

The Forerunner Message Made Simple

I. JESUS' RESURRECTION IS GOD'S PLEDGE TO RELEASE RESURRECTION POWER

A. The IHOPKC leadership team does not ask anyone to quickly accept our views; rather, we urge all to refuse ideas that they cannot see clearly in Scripture for themselves—***be a Berean*** (Acts 17:11). Our understanding of the end times is not complete—we seek to learn from other ministries.

B. ***Summary of the forerunner message: The beauty of Jesus as Bridegroom, King, and Judge returning to Jerusalem to rule all the nations and to fill the entire earth with the glory of God.*** This includes His plans to equip a global prayer movement leading to the release of unprecedented power resulting in the “billion soul harvest,” the salvation of Israel (Rom. 11:26), and the transformation of the Church to be a unified family (Jn. 17:23), and a prepared Bride (Rev. 19:7).

¹³looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. (Titus 2:13)

²⁰The LORD said...²¹all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD. (Num. 14:20-21)

³...“Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them...” (Rev. 21:3)

C. Jesus' resurrection is the firstfruits—a pledge that His people will have a body like His (Phil. 3:21). At the rapture, all of God's family will be resurrected to be with Him forever (1 Thes. 4:16-17).

²⁰Christ is risen...and [is] the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep [died]... (1 Cor. 15:20)

¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven...the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive...shall be caught up together...to meet the Lord in the air. (1 Thes. 4:16-17)

D. The Scripture speaks of birth pains related to the end times (Mt. 24:8 [ESV, NIV]; Mk. 13:8; 1 Thes. 5:3; cf. Isa. 13:8; 26:17; 42:14; 66:8; Jer. 6:23; 30:6; Hos. 13:13; Mic. 4:9-10; 5:3). The earth and its people will go through a “birth canal,” resulting in the millennial new world order. Thus, the “baby that is born” is Jesus ruling all nations and establishing the true “new world order.”

⁷For nation will rise against nation...and there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes...

⁸All these are the beginning of sorrows [birth pains; ESV, NIV].” (Mt. 24:7-8)

⁸“...Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day?...For as soon as Zion was in labor, she gave birth to her children. ⁹Shall I bring to the time of birth, and not cause delivery?” (Isa. 66:8-9)

¹⁵...what will their [Israel's] acceptance be but [result in] life from the dead? (Rom. 11:15)

E. We are spiritually prepared as we gain “living understanding” of Jesus and His excellent leadership. This is the key “metrics” for our preparation. The Lord will raise up “people of understanding” who will help others to understand the biblical end-time narrative (Dan. 11:33; 12:10; Jer. 23:20; 30:24).

³³Those of the people who understand [end-time messengers] shall instruct many... (Dan. 11:33)

²⁰...the LORD [in judgment] will not turn back...in the latter days you will understand it perfectly.
(Jer. 23:20)

II. WHY UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE END TIMES IS IMPORTANT

- A. **Unique dynamics:** The generation of Jesus' return will have unique dynamics—unprecedented pressures (shaking, sin, and darkness) and an unprecedented *outpouring of the Spirit*, revival, etc.
²For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. (Isa. 60:2)
- B. **Biblical reasons:** Scripture highlights one generation *much more* than any other. By far the *most described* generation in God's plan is the generation Jesus returns. It is the main focus in over **150 chapters in the Bible** (See: <https://mikebickle.org/resource/150-chapters-on-the-end-times/>)
- C. **Pastoral reasons:** People must understand the **biblical narrative** for what will happen and why it will happen, or they will be left, by default, to embrace a **secular narrative** of the events, making them more vulnerable to be overcome by fear, offense, lust, and deception. However, by understanding the biblical narrative, God's people will be better equipped to process the escalating pressures in a way that helps them to thrive spiritually and grow in love and peace.
1. Jesus highlighted **four issues** that will challenge many people's faith in the end times: **Fear** (Lk. 21:26), **Offense** (Mt. 24:10), **Lust** (Lk. 21:34), and **Deception** (Mt. 24:11)—**F-O-L-D**.
 2. The end-time falling away is the most tragic reality in history (2 Thes. 2:3; 1 Tim. 4:1-2)
- D. The metaphor of "birthing a child" is emphasized often as a paradigm to interpret the end times. When we have kingdom understanding, then "like a mother in labor"—the pain is well worth it. Imagine billions of years in God's glory on a resurrected planet after only 3½ years of heavy labor.
²¹A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish... (Jn. 16:21)

III. THE REVELATION OF JESUS: BRIDEGROOM, KING, AND JUDGE

- A. The Word and the Spirit emphasize Jesus as Bridegroom, King, and Judge at the end of the age. Jesus is a **King** with great power, a **Bridegroom** with deep desire for relationship with His people, and a **Judge** with righteous zeal to remove everything that hinders love—there is no contradiction!
- B. Some ministries either refuse or emphasize just one of these 3 truths over the other two.
1. To understand Jesus as the **Bridegroom** without seeing Him as the King and Judge may lead to sentimentality without obedience and misunderstanding of His end-time plans.

