

THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING

By Brother Mike Sutherland

Turn in your Bibles to *John 14:1-3*:

¹ Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. *John 14:1-3*

Those most precious and most beautiful words were uttered by the Lord Jesus Christ just before his crucifixion. These are some of the most encouraging words ever uttered by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The modern church has lost its fervor in "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;" (*Titus 2:13*). The shrill clarion call of today's apostate church is the prophetic words of the apostle Peter:

³ Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, ⁴ And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. *2 Peter 3:3-4*

Folks we are in the last days. I am not looking for the Antichrist. That would be a slap in the face to the Living Word Of God. Look up for your redemption draweth nigh. I am not looking for the undertaker. I am looking for the upper taker. I am looking for that glorious appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ in the air. He is God manifest in the flesh. Colossians 2:9 says: For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. Hebrews 1:3 says this about Him: "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;". Hallelujah! Hallelujah!! Hallelujah!!! Brother Carl Blackmore was looking up when he penned the following words:

SOME GOLDEN DAYBREAK

Some glorious morning sorrow will cease
Some glorious morning all will be peace
Heartaches all ended, school days all done
Heaven will open—Jesus will come

Some golden daybreak Jesus will come
Some golden daybreak, battles all won
He'll shout the victory, break through the blue
Some golden daybreak, for me, for you.

THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING

Sad hearts will gladden, all shall be bright
Goodbye forever to earth's dark night
Changed in a moment, like Him to be
Oh, glorious daybreak, Jesus I'll see

Some golden daybreak Jesus will come
Some golden daybreak, battles all won
He'll shout the victory, break through the blue
Some golden daybreak, for me, for you.

Oh, what a meeting, there in the skies
No tears nor crying shall dim our eyes
Loved ones united eternally
Oh, what a daybreak that morn' will be

Some golden daybreak Jesus will come
Some golden daybreak, battles all won
He'll shout the victory, break through the blue
Some golden daybreak, for me, for you.

While preaching on the radio on the subject of the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, Brother Carl Blackmore was preaching about the Rapture. One dear lady who had been bedridden for twenty-three years heard his preaching and wrote, "Will I really be well? Will all pain and sorrow actually be gone?" Brother Blackmore replied: "Yes, my friend, some glorious day, when Jesus comes, you will leap from that bed with all the vigor of youth and never know pain again." Out of that letter, came this beautiful song. This beautiful song is a father and son effort. The verses were written by Brother Carl Blackmore Sr. And the chorus and music was written by his son, Carl Blackmore Jr. I am sure that the lyricist, Brother Blackmore, had these verses in mind from *1 John 3:2-3*:

² Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. ³ And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. *1 John 3:2-3*

Folks, the **BLESSED HOPE** is a purifying hope that ought to motivate us to holy living. The Holy Ghost said in *Titus 2:11-14*:

¹¹ For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, ¹² Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; ¹³ Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; ¹⁴ Who gave himself for us,

THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING

that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. *Titus 2:11-14*

Now, what more does the Bible have to say about this great hallelujah event?

I. THE PROOF OF HIS COMING.

That proof is found in one Book, that infallible and inspired Book, the Bible, which is the Word of God. If you believe in the Bible, you must believe that Jesus is coming again. If you want positive proof of His coming, just read the New Testament and this great truth will leap out at you from nearly every page. It is mentioned 318 times in the New Testament. One out of every twenty-five verses refers to it.

II. THE PLAN OF HIS COMING.

There are actually two separate comings. Twice the Lord Jesus Christ himself will leave the heaven of heavens (*Deuteronomy 10:14*), break through the blue, and come back; once to the earth's atmosphere and once to the earth's surface. *Deuteronomy 10:14-17* states:

¹⁴ Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the LORD'S thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is. ¹⁵ Only the LORD had a delight in thy fathers to love them, and he chose their seed after them, even you above all people, as it is this day. ¹⁶ Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked. ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward: *Deuteronomy 10:14-17*

The Apostle Paul called this "heaven of heavens" the third heaven in *2 Corinthians 12:1-4*:

¹ It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. ² I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. ³ And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) ⁴ How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. *2 Corinthians 12:1-4*

A. FIRST, JESUS WILL COME IN THE AIR.

At that time He will not touch the world, but will come in the air for a special purpose. Listen to the plain truth in *1 Corinthians 15:51-58* and *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*:

THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING

⁵¹ Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. ⁵⁴ So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵ O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory? ⁵⁶ The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. *1 Corinthians 15:51–58*

¹³ But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. ¹⁵ For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: ¹⁷ Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Wherefore comfort one another with these words. *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

