

## ***Encouragement in the Comings of Christ!***

From the time of our fall, humanity has been screaming for a Lord, a Temple, a Man, a Washington, a Pentagon, a United Nations, a King and Queen, a High Hill, a Judah and Jerusalem, and/or a Lord to COME and set up a government of peace right here on earth! Every new political election across the world still hears us screaming for this!

Encouragingly, these scriptures in Isaiah 2:1-5 reveal that humanity will not be disappointed because the Triune God is COMING, and especially in the True Man, Jesus, to do just that! The real and literal Government that we're all looking for, our covering of Peace, is coming! Through the prophet Isaiah, God the Father, Son and Spirit gives humanity a wonderful vision of its future ON EARTH. And this vision and hope is given to humanity, through Isaiah, right in the middle of great governmental and political darkness (verses 6-9; if that doesn't sound like our current times, I don't know what does!)

Here are a few broad points to be made in the Light of the Good News:

- 1. Isaiah the Prophet was not specific about the exact time of this coming Government, but Jesus was specific; This vision of a coming Temple, Mt. Zion, Judah and Jerusalem, and Lord, was wholly bound up in Jesus, the Lord Himself, arriving and ministering on earth at His First Advent (Coming) (Acts 10:43, John 1:45)**
- 2. In the Life of Jesus, including His death, burial, resurrection and ascension, and because of His union with all men through His bearing of our entire and whole human nature (2 Cor 5:14 Rom 5:18, 1 Cor 15:22), all of the world's peoples, IN HIM, have said "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." In Himself, he has already made of Jew and Gentile alike, one new humanity (Eph 2:13-15.)**
- 3. Since Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension, the Lord's Body still remains on the earth in the form of His Church, in the Spirit (1 Cor 12:1-13, especially verses 12-13.)**
- 4. Practically speaking, this is one of the main reasons the Church is not passive in its communal life as it awaits the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming! The Church remembers that:**
  - a) It is the Present Body of Christ on Earth, in the Spirit! What is the Body of Christ doing – eating Cheetos and watching TV all day waiting for Christ to return?! Or is it “anointed by God with the Holy Spirit, ready for action. [going] through the country helping people and healing everyone who was beaten down by the Devil. He was able to do all this because God was with him.” – Acts 10:38

b) Our attempts at reconciliation, voting along with our communities for good political candidates, and working for a better, more caring society are not solely coming from our own impure motives and selfishness! This is what Jesus in His Body does as He “out of Zion...go[es] forth instruct[ing], and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.”- Isaiah 2:3

**5. Even though we, the Church, are in union with Christ like everyone else (and in a special way), we are not somehow mysteriously fused with Christ and mistaking Christ’s presence in us by the Spirit as the Second Coming of Christ!**

Jesus lives in us by the Spirit but he has not become a literal part of us (like water in a container!) There is distinction between Christ and His Church, too! This means we don’t have to be overly discouraged in the Church when our attempts with Jesus at reconciliation and justice in our present world are not fully acceptable or even fail! We’re still anticipating the Distinct and Glorified Human Jesus to come again with His Father, in the Spirit, where:

*... the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. <sup>23</sup> And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. <sup>24</sup> And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. <sup>25</sup> And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. <sup>26</sup> And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. <sup>27</sup> And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb’s book of life. ~ Revelation 21:22 <sup>1</sup>*

~ Tim Brassell

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<sup>1</sup> *The Holy Bible : King James Version.* electronic ed. of the 1769 edition of the 1611 Authorized Version. Bellingham WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1995, S. Re 21:22-27