2. To understand Jesus as the **King** without seeing Him as the Bridegroom and Judge may lead to an authoritarian view of God or to a misunderstanding of why God releases power through His people. This leads some to be overly focused on growing in power for “their ministry.”
3. To understand Jesus as the **Judge** without seeing Him as the Bridegroom King may lead to a harsh view of God or a wrong understanding about judgment resulting to anger or offense.
*⁵⁴[John]...“Lord, do You want us to command fire to...consume them, just as Elijah did?”
⁵⁵He...rebuked them...“You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. (Lk. 9:54-55)*

IV. JESUS AS BRIDEGROOM, KING, AND JUDGE IS HIGHLIGHTED IN SCRIPTURE

- A. In Jesus’ final public message to Israel, He emphasized the Lord as a Bridegroom, King, and Judge (Mt. 22:1-14). He revealed the *nature of the kingdom* as a wedding that His Father planned.
²The kingdom...is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son... (Mt. 22:2-3)
- B. In Jesus’ final message to the apostles before the last supper in the upper room (Jn. 14-17), He revealed Himself as Bridegroom (Mt. 25:1-13), King (Mt. 25:31), and Judge (Mt. 25:32-46).
*¹Then the kingdom...shall be likened to ten virgins who...went to meet the Bridegroom...
³¹When the Son of Man comes...He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them [as the Judge]... (Mt. 25:1, 31-32)*
- C. The final revelation in the Word reveals Jesus as Bridegroom, King, and Judge (Rev. 19-22).
⁷Give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come... ¹¹In righteousness He judges and makes war...¹⁶on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS... (Rev. 19:7, 11, 16)
- D. Isaiah 62-63 is the clearest Old Testament description of the ministry of the Spirit in the generation the Lord returns as He reveals Jesus, the messianic redeemer, as Bridegroom, King, and Judge. The primary face of the Lord in Isaiah is as a king (Isa. 6:5; 32:1; 33:17, 22; 41:21; 43:15; 44:6).
 1. Jesus delights in His people as a bridegroom rejoices over His bride (Isa. 62:4-5).
*⁵As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you...
¹⁰Prepare the way for the people...[to enter Jerusalem to worship the King]... (Isa. 62:5, 10)*
 2. When Jesus returns He will judge His enemies—as He marches to Jerusalem (Isa. 63:1-3).
*²Why is Your apparel red...? ³I have trodden them [nations] in My anger...
their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, and I have stained all My robes. (Isa. 63:2-3)*
- E. Psalm 45 is the great love song of Messiah coming to earth as the Bridegroom, King, and Judge:
³Gird Your sword...O Mighty One [the Judge].... Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the King’s enemies [Armageddon]...⁹At Your right hand stands the queen [the Bride]... (Ps. 45:3-9)

V. THE LORD’S “JUSTICE MASTERPLAN” FOR HUMAN HISTORY

- A. Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would establish justice in all the nations (Isa. 42:1, 4). The full release of justice in the end times involves many positive and seemingly “negative” activities.

***‘I have put My Spirit upon Him [Jesus]; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles [worldwide]...
‘He will not fail nor be discouraged, till He has established justice in the earth... (Isa. 42:1, 4)***

- B. **Optimum environment:** God is establishing the optimum environment for His people to walk in love and purity. *God uses the least severe means to bring the greatest number of people to the deepest level of love.* What the devil means for evil, God will use for good to train His people. ‘

- C. Satan will raise up a counterfeit justice movement. I recommend S. Greaves’ book **False Justice**.

VI. THE POSITIVE TRENDS, PEOPLE, AND EVENTS—ABOUT 15 CATEGORIES

- A. The Lord’s end-time “Justice Masterplan” includes an unprecedented **outpouring of the Spirit** and a loving yet **divine discipline** of Israel and the Church resulting in **Israel’s national salvation** and in a **purified Church, a harvest of souls**, and all the earth filled with **God’s glory**, and more.

- B. **#1 Return of Jesus:** *Jesus’ royal procession* will be seen by every person (Rev. 1:7; Rev. 21:3).

- C. **#2 Rapture:** The rapture will occur when Jesus returns to “*catch up*” *all believers in the air*.

