

THE MEANING OF “SOON”, 1

MANY scriptures clearly communicate an urgency about the Church being prepared for our Lord's return. It is presented as a life and death issue which profoundly shapes the Christ-follower's life, but can we argue that we take it seriously?

Scripture's use of the word “soon” is perplexing to an earth-bound mind and it's easy to dismiss it. But then there's God, to whom a day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as a day.

Have we unwittingly become (in deed if not in word) like the mockers whom Peter wrote of in II Peter 3:3-9? Have we too, adopted the notion that “nothing happened in the past two thousand years - - and our grandparents said He was coming soon but He didn't - - so we might as well go on and have a good time here like everyone else.”?

BUT GOD HAS SAID - -

“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must SOON take place; - - 3 Blessed is the one who reads, and those who hear the words of the prophecy and keep the things which are written in it; for THE TIME IS NEAR.” Rev. 1:1-3 partial, nasb

“SOON” MEANS

“Soon” can be a fairly definitive word, or less so depending on the context and who says it. “Soon” in Rev. 1:1 and elsewhere, is Strong's 5034, meaning quickness, speed; hastily, immediately. “Near” (in verse 3) is #1451, meaning “things imminent and soon to come to pass.” That's not complicated!

Rev 1:1

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John,

WHAT IF?

So, what if God actually does mean “soon” when He says “soon”? And what if He fully expects that Jesus-Followers will take Him seriously, with values, priorities and lifestyle that confirm it? And what if II Peter 3:3-9 actually does describe the spirit of those who dismiss Him?

Yes, what if? More next time!

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