

How we know that We are Living Between the Last Two Dispensations

The Book of Revelation says that when the Antichrist gets here, everybody will be issued a "mark." No one can buy or sell without this mark. Probably this mark will be a chip put under the skin on the right hand or on the forehead because the Bible says it will be on the hand or in the head. It will probably be a computer chip that can be scanned like the scanners in the store can scan the boxes in the grocery cart.

Here's what makes this so awesome. Prior to the last few years, no one could see how in the world the Antichrist could control the commerce all over the world with something in a person's hand or on his head. Many said, "How can this be?" But now we know.

The Technology is in Place Now

In the last 2 of 3 years the Internet has really caught on and for the first time in history the technology necessary for the antichrist to control the commerce of this whole planet is already in place. Do you know that the growth of the Internet in just this county alone is tenfold every year? In other words, 10 times the people are on it now (just in this country) than there was just one year ago.

I can type a letter on my computer, push one button and send it around the world faster than you can blink. In just a second or so, it'll be in somebody else's computer. The other day, I had a gentleman order some books from me from Gibraltar. All of my books are converted to electronic format and they are on the Internet. With a password they can download that book and read it right on their screen. So he ordered 2 or 3 of my books from Gibraltar. That's not in this country. It's on the other side of the globe.

Within seconds, the entire process was over. When I sat down at my computer and saw the order, I got his credit card number, determined that it was valid, punched in the right passwords for him to download the books and then pushed another button. In just second, he had his books. You see this system is already out there. It doesn't have to be built. It's out there now.

The technology is ready and in place now for the antichrist to run this planet with his 666 system. He will issue a number to everybody so that nobody can buy and nobody can sell unless they have this number. Then a scanner will scan either their face or their hand. Finally, it will access a database someplace and in less than a second they will clear them for buying or selling. If, however, they don't have the mark that will register on the scanner, they can neither buy nor sell anything.

Now, the problem is this. All the people who accept that mark are going to hell and there is nothing they can do about it. So what are you going to do? I believe this will occur during our lifetime. Jesus Christ is coming back to this earth and I believe it will occur during the lifetime of the people reading this page.

Jerusalem: the Cup of Trembling

Read the newspapers about the events concerning Jerusalem. The trigger to Armageddon and the Second Coming of Jesus is Jerusalem. The Arabs will not give up wanting that town but the Jews will not let them have it. Eventually, this causes a collision from which there is no return.

How will Jerusalem be the trigger to Armageddon and the Second Coming of Christ? The Arabs will desire Jerusalem to the point that they force another oil embargo. This time, however, they will not back off on it. They will shut off the oil flow. When this happens, the other nations of the world will come in there to get that oil by force if necessary. Armageddon, therefore, will start, indirectly, over Jerusalem. But its direct cause will be over oil. The negotiations they are attempting now will never work. The Bible does not say this conflict will end with negotiations. The prophecies concerning the Second Coming of Jesus are valid because they are *now* prophecies.

Now having said the above, look at verse 13 in 1 Thes. 4. Paul said to the church in Thessalonica,

1Thes 4:13-14

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. (KJV)

The Thessalonians Thought They had Missed the Rapture

The church in Thessalonica was all fouled up concerning the Second Coming of Jesus. They had some things out of place. They were all bent out of shape because they thought that the rapture had already occurred. They thought this because someone had forged Paul's name on a letter and sent it to that church. The letter said that the rapture had already occurred, the dead in Christ were already gone up in the rapture and that they had missed it. They thought they had been left.

Paul said, however, that he didn't want them to concern themselves about those who were dead or asleep in Christ. Here is why he said this.

1Thes 4:15

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. (KJV)

Look at the word "prevent." In the margin of your Bible, change this word to "precede." That's how it should have been translated. In other words, Paul is saying that those of us

that remain alive when Jesus comes will not precede (in the rapture) them, which are asleep.