29Immediately after the tribulation of those days...30All the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds...31He will send His angels...they will gather together His elect [the rapture]...from one end of heaven to the other. (Mt. 24:29-31)

- D. **#3 Millennial Kingdom:** Jesus will return to rule over all nations for 1,000 years (Rev. 20:4-6). At this time, *Satan will be cast into prison* (Rev. 20:1-3) and *God’s kingdom with righteousness* will be openly manifested worldwide, affecting every sphere of life (education, politics, agriculture, economics, social institutions, etc.). Jesus will restore the agriculture, animal life, and atmosphere to the *conditions seen in Eden* (Isa. 11:1-16; 51:1-8; 60-62; 65:17-25).

- E. **#4 New Jerusalem:** The heavenly city *will descend to the earth* on two occasions—at the beginning (Rev. 21:10) and at the end (Rev. 21:2) of the Millennium. The resurrected saints will live there.

- F. **#5 Two witnesses:** The two men who will *prophesy with great power* for 3½ years (Rev. 11:3-6).

- G. **#6 144,000:** The Lord will anoint *144,000 Jewish believers* (Rev. 7:4-8; 14:1-5) who will be supernaturally sealed or protected by the power of God so that they cannot be harmed.

- H. **#7 Great revival:** The greatest revival and unprecedented outpouring of the Spirit in history will occur in the end times. It will include *miracles that were seen in the book of Acts and the book of Exodus* yet combined and multiplied on a global scale (Mic. 7:15; Acts. 2:19; Rev. 11:3-6).

- I. **#8 Great harvest:** I believe over *1 billion new souls* will be saved (Mt. 24:14; Rev. 7:9; 14:6).

- J. **#9 Bridal paradigm:** A *bridal perspective of the kingdom* will equip the Church with confidence and courageous love as they encounter Jesus as their Bridegroom King (Rev. 22:17).
- K. **#10 Prayer and worship:** There be a *global end-time prayer and worship movement* that will operate in great authority (Lk. 18:7-8; Rev. 8:3-5; 22:17; cf. Isa. 25:9; 30:18-19; 42:10-13; 62:6-7).
- L. **#11 Spirit of prophecy:** *All believers will operate in the Spirit*—dreams, visions, etc. (Acts 2:17).
- M. **#12 Supernatural protection:** There will be occasions where the *Lord will supernaturally protect* His people in the end-time shakings. His judgments did not touch Goshen, where His people lived. The “*Goshen Principle*” will be operative in some places (Ex. 8:22-23; 9:4-6, 26; 10:23; 11:7).
- N. **#13 Supernatural provision:** There will be occasions when the *Lord will supernaturally provide* food and water like He did when His people left Egypt and journeyed through the wilderness.
- O. **#14 Rebuilding the temple**—it is referred to as the *temple of God* (2 Thes. 2:4; Rev. 11:1).
- P. **#15 Salvation of Israel:** Israel is the first nation in which every person will be saved (Rom. 11:26).
- Q. **Israel will be provoked to jealousy:** Israel will desire to have what Gentile believers possess spiritually (Rom. 11:11, 26). This will only occur as the Church walks in the *fullness of the Gentiles* and as they tenderly love and stand boldly for God’s purposes for Israel (Jer. 31:7-10).
- ¹¹Through their [Israel’s] fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation [leadership] has come to the Gentiles...²⁵blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.
²⁶So all Israel will be saved... (Rom. 11:11, 25-26)*

VII. THE NEGATIVE TRENDS, PEOPLE, AND EVENTS—ABOUT 15 CATEGORIES

- A. Jesus’ “Justice Masterplan” includes *raising up the Antichrist* with unprecedented power, and allowing *demonic activity* and *man’s sin to come to fullness* (Dan. 8:23; Rev. 9:21). This will result in a great *persecution* of the Church and Israel, *all nations gathering against Jerusalem*, a great *falling away* from the faith, and unprecedented *judgments* on the nations (Antichrist’s empire).
- B. **#1 The Great Tribulation** will be the most difficult, powerful, and important 3½ years in history.
²¹There will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world...nor ever shall be. ²²Unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved [physically]; (Mt. 24:21-22)
- C. **#2 The Antichrist** (Rev. 13:1-10) will wage war against Jesus and His people as the most powerful leader in history. In light of his 10-nation confederation, he will have the largest army and religious network using demonic miracles to deceive and political processes to kill resisters (Rev. 13:12-18).
- D. **#3 The 10-nation confederation** will be a political, military, and economic alliance of 10 nations that provides the Antichrist with the greatest power base of any man in history (Rev. 17:12-17).