I can just see His Church, the “Bride”, and all of heaven before the “Judgment Seat Of Christ” break forth into singing “All Hail The Power Of Jesus Name” after they have cast their crowns at the feet of the Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS NAME

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,

THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING

And crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Let highborn seraphs tune the lyre,
And as they tune it, fall
Before His face who tunes their choir,
And crown Him Lord of all.
Before His face who tunes their choir,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, ye morning stars of light,
Who fixed this floating ball;
Now hail the strength of Israel's might,
And crown Him Lord of all.
Now hail the strength of Israel's might,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, ye martyrs of your God,
Who from His altar call;
Extol the Stem of Jesse's rod,
And crown Him Lord of all.
Extol the Stem of Jesse's rod,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Hail Him, ye heirs of David's line,
Whom David Lord did call,
The God incarnate, Man divine,
And crown Him Lord of all,
The God incarnate, Man divine,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go spread your trophies at His feet,

THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING

And crown Him Lord of all.
Go spread your trophies at His feet,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every tongue
Before Him prostrate fall
And shout in universal song
The crowned Lord of all.
And shout in universal song
The crowned Lord of all.

O that, with yonder sacred throng,
We at His feet may fall,
Join in the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all,
Join in the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all!

Most hymn books today only contain three to four verses of this great hymn. Look at the power in the pure praise of all nine verses of this Holy Ghost anointed hymn! ALL nine verses should be sung for the glory of God for worthy is the **LAMB** to receive exaltation. *Revelation 5:11-14* says:

¹¹ And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; ¹² Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. ¹³ And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. ¹⁴ And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.
Revelation 5:11-14

Would to God that we would wake up each morning with a song of praise on our lips for that precious **LAMB OF GOD** that taketh away the sin of the world! Set Psalm 150 to music and sing it with grace, making melody in your heart to the Lord! “Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.” Do not let some dead rock cry out in your stead and put you to open shame. Declare the glory of God in the presence of the adamant stones that they might become lively stones that they

THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING

might offer the sacrifices of praise unto our God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

B. THEN JESUS WILL COME BACK TO THIS WORLD.

This time He will not stop in the air, but will come down to earth and He will set foot on the Mount of Olives. He will not be alone; He will be followed by all of His people of all ages.

¹ Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. ² For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. ³ Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. ⁴ And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. *Zechariah 14:1-4*

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. *Revelation 19:11-16*

The Bible does not say this, but I can just see the Lord Jesus Christ dismounting from His white stallion and alighting on the Mount of Olives. No man ever showed up on a horse in this fashion!

III. THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING.

THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING

A. WHY WILL THE LORD JESUS CHRIST COME IN THE AIR?

First He comes back in the air FOR his children to take them FROM this earth. He will come to raise up all the saved dead from their graves, from the bottom of the sea, from the sands of the desert, and from the ashes of their torture (and, yes, even those who have been cremated). Paul said, “The dead in Christ shall rise first”. When He comes in the air, he will first resurrect the dead from their graves, then He will catch up all living Christians to be with Him. They will not know death. The RAPTURE commences the seven year “Day Of Christ” in the third heaven while it triggers the tribulation on the earth which will seem like hell on earth for seven years. The RAPTURE is what Paul calls, “the adoption, to wit the redemption of our body” (*Romans 8:23*). The “Day Of Christ” in heaven involves the “Judgment Seat Of Christ” for believers only and the marriage of the LAMB. The “Day Of Christ” is heaven centered.

B. WHY WILL THE LORD JESUS CHRIST COME LATER TO THE EARTH IN GLORY?

Second, He comes back WITH His children TO bring them to this earth to rule and reign with him a thousand years. This kicks off the eighth year of the one-thousand and seven year “Day Of The Lord”. His coming in the air kicks off the “Day Of Christ” which will run for seven years until he sets his feet upon the Mount of Olives in fulfillment of *Zephaniah 3:14-20*, *Zechariah 9:9-10*, *Zechariah 14:1-4*, *Matthew 24*, *Mark 13*, *Luke 17*, *Luke 21*, and *Revelation 19:11-16*. Then will follow the thousand year earthly Millennial reign by the Lord Jesus Christ upon the literal throne of David in the literal earthly city of Jerusalem. His coming to the earth ends what the Bible calls the “Day Of Christ”. The “Day Of The Lord” will continue for another 1,000 years following the completion of the seven year tribulation and will culminate at the “Great White Throne” judgement. Woe to the earth and the unsaved inhabitants who have rejected the Lord Jesus Christ for there is no hope for them. The “Day Of The Lord” is earth centered.