

The Hope of the Church of the One Body

Deuteronomy 10:14 (KJV)

14 Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the LORD's thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is.

This verse was used to start off this audio series on the hope of the church of the one body and it shows the locations of the three spheres of blessings:

- The Heaven
- The Heaven of Heavens
- The Earth

If you were to ask the average Christian, what his or her hope would be, they might speak of the return of Christ. Then they may take you to this passage in the New Testament:

Matthew 25:31-34 (KJV)

31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:
32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:
33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.
34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

This passage in Matthew 25 ties in with the verses in Revelation 19:

Revelation 19:11-16 (KJV)

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.
12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.
13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.
14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.
15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.
16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

All of the passages that deal with these timeframes have Jesus in the context of King because his Kingdom will be established here on earth. The gentiles have nothing to do with this calling or inheritance. All these scriptures are directed to Israel.

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There are three prophetic periods that Jesus talked about in the Gospels. One was that period that was similar to the days of Jonah. For example, Jonah spent three days and three nights in the whales belly and then was raised to go and preach to the people of Nineveh. Our Lord was raised after three days and three nights from His crucifixion and also continued his ministry to Israel.

The second period of time was discussed in Luke 21:20-28 where Jerusalem was to be destroyed... in verse 24b “and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.” Meaning, Israel would have no part in this time period.

The third period that he talks about is that time when Israel will be regathered again and the temple is rebuilt which leads up to the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet.

We see a description in this third period in Matthew 24:15-28

Matthew 24:15-28 (KJV)

- 15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)
- 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:
- 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:
- 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.
- 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!
- 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:
- 21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.
- 22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.
- 23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not.
- 24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.
- 25 Behold, I have told you before.
- 26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not.
- 27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
- 28 For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

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In this third period (the period of his regathering Israel), there are three events that must take place:

1. Rumors of wars and pestilence, earthquakes
2. What is described in Matthew 24:15-28 which is the false claims that Christ is here on Earth
3. The third event is discussed in Matthew 24:29 where immediately after the tribulation... the coming of the Son of Man, Christ (which ties back into Matthew 25 and Revelation 19.)

Now, when reviewing all these scriptures, it is important to keep them in context since none of these passages applies to the church of the one body. You see the context in these three passages:

Matthew 15:24 (KJV)

24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Matthew 10:5-6 (KJV)

5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:
6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Romans 15:8 (KJV)

8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:

The hope of Israel was for a King and a Kingdom here on earth. This was their calling from or since the foundation of the world.

Matthew 25:32-34(KJV)

32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:
33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.
34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you **from the foundation of the world:**

Luke 11:50-51 (KJV)

50 That the blood of all the prophets, which was shed **from the foundation of the world,** may be required of this generation;
51 From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias, which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation.

Everything involving Israel is from the foundation of the world. The calling and blessings and inheritance in the Mystery are from before the foundation of the world!

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Ephesians 3:9 (KJV)

9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

Ephesians 1:3-4 (KJV)

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Part 6 of this audio series will get into the distinction between the callings from the foundation of the world (Israel) and before the foundation of the world (the Mystery which is the church of the one body).