- E. **#4 The False Prophet** (Rev. 13:11-18) is the leader of the worldwide religious network that will be devoted to causing all the people on earth to worship Satan and the Antichrist (Rev. 13:4, 8).
- F. **#5 The healing of the Antichrist's head wound** will be the great catalytic event that thrusts the Antichrist into worldwide prominence (Rev. 13:3, 12, 14). He will seemingly be killed and healed before all, causing them to be overwhelmed with awe so as to worship him (Rev. 13:3-4).
- G. **#6 The abomination of desolation** occurs when the Antichrist declares himself to be God by setting up his image in the Jerusalem temple (Dan. 11:31; 12:11; Mt. 24:15; 2 Thes. 2:3-4; Rev. 13:12-18). Two elements of the abomination are the *image* and *mark* of the Beast (Rev. 13:15-18).
- H. **#7 The harlot Babylon**: A worldwide religious and economic network will be operating at this time. God's will judge Babylon's *religious network* (Rev. 17) and her *economic network* (Rev. 18).
- I. **#8 The 3-numbered-judgment series**: The Great Tribulation includes an unprecedented judgment referred to as the 3-numbered-judgment series—*7 seals*, *7 trumpets*, and *7 bowls* (Rev. 6-16). These 3-numbered-judgment-series will destroy Harlot Babylon and the Antichrist's empire.
- J. **#9 Counterfeit peace and safety**: There will be a short season of peace and safety that will end suddenly when the destruction associated with the Great Tribulation begins (1 Thes. 5:3). This counterfeit time of peace will continue for the first 3½ years of the final 7 years of this age.
- K. **#10 Martyrdom**: There will be an unprecedented number of Christian who become martyrs (Dan. 7:21, 25; 8:24; 11:33-35; 12:7, 10; Rev. 6:9-11; 9:21; 11:7; 13:7, 15; 16:5-7; 17:6; 18:24; 19:2).
- L. **#11 Falling away**: The end-time falling away will be the most tragic reality in all of human history (2 Thes. 2:3; cf. 1 Tim. 4:1-2; 2 Tim. 3:1-7; 4:3-5; 2 Pet. 2:1-3).
- M. **#12 Armageddon Campaign**: Armageddon is not a battle but a *location* in northern Israel that will function as the military staging area to mobilize the Antichrist's armies (Rev. 16:14).
- N. **#13 The battle for Jerusalem**: All nations will gather to fight against Jerusalem (Zech. 14:2).
- O. **#14 Sin expressed in fullness**: People embracing sin in the greatest measure (Dan. 8:23; Rev. 9:21).
²¹They did not repent of their murders...sorceries ...sexual immorality or their thefts. (Rev. 9:21)
- P. **#15 The spirit of delusion**: Released by God on those who do not love the truth (2 Thes. 2:11).

VIII. THERE ARE 3 PROPHETIC TIME FRAMES IN THE END TIMES

- A. There are 3 prophetic time frames related to the final 7 years (Dan. 9:27; Mt. 24:8; 1 Thes. 5:2-3)—*the beginning of birth pains, the counterfeit peace and safety* (3½ years), and the *Great Tribulation*.

- B. **The first prophetic time frame: The beginning of birth pains.** Jesus, the apostles, and the OT prophets prophesied *signs of the times* that will alert God's people that Jesus' return is imminent. *For the first time in history, most of these are increasing and making headline news globally.* Jesus identified 12 negative sign trends occurring at this time (Mt. 24:4-8, 14; Mk. 13:5-8; Lk. 21:7-18).
1. **Rebuilding of the city of Babylon** as a global religious and economic center (Rev. 17-18);
 2. The emergence of a **10-nation confederation** in alliance with the Antichrist (Rev. 17:12);
 3. **Rebuilding the temple** in Jerusalem and offering animal sacrifices (as Moses taught).
- C. **The second prophetic time frame: Counterfeit peace and safety.** This will end suddenly when the destruction associated with the Great Tribulation begins (1 Thes. 5:3). This peace will continue for the first 3½ years of the final 7 years of this age. During this time watch for the emergence of a worldwide religious network called the **Harlot Babylon** operating during this time (Rev. 17).
- D. **The third prophetic time frame: the Great Tribulation** that begins in middle of the final 7 years of this age and lasts for 3½ years—it is initiated by the **abomination of desolation** (Mt. 24:15) and the **healing of the Antichrist's wound** (Rev. 13:3). The **two witnesses** will do miracles (Rev. 11:3-6).
- E. **Jesus' coming:** His royal procession to earth to be received as King on His throne in Jerusalem; It will be a **3-stage royal procession** that includes many events—He will travel **across the sky** in glory, then **on the land** through Jordan (Edom), and then **into Jerusalem** to be crowned King.