

Welcome to

*Israel in Prophecy:
Looking for the
Blessed Hope*

Why This Study?

- How it came about:
 - Intense interest and love for God's chosen land and God's chosen people.
 - Deep burden as I see churches and Christians walking away from God's Word.
 - Ezekiel 33: called to be a watchman (or woman!)
 - Matthew 24: don't know the day or hour, but we must be ready for Christ's return

Ezekiel 33:1-6

And the word of the Lord came to me, saying, "Son of man, speak to the sons of your people and say to them, 'If I bring a sword upon a land, and the people of the land take one man from among them and make him their watchman, and he sees the sword coming upon the land and blows on the trumpet and warns the people,

Ezekiel 33:1-6

then he who hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, and a sword comes and takes him away, his blood will be on his own head. He heard the sound of the trumpet but did not take warning; his blood will be on himself. But had he taken warning, he would have delivered his life.

 Ezekiel 33:1-6

But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet and the people are not warned, and a sword comes and takes a person from them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require from the watchman's hand."

 Matthew 24:42-44

"Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into.

 Matthew 24:42-44

For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will."

 The Aim of our Study:

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, *looking for the blessed hope* and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus.

-Titus 2:11-13



Looking for the Blessed Hope

Charting Our Course



Jesus' Promise to Believers

"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you."



Jesus' Promise to Believers

"If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also."

John 14:3



Perspective

- The Bible is the inerrant Word of God.
- The best interpretation is a straight-forward interpretation, as the writer intended.

"When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense..."
(Dr David L Cooper, founder of the Biblical Research Society)

- The Bible teaches the pre-tribulational rapture of the church.

 **Perspective -**
What are the Odds?

- Literal fulfillment of over 500 Bible prophecies so far, leads us to believe in the literal fulfillment of over 500 Bible prophecies yet to come.

• Odds of accurate fulfillment:	
1 = 1/10	6 = 1/1,000,000
2 = 1/100	7 = 1/10,000,000
3 = 1/1,000	8 = 1/100,000,000
4 = 1/10,000	9 = 1/1,000,000,000
5 = 1/100,000	10 = 1/10,000,000,000

 **Why Study Prophecy?**

Prophecy cements the fact that there IS a God.

Who else could perfectly fulfill hundreds of Bible prophecies!

 **Why Study Prophecy?**

Prophecy protects us from false teaching.

Many more false prophets and teachers will arise in the last days...
Will you be able to recognize them?

 **Why Study Prophecy?**

Prophecy promotes evangelism.

If you knew Jesus was returning tomorrow, would you be motivated to tell others?
Guess what...He's coming very soon!

 Why Study Prophecy?

Prophecy exhorts us to pure living.

Would you want Jesus to appear while you are doing the things you are doing?

 Why Study Prophecy?

Prophecy provides hope to the believer.

...looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Titus 2:13

 Why Study Prophecy?

Prophecy teaches us to love His appearing...which results in a crown!

...there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but to all who have loved His appearing.

2 Timothy 4:8

 Why Study Prophecy?

Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

Revelation 1:3



A Final Word

- No spoon-feeding, do your own research!
- Resources are abundant.
(Books, articles, websites, etc)
- Recommendations...not endorsements.



This Week's Study...

- Our objectives
- The Plan of the End
- Rapture...or Glorious Appearing?
- The Beginning of Birth Pangs
- Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem



Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. May peace be within your walls and prosperity within your palaces." For the sake of my brothers and my friends, I will now say, "May peace be within you." For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

Psalm 122:6-9