They thought they were supposed to go up before the dead arose. But the Bible teaches in verse 16 that the Lord himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God. When these occur, the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds.

1Thes 4:16-17

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. (KJV)

Tombstones Flying in Every Direction

I preached this subject in the very first church I pastored. It was in the country, located by a country cemetery. Back in those days, the little country churches had cemeteries by them. This particular church building had no air conditioning. They cooled it with huge attic fans mounted in the back of the church in the wall. They would raise the windows and pull air completely through the church building. The air would go out the back through those huge fans. With those big windows raised, I could look outside while I was preaching and see the tombstones in that cemetery. I remember telling them that if Jesus should come at that very moment, tombstones would be flying in every direction. You see the dead in Christ will rise first. They will rise in their physical body. When they come out of that tomb, tombstones will fly in every direction because the grave will literally erupt from the inside out. "For the dead in Christ shall rise first, then we which are alive and remain will be caught up together with them." In a split second, right behind them, we will both meet the Lord in the air and we will both be together with the Lord.

This event, the rapture, triggers the revealing of the Antichrist, the final world ruler. It also ushers in that seven-year period in world history that we know as the great tribulation period. Now, everybody that is saved will go up in the rapture. They will no longer be here during the tribulation. For deeper proof of this fact (that you've not seen before,) see [No Thief Gives Warning Signs](#). Conversely, everybody that's not saved will remain on earth during this awful period. Talk about the expression, "all hell broke loose," you've not seen hell break loose until you endure the tribulation period.

Your Living Body Will Be Changed in a Flash

So the dead in Christ are going to throw tombstones in every direction. Then those of us, which are alive and remain, will be changed in a flash. Your body will be changed in a flash. It will be changed into a body like Jesus had after his resurrection. Jesus had a

physical body after His resurrection, but it was different. Jesus could walk through a wall. His resurrection body was capable of the total displacement of its molecules.

For example, two men were walking along on the Emmaus road and suddenly, out of nowhere, a third set of footprints started making tracks right along with theirs. It was Jesus. Furthermore, since our bodies will be like his, they will no longer be subject to sickness, disease, death or any form of bad health. You will have a body exactly like His at the rapture. Your body will be changed. I believe we will look like we do now. Some of us hope we will look better. (Maybe God will give us a make over in some way.) Be that as it may, you will have your body and you will still be you. But there are some limitations on your body now that won't be there then.

Now the thing that makes all this relevant is the great fact that it will occur during our life time. There is no unfilled prophecy that can not be fulfilled at the very beginning of the tribulation period. None! Every unfilled prophecy can occur within days after the rapture takes place. The conclusion to this is the staggering fact that the next great prophetic event on God's calendar is the rapture of the church.

The Times of the Gentiles Has Already Been Fulfilled

Why do I believe that the rapture will occur during our lifetime? The Bible says in Luke 21:24, "Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."

Luke 21:24

24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. (KJV)

The times of the Gentiles began with the Babylonian captivity, approximately 500 years before Christ was born. Furthermore, we have always thought that the times of the Gentiles would last until Jesus literally came back at the rapture and called us out of here. However, we learned differently in 1967.

Nebuchadnezzar took Jerusalem away from the Jews some 500 years before Christ; Jerusalem was never under Jewish control again until 1967. Conservative prophetic scholars have always viewed the moment that Jerusalem is freed from Gentile dominion as the moment Jesus would come back to the earth again. In other words, they always assumed that the freeing of Jerusalem (the end of the times of the Gentiles) and the Second Coming of Christ would occur simultaneously.

But here's what blew our minds in 1967. For the first time in approximately two thousand five hundred years, the Jews retook Jerusalem and controlled it. This recapture and subsequent control signaled the end of the time of the Gentiles exactly like the Bible said

in Luke 21:24. But the thing that blew our minds was that *Jesus didn't come back then*. Where then does this lead us?

