WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN THE LORD COMES?

Beloved of the Lord:

The doctrine of the Second Coming is a fundamental truth in the New Testament, a subject of theological discussion, preaching and printing, but the time has come for us to realize it is not merely a doctrine, but a momentary event that is about to take place! It is imminent, to happen "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye" -- 1 Cor 15:52 It is the only hope for the world -- and the present conditions today, predicted by God in His Word, definitely proves this -- but what will happen when he comes?

What will happen to God's children? What saith the Scripture?

Resurrection -- "The dead in Christ shall rise FIRST" -- 1 Thess. 4:16. The sleeping saints, their bodies having decayed, at His command will be raised "incorruptible" (1 Cor. 15:58). The spirit, now "with Christ" (Phil 1:23), will abide in the new body forever.

Transformation -- "We which are alive -- shall be changed" -- (! Thess. 4:17 b. 1 Cor. 15:51) In that moment, our bodies will be like our Lord's glorious body" -- (Rom 8:23). What a deliverance for ALL the multitude of saints who today are suffering! We pray - "Lord Jesus, <u>COME!</u>

Translation -- In our glorified bodies, we "shall be caught up TOGETHER -to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thess. 4:17) and be "with the Lord forever!"

Examination -- In this glorified state, "we must all appear before the d. Judgement Seat of Christ, that everyone may receive" His appraisal -- "good or bad" -- of our services on earth. DON'T FORGET THIS! The place and portion of our glory with Him will thus be determined.

What will happen to the World's children?

The State of the World -- The condition of mankind is calamitous, for the unsaved are spoken of as "children of wrath" in Eph. 2:3 -- Properly has the Spirit of God written, that following the departure of the saints, men will say -- "For the great day of His wrath is come, and who shall be able to stand?" (Rev. 6:17) "The vials of the wrath of God will be poured out upon the earth" during that great Tribulation (Rev. 10:1, etc). Note some world conditions:

Politically -- There is a great impetus being given to man's desire for peace, which, following the removal of the Saints, will accelerate into action the many proposals of peace before the world, in relation to the nations and particularly the nation of Israel. The result is stated by God in Isa. 57:20, 21, and 1 Thess. 5:8.

Morally -- Violence, corruption and lawlessness today has now reached the impossibility of politicians being able to restrain its terrible consummation -- Read Matt 24:37-39; 2 Tim. 3:1-13, Rev. 9:21.

Religiously -- The consummation of the false Church, "Babylon" will come after the translation of saints -- Read Rev 17 and note verses 4 to 7.

Then can we question God's righteous judgements to come on this world? (Rev. 16:5). What will happen, in a moment, for the Saints when He comes? BLESSING!!! What will happen to the unconverted when he comes? -- JUDGEMENT! But let us, while waiting, not forget God is still saying -- "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" -- His last invitation -- Rev. 22:17.

Faithfully yours in Christ for Branche