 8.3 (CW) 7:00am - Ch. 39.1

Listen to our radio station!

FM 102.5 KCXB-LP - The Beacon of Truth
Available online 24/7
at beaconcofc.com

Sermon Spotlight:

AM — Salvation in No Other

1. What other passages teach the exclusivity of Jesus being our means of salvation?
2. Can we preach this boldly?

PM — Hebrews Chapter 10

1. How many times was Christ offered for sin?
2. How can we be confident in our salvation without becoming arrogant or lax in it, resulting in our falling away?

Schedule Of Services

Sunday
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Worship 10:30 A.M. & 2:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible study 7:00 P.M.

Website

Beaconcofc.com

Preacher

Chase Green
318-608-7418

Elders

Bill Schooley 318-396-7296
Tim Green 318-547-4026

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WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED

1. Hear the Gospel (Jn. 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17).
2. Believe (Rom. 1:16; Acts 18:8; Heb. 11:6).
3. Repent (Lk. 13:3; 24:47; Acts 3:19; 17:30).
4. Confess Christ (Matt. 10:32, 33).
5. Be baptized (immersed) (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).
6. Continue faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10).

Mailing Address

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

NEWS AND NOTES
TO OUR GUESTS—A WARM WELCOME

Thank you for coming today and please come back soon and often. If you have questions about the church of Christ, what is taught here, or the way we do anything please feel free to ask. Please fill out the Guest Register on the table in the foyer so we may have a record of your visit.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Margie Tippen, Regina Simmons, Joy Skipper, Kaitlyn Wilson, Tim Green, Debbie Grice, Virginia Wainwright, Stetson Ortega, Bettie Young, Scarlet Schooley, Judy May, Martin Hattaway, Marcia Green, Dewey Young, Kenzie May

OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Youth & Young Adults: We are thinking of planning our next youth event for Friday, March 20th. Please let Chase know if this date works for you. If you would like to help host an event in the future, please let Chase know!
- Monthly Ladies' Luncheon: See Sharon for more details.
- Monthly Fellowship Meal: 4th Sunday each month unless otherwise noted.
- VBS & Gospel Meeting with Dr. Brad Harrub: July 19th to 22nd. Will be here before we know it! Be planning to attend and help support this great event!

(Continued from page 1)

notice that the Day of Pentecost had fully come: The day and time to which the prophets pointed.

Finally, in the third place, consider the prophecies regarding the **POWER**. Jesus stated that the Kingdom would come with power after the apostles were endued with power from on high (Mark 9:1; Luke 24:49). Just before His ascension, He told His disciples that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit came upon them (John 14:26; 16:13; Acts 1:8).

We have noticed that the prophets spoke of the location, time, and power that would be associated with the establishment of Jesus' church. The church was planned, prepared, prophesied, preached, and purchased by God. Dear friend, please consider what the Scriptures say and obey God that you may be added to this one church: The church that belongs to Jesus (Acts 2:47; Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:4)!

Rejoice, and Be Exceeding Glad

Chase Green

Matthew 5:12 - "Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."

Jesus concludes the section of Scripture known as the Beatitudes by encouraging those who are spiritually blessed to rejoice and be exceeding glad in that fact. Much has been written in the New Testament regarding Christian joy. And much of this writing ties joy/rejoicing together with persecution/trials.

Rom. 12:12 describes Christians as those who ought to be "rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer." James wrote, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience" (James 1:2-3, NKJV). Paul, writing from a Roman prison, wrote, "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice" (Php. 4:4).

Have you ever met someone who was "exceeding glad?" Someone who, no matter what it seems, was always in a pleasant mood and uplifting to be around? These are some of the most pleasant personalities to encounter, and by all means, we should most often encounter them in the church!

And yet too many times, is it not the case that brethren let the trials & ups and downs of life suppress or conceal their joy? Using James' expression, "My brethren, these things ought not so to be!"

In tying rejoicing/exceeding gladness to persecution, Jesus mentions our reward in heaven, and also the fact that the prophets before us were also persecuted. We must remember that the suffering that we must go through in this life PALES in comparison to the abundance of the blessings that we will enjoy in heaven! It will all be worth it. Of this we must be assured!

In the remainder of this article, let us consider some examples of persecutions that the prophets (and others) endured for the Lord's sake, and let us ask ourselves if we would be willing to do the same? Hebrews 11:37 informs us that they:

- Were stoned (See 2 Chr. 24:20-22; Zechariah the son of Jehoiada, not to be confused with Zechariah the prophet; still, this Zechariah was a man of God, stoned for speaking truth),
- Were sawn asunder (Purported by many to be the prophet Isaiah),
- Were tempted (In a multitude of ways you can be sure),
- Were slain with the sword (See Jer. 26:20-23; Urijah the prophet; also, the many prophets who were slain by the sword by Ahab and Jezebel, 1 Kings 19:1-10),
- Wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins (How's that for comfortable/fashionable clothing?!),
- Were destitute (Think penniless),
- Were afflicted (Think SEVERE pain and suffering),
- Were tormented (Remember that ancient methods of torment were absolutely gruesome).

This is just ONE verse that shows how terribly they were treated! And yet, these faithful men of God could hold on to the hope that they would be found faithful, and would enter into the joy of our Lord in heaven! If they could find hope, and joy, in those circumstances, then certainly we can find hope and joy, being EXCEEDINGLY GLAD, in the various trials that come our way too! With love, Chase

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

"Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."
Matt. 5:12