We are in a Limbo Between the Last Two Dispensations

You and I are caught in a void, a vacuum or a limbo *between the last two dispensations*. One closed in 1967 and the next one begins with the rapture of the church. We are caught between two dispensations now. We can't even measure time right now because there's no time to measure. We are caught between times. This means that the Second Coming of Christ is eminent. The times of the Gentiles terminated in 1967. We are sandwiched in between two dispensations now and the next great prophetic event is Jesus Christ coming back to get us.

Now, where does this leave us? It leaves us here. If you need to clean up your act, do it. Time is no longer a luxury. Just because you are young does not mean that you have the luxury to goof off. It's not a matter of projecting your life span from your present age and saying, "Well, I have at least 20, 30 or 40 more years if my health stays good." It's not like that anymore. You are caught between two dispensations. The next dispensation will start way before the time span of 40 years has run its course. You are living on the edge. We are in between two dispensation so if you need to clean up your act, do it.

Second, if there are people that you care about that are not saved, you need to go after them now because Jesus could rapture us out of here at any minute. We are between two dispensations. Never in history has there been a big gap in time between the dispensations. When Jesus was here, they were caught between two dispensations for a little while. From the time of his death to Pentecost, 50 days, they were between two dispensations. Only 50 days! We, however, have been between two dispensations since 1967.

God gave Adam a lease on this planet. He turned it over to the devil. I believe that the lease God gave Adam was for 6000 years. He lost it to the devil. At the end of that 6000 years, Jesus is coming again, take back what's His, set up His own kingdom and run this planet from Jerusalem. We call the time of this rule the millenium. You and I are caught between the phasing out of the old and the ushering in of the new. Between the time of the end of the law and this new church age was 50 days. For 50 days they were between dispensations. We've been between dispensations since 1967. I am saying to you that whatever you plan to do for God, get on with the program. This world as we know it is roaring to a halt. I mean this age is over. It's all over but the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

I remember when that 1967 War occurred and the Jews recaptured Jerusalem. I saw it on the news. I shouted out to my wife. I said, "Jesus Christ is coming back any minute." I knew what the Bible said about this subject.

A famous Christian broadcaster doesn't believe in the rapture. (Somebody told me this the other day.) He doesn't believe in the tribulation either. Well there was an old guy on a

TV show with him who told him this. He said, "I tell you what you do, after I'm raptured. You are in the broadcast TV business. You film what happens." He said, "I'll be back 7 years later and I want to see it. Just go ahead and film the tribulation for me." Jesus is coming back again.

The Limbo Illustrated

In June of 1967, I told my wife that Jesus could come at any moment. Well, He didn't. Anyway that next Sunday after they announced that week that Jerusalem was recaptured, I went to the church that I was pastoring then in Houston. I illustrated the meaning of the recapture of Jerusalem with an illustration they could understand. I was pastor of Townwood Baptist Church over in Alameda. It was a brand new area with our new church, new homes and a new high school. The high school was Madison High School. That was their first year. They opened up a week after we opened that church.

Moreover, we had a large group of Madison High young people in our church. Some of them were football players and some of them were cheerleaders. We had a large group of those high school kids just come in like a mob to join that church. And I said, "Kids, let me ask you something. When you are at the ballgame, where are you?" They said, "Well, we're in the grandstand." And I said, "Well, what are you doing?" They said, "We're watching the game and having fun with our friends." I said, "Tell me this. How do you know when the game's over?" They said, "We know when the game is over because the referee blows the whistle or fires a gun with a blank in it." And I asked, "When the signal is given that the game is over, are you automatically at home or is there some other things you do before you go home?" They said, "There's other things we do." I asked, "Like what?" They said, "We leave the grandstand, get in our car, drive around, goof off a while, go to the Jack-in-the-box, get a burger, get a coke, get a malt, goof off with our friends and a couple of hours later, we go home." I asked, "In other words, the main event was the game, but now it's over, but you didn't go home at that point? There were some other things you did in the meantime?" "That's right, they said." Then I asked, "But the main event for the evening was the ballgame?" "Yep." And I asked, "The main thing at the conclusion of the evening was to go home?" "Yep." "But there was a time element between the two?" "Yep."

