

9-15-2024 Sunday Sermon Message  
Devotional of the Week: Psalm 91:1-16  
Text: Luke 21:25-36  
Title: **The Redemption of the Church of God (Rapture) and the Kingdom of God to Come**

Jesus foretold his disciples about what would happen in the generation in which we live:

**"<sup>25</sup> And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; <sup>26</sup> 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."(Luke 21:25-26)**

The Lord also spoke of what to do the thing God's church when this began to happen:

**"<sup>28</sup> And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."(Luke 21:28)**

When He said "redemption," he was referring to the day when the members of the Church of God, whose souls have been saved through the forgiveness of sins, will put off their sinful bodies and be raptured on the Day of Christ.

He also said that just as everyone knows that summer is near when the fig tree and all the trees sprout, the Kingdom of God will come to this earth when the Son of man comes on the clouds with power and great glory at the end of the great tribulation.

For the past two thousand years, the kingdom of God has come spiritually in

Christians who have believed in the Lord Jesus Christ since Pentecost, received the Holy Spirit, and were born again. But when he says that the kingdom of God is at hand, he is referring to Christ's millennial kingdom, which He promised to the Jews that it would be realized on earth when Christ returns. However, God's children, who have already established the spiritual kingdom of God in God, will be taken up to heaven before the Great Tribulation.

The apostle Paul testified to Christians in Rome about the spiritual kingdom of God in Christians:

**"<sup>17</sup> For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. <sup>18</sup> For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men."(Romans 14:17-18)**

Today, the nations of the world, including the United States, are gathering at the United Nations to divide the land of Palestine that God gave to the children of Abraham and insist that both the Israelites and the Palestinians should coexist, and we see that both candidates running for the presidency of the United States are pledging to divide the land of Israel.

They do not realize what an abomination they are planning before God. At that time, he said that people would see the Son of man coming in the clouds with power and great glory.

The prophet Joel foretold the judgment of those who would divide the land of Israel:

**"<sup>3</sup> For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem,**

**<sup>2</sup> I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.**

**<sup>3</sup> And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for an harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink.**

**<sup>4</sup> Yea, and what have ye to do with me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? will ye render me a recompence? and if ye recompense me, swiftly and speedily will I return your recompence upon your own head;<sup>5</sup> Because ye have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my goodly pleasant things: .”(Joel 3:1-5)**

Jesus foretold his disciples what He would do when the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, would come and be sent by the Father in His name after His death:

**<sup>13</sup> Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.**

**<sup>14</sup> He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.**

**<sup>15</sup> All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”(John 16:13-15)**

Therefore, through today's text, we can clearly see through the Holy Spirit that all the words of Jesus have already been fulfilled in our time and will surely be fulfilled in the future.

We have already seen that there are signs in the sun, moon, and stars. All the

nations of the earth are in turmoil, and they see the sea and the waves roaring. All those who have witnessed the terrible disasters that have happened so far or who have seen them in advance through the media have reached the point of fear and fainting at the thought of the great disasters that may befall them in the future. Jesus said that all of these things were caused by the shaking of the powers of heaven.

The Bible says of the storms that are raging everywhere these days:

**<sup>7</sup> Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps:**

**<sup>8</sup> Fire, and hail; snow, and vapours; stormy wind fulfilling his word:**

**<sup>9</sup> Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars:<sup>10</sup> Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and flying fowl:**

**<sup>11</sup> Kings of the earth, and all people; princes, and all judges of the earth:**

**<sup>12</sup> Both young men, and maidens; old men, and children:**

**<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven.**

**<sup>14</sup> He also exalteth the horn of his people, the praise of all his saints; even of the children of Israel, a people near unto him. Praise ye the Lord.”(Psalm 148:7-14)**

We need to watch and pray always, so that all our spirits, souls, and bodies may be prepared to be to be blameless before the Lord Jesus Christ on the day of the rapture in glory.

Amen! Hallelujah!