

Luke 3:7-18

7 John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? **8** Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. **9** The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

10 “What should we do then?” the crowd asked. **11** John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.” **12** Even tax collectors came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?” **13** “Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them. **14** Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?” He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

15 The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. **16** John answered them all, “I baptize you with ^b water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with ^c the Holy Spirit and fire. **17** His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” **18** And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

Matthew 4:23

23 Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the **good news of the kingdom**, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

Luke 9:1-6

1 When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, **2** and he sent them out to **proclaim the kingdom of God** and to heal the sick. **3** He told them: “**Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt.** **4** Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that town. **5** If people do not welcome you, leave their town and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.” **6** So they set out and went from village to village, **proclaiming the good news** and healing people everywhere.

Genesis 3:15 - God speaking to the serpent/ Satan

15 And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring ^a and hers;
he will crush ^b your head,
and you will strike his heel.”

Covenants made with Abraham and the nation of Israel

- **Abrahamic covenant**= an unconditional promise from God that through Abraham and his offspring, a great nation (Israel) would be established and all the nations of the earth would be blessed through them. This nation will possess and live in the specific land that God promised. **(Genesis 12:1-3)**

- **Mosaic covenant**= a two sided contract that laid out the conditions (statutes and laws) for Israel to maintain permanent occupancy of that land... including the consequence of temporary exile if they do not uphold their part of the agreement. **(Exodus 19)**

- **Davidic covenant**= God re-iterates his promise to Abraham that they will dwell in the land promised and have a king that would come from the line of David and rule *forever* over ALL nations. **(2 Samuel 7:12-16)**

- **New Covenant**= God promises that He will enable them to receive the unconditional promises made to Abraham and David by giving them a new heart and a new spirit (only possible through acceptance of Jesus as their Messiah). **(Jeremiah 31:31-32)**

The DAY OF THE LORD

*Jewish Apocalyptic Eschatology (Apocalypse= Revelation or Revealing)

Understanding of two ages of history with Day of the Lord being the catalyst for the coming age of human history.

Day of Judgement. Man will have to stand before God to give account. This is the day that all men have been waiting for since Adam and Eve- the serpent crusher is here.

*-**Malachi 4:1**- For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.*

The Restoration of the Nation of Israel back to the Land

God is going to fulfil His covenant promises.

Jeremiah 30:10

*For behold, I am going to save you from far away,
And your [e]descendants from the land of their captivity.
And Jacob will return and be at peace, without anxiety,
And no one will make him afraid*

*** not until after a time of unparalleled trouble***

verse-24 He calls this the intent of His Heart

Ezekiel 36:24 *For I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the lands; and I will bring you into your own land. 25* Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. **26** Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. **27** And I will put My Spirit within you and bring it about that you walk in My statutes, and are careful and [i]follow My ordinances. **28** And you will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.)

The Davidic Kingdom and the Nations flowing to Jerusalem to learn righteousness.

God is going to fulfil His covenant promises to David.

God transitions the earth from being under man's government and rule, to being under the rule and government of God through Jesus.

Jerusalem is place of Messianic Throne, Blessings administered to nations from Israel.

Jeremiah 33:14-26 *For this is what the LORD says: David will have a descendant sitting on the throne of Israel forever)*

Psalm 2- *Why do the nations plot in vain?....God sits in Heaven and laughs... "I will install My King on Mt Zion."*

Isaiah 2:2-4

2*In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. **3**Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. **4**He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.*

Resurrection of the Dead

Daniel 12:2, *But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.*

Isaiah 26:19

*Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise.
You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy!
For your dew is a dew of light,
and the earth will give birth to the dead.*

Regeneration of the earth.

Isaiah 11:6 *The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.*

Isaiah 65:17 *For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind.*

What about the Nations/Gentiles?

Genesis 35:9 that God promises Jacob that a Nation and a company of Nations will come from Him.

9After Jacob returned from Paddan Aram, ^c God appeared to him again and blessed him. **10**God said to him, “Your name is Jacob, ^d but you will no longer be called Jacob; your name will be Israel. ^e” So he named him Israel. **11**And God said to him, “I am God Almighty ^f; be fruitful and increase in number. A nation and a community of nations will come from you, and kings will be among your descendants. **12**The land I gave to Abraham and Isaac I also give to you, and I will give this land to your descendants after you.” **13**Then God went up from him at the place where he had talked with him

Revelation 5:9 - And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.”

BIBLICAL HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

- Tangible, not Immaterial
- Jesus, the Jewish Messiah as King of the Nations= Perfect Government.
- Resurrected bodies
- No more death, sin, pain
- Restored Earth, abundance, enough for all. No more poverty
- Family, relationship
- Feasts and celebration
- Participation in the restoration of the Earth (swords into plowshares)

HOW THEN SHALL WE LIVE?

Acts 17:30-31 *The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to **repent**, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”*

Romans 12:1-2

*1Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. **2Do not conform to the pattern of this world**, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

Luke 12:35

35“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning,

The Return of Jesus is our Hope!

He is the King- we must submit to His way and obey Him now so that we can in the age to come. He is the Judge- every one will give an account for their deeds. God also sees the intentions of our heart.