



How To Be: Part One

Much talk surrounds us regarding whether or not we are in the End Times. Perhaps you wonder if we are?

Let's discuss some ways of viewing the various messages of the End Times. It is a tender subject so I will do my best to be gentle.

Thieves and Robbers

(John 10:1-2 KJV) *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. {2} But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.*

All that we hear, believe and receive regarding any biblical subject must carry upon it the mark of Jesus Christ. Otherwise, it cannot be trusted. Even in the Gospels, Old Testament believers were warned of this. Any



'good news' that comes to you must come through the door of the sheepfold, and no other way. The door of the sheepfold is a reference to Jesus Christ being the way, the truth and the light—and the only way into God's family. By extension, excluding God himself, Jesus Christ is the only true source of God's Word. In order to receive the benefits of safety, security, truth and eternity, the name and person of Jesus Christ must entirely be employed.

Be warned—thieves and robbers will attempt to climb up some other way. Our place in God's family is a high place; we are told that we are seated in the heavenlies.

(Eph 2:6 KJV) *And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:*

It is a strange thought that we are warned of thieves and robbers that *can* climb up to our lofty height and wreak havoc by their strange doctrines. Many, if not all Christians, are deceived by some sort of doctrinal folly; that is a fact. Perhaps you have talked with some, speaking the genuine Word of God, but being refuted or refused. Even if these individuals present a scholarly appeal, they will not hear. You speak the Word of God to them, and they almost believe, but not quite. Their faith never firms; they just can't seem to hear enough of God's Word to believe. This holds true on many planes, seemingly especially regarding the End Times. One such subject is whether or not Christians will have to endure the wrath. To keep on the 'scholarly' good side,

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you have to agree with them that Christians will have to endure the wrath, or some variant of it. Truly, we are in the midst of tribulation that could be viewed as ‘birthing pains.’ As this conversation progresses through its many twists and turns, you somehow find yourself agreeing that you are destined for the wrath in some sort of biblically unfounded way. (I said I was going to be gentle.) The purpose of this article is to discuss some ways of viewing the various messages of the End Times. It is vital that we define the word ‘wrath’, and identify its different applications. As we progress through this article, you will be exposed to the many different contexts in which wrath is used.

Heavenly Bodies

One day, we shall be given ‘heavenly’ bodies.

(1 Cor 15:49 KJV) *And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.*

The word ‘heavenly’ in verse 49 is the same as ‘heavenly’ in Ephesians 2:6. Don’t allow yourself to be

tricked into believing that *you*, a child of God, will, can, would, should or otherwise, lose this great transformation. If you are born again at the time of Christ’s return, you shall also bear the image of Christ throughout eternity. This means that you can’t and won’t lose it—ever. Please humor me and extend this a bit: this means that you won’t be destroyed by God’s wrath.

No matter the End Times message bathing your eardrums, all messages bound for heavenly citizens must be *post*-marked with the name of Jesus Christ. They must be backed up by addressee-exact verses taken in their proper contexts.

(1 Th 5:4-6 KJV) *But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. {5} Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. {6} Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.*

The End Times days, no matter which ones, will come. We Christians are not

in darkness—period. This is a fact of Christian life, and it must become a way of Christian living. We are not in darkness. That day, or any day of the End Times, should not overtake you as a thief. Why is this? This is because you are *all* the children of light. Being children of light is not a trivial matter. We are the children of the day. Thieves’ messages state the opposite—that we are of darkness, that we can be overtaken and that we are of the night—in many clever and disguised ways.

(1 Th 5:8-11 KJV) *But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. {9} For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, {10} Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. {11} Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.*

I’d like to pause and call this the end of Part I in order to give you time to digest what

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I just shared. If you have false teachings to undo, now is the time. Take time to review what I shared so that you know it like the back of your hand. More to follow.

Much love in Christ.

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