We are Now in the Jack-in-the-Box Phase

In 1967, the great referee in the sky blew the whistle that the game is over. Consequently, the curtain came down on a 2500-year span of history known in Scripture as "the times of the Gentiles." And the great signal given to us that the dispensation had come to a screeching halt was this great Bible prophecy fact: *Gentiles no longer treaded down Jerusalem*. This prophecy was fulfilled in June of 1967. That was the signal that the game is over. We are now in the Jack-in-the-box phase and the next great prophetic event is "the home going."

There's not a way in this world that we can be caught between two dispensations for a great stretch of decades. We've been between these two dispensations since 1967 and

time, as we know it, will come to a halt probably before the year 2000. If not then, it will not be far past it.

So then, when it occurs, the dead in Christ will rise first. Then, the bodies of the saved are going to be changed in a flash, yanked up into the air right behind the dead in Christ and will meet the Lord in the air. Finally, life on this earth continues for 7 more years during which time, all hell's going to break loose on it. But you, if you are saved, won't be in it.

Practical Meanings of It

The fact that you are living between two dispensations will sober you if you will just think about it! A fool will not heed. He will go right back like the pig to his slop. This, however, will sober a thinking person. Jesus is coming back and when he does, where will you be? What are you going to do?

What about the people that you could have won? What about the folk that God had you designed to win? I remember one church where I was pastor was two blocks from the main entrance to a major Navy base. We zeroed in to win that Navy base and we won scores of them. We won a lot of those Navy guys and girls who surrendered to preach. They would go out from our church, get on their ships and submarines and go all over the world.

I still get calls and letters from Navy boys that we won to Christ that are preaching today. I get at least one call every year from at least one of them and that's been almost 20 years ago. I get these calls every year and they say, "I don't know if you remember me or not. I was in the Navy and stationed by your church. You won me to Christ. I surrendered to preach and I have a church now that I pastor." You see these days are coming to a halt. I won't get to enjoy the calls from those guys much longer because we will all be gone. The great problem with this is, there's a lot of people left out here that I haven't won yet, that I should have won to Christ already. What about you?

Paul taught the church in Corinth that they had been bought with a price and therefore they were not their own. Neither are you. Why, then, do you act like it? Some things you don't have a right to do. Why do we do it anyway? What about the people we could be witnessing to and winning, but we don't? What will happen to them when we go up? If we are the one that was supposed to have won them, what's going to happen to them if we don't? Family members, friends and acquaintances! What will happen to them? You see when we view these things in the proper perspective, petty things look silly, don't they? It just looks spoiled, insignificant and inconsequential.

For a complete explanation of the pre-tribulation rapture based upon the Abrahamic covenant, the Abrahamic Seed Group and the Twelve Days of the Lord, see [No Thief Gives Warning Signs](#). This is the only book on this subject that gives these three things their proper place in end time prophetic study.

This is the only book on this subject which gleans the order of end time events ((1) rapture, (2) resurrection of the Abrahamic Seed Group, (3) tribulation, (4) resurrection of the saved during the tribulation and (5) the millenium) from the *Old Testament Scriptures concerning the Abrahamic Seed Group, the group covered by the Abrahamic covenant*. In addition, this book gives the most complete analysis of the relationship of the Twelve Days of the Lord to end time study.

No end time scheme can claim complete accuracy until the Abrahamic covenant, the Abrahamic Seed Group and the Twelve Days of the Lord have been given their proper place from *both* the Old Testament as well as the New Testament. These end time schemes will be flawed to the extent that these three things from *both* Testaments are misunderstood and/or left out. Unfortunately, how many end time studies have you ever read which only gives them lip service to them, if they mention them at all?