God's Three End Time Purposes 4379

Proclamation: Psalm 118:13–18

I. God's Goal For The Present Age

Your kingdom come, your will be done in heaven as on earth (Matt. 6:10)

- **A.** A preview
 - 1. He who does the will of God abides forever (1 John 2:17)
 - **2.** Am I aligned with God's will?
- **B.** The kingdom that will never be destroyed (Dan. 2:44)
- C. No true peace without righteousness (Ps. 72:1–4; 8–14)

God's intense concern for the needy and downtrodden

- 1. Sins of Sodom (Ezek. 16:49):
 - a. Pride
 - **b.** Fullness of bread
 - c. Abundance of idleness
 - **d.** Did not strengthen the hands of poor and needy
- 2. The God of this world is mammon; the rich do not care for the poor
- 3. Kingdom of God: justice for the poor
- **D.** Elimination of the wicked (Ps. 92:5–7)

II. Three Purposes To Be Fulfilled

- **A.** Gospel proclaimed to all nations
 - 1. But first, birth pangs
 - a. Rev. 1—Jesus the Judge—recorded in three Gospels
 - **b.** Nation (*ethnos*) against nation—ethnic conflict
 - c. Kingdom against kingdom—world wars
 - **d.** "Then" nine times—a series of events
 - e. Only God's mercy can keep us from deception
 - **f.** He who "has endured" to the end will be saved
 - 2. The decisive sign—Matt. 24:14
 - **a.** This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations and then the end shall come.
 - **b.** To every nation, tribe, people, tongue (compare Rev. 7:9–10)
 - **3.** Sons who sleep in harvest bring shame (Prov. 10:5)
- **B.** Restoration of Israel
 - to their land to their God
 - 1. Final focus is on Jerusalem and Israel (Matt. 24:15–16)
 - **a.** Mystery: hardening in part until the Gentiles come in and then *all Israel* will be saved (entire nation that is left) (Rom. 11:25–26)
 - **b.** The remnant shall be saved—chosen and foreknown by God (Rom. 9:27)
 - 2. Basis of God's judgment of the nations (Joel 3:1–2)
 - a. Partitioning God's (Israel's) land
 - **b.** Despising and persecuting the Jews
 - **3.** The decisive separation (Matt. 25:40, 45–46 [see Joel 3:1–2])
 - a. Sheep—enter into kingdom

- **b.** Goats—depart into everlasting fire
- C. Preparation of church to become bride
 - **1.** When marriage supper comes the bride is *already ready* (Rev. 19:6–8) Brides make great preparations for their wedding
 - 2. Main requirements for being ready:
 - a. Total loyalty to Jesus
 - (1) Betrothal is binding like marriage (2 Cor. 11:2–3)
 - (a) Fornicators, idolaters, revilers, etc... such were some of you, but now betrothed as a chaste virgin (1 Cor. 6:9ff)
 - **(b)** But we are washed, sanctified, justified (1 Cor. 6:11)
 - (2) Contrast the harlot (Rev. 7:1–6)
 - **b.** Heartfelt yearning, eagerly waiting (Heb. 9:28)
 - **c.** Righteous acts = proper clothing (Rev. 19:8)
 - (1) Fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints
 - (2) Rev. 2 & 3—I know your works (not doctrinal statement, belief)
 - **3.** A son who sleeps in harvest . . . (Prov. 10:5)
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