

# What Does The Near Future Hold For All Human Beings?

In this article I seek to take you into the future as prophesied, but **not** often preached, but found in the Christian Bible.

Economic collapse of U.S.A. and Britain are now past history.

War, disease and plagues have swept through most of the world, especially the U.S.A., Britain and parts of Europe.

Left behind are a few emaciated human beings crawling amongst the rubble of their towns and cities.

Their only food is stolen or fought over, corpses can be found with strips of flesh cut off of them.

Young tender children are much sought after to satisfy the raging hunger of these poor wretched survivors.

Vultures and carrion crows grow fat feeding on the rotting corpses.

The sun is blotted out with the smoke and the airborne debris of an all-out atomic conflict.

Earthquakes split open the earth in areas never before experienced in human history.

Suddenly, a blinding light in the sky and a roaring sound of a wind are heard and seen by all who are still alive.

The few remaining humans flee in terror and hide in rubble from what they expect is more pain and torment.

Fellow Christians, these poor, wretched, terrified and mind-shattered human beings, stinking, unwashed, starving to the point of emaciation, filled with hatred and suspicion are the future people God wants to join the Kingdom of God, that has just arrived on earth in its full form.

These are the humans, we as changed or resurrected firstfruits of that Kingdom of God, are to comfort, love, serve and teach God's way of life.

## **How prepared are we for this task?**

This is the final destruction of Satan's society that we as resurrected "*firstfruits*" have observed from the clouds, where we have joined Jesus Christ at His return to this earth, this time as King of kings and Lord of lords.

As eyewitnesses to what these people have endured, we are those who can best be used by Jesus Christ to bring a new way of life to these poor wretched humans, leading them back to sanity and happiness.

## **How can we prepare for this task now?**

Part of what I have described is in the teaching of Jesus Christ Himself, recorded in **Matthew 24:1-51**.

In the next chapter of Matthew we find the answer of how we are to prepare for our first task in the Kingdom of God.

**Matthew 25:34-40** [NIV] *“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’”* *“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’”* *“The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’”*

God the Father and Jesus Christ are at this very time judging those who they want to serve these first subjects of the new earthly Kingdom of God.

How do we react to all humans who are today experiencing pain and suffering in this present, Satan-led society?

Does our heart go out to them?

Do we seek to relieve their pain and suffering, through prayer and physical donations?

Let us consider something nearer to home.

The people in our own community – how well do we know them and care for their welfare?

Do we share in their problems, needs, fears and hopes?

Are some lonely craving for a kind word and friendly smile?

**Our present reaction to such needs of those around us will show God the Father and Jesus Christ just how well we can be used in the future I have just described.**

**Philippians 2:20** [Amplified Bible] *“For I have no-one like him [talking about Timothy], no-one of so kindred a spirit, who will be so genuinely interested in your welfare and devoted to your interests.”*

Timothy was unlike the majority of people, who are described in the next verse of this letter.

**Philippians 2:21** [NIV] *“For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.”*

This sounds a very familiar description of the majority of people today.

**Philippians 2:22** [NIV] *“But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.”*

Timothy was also concerned for the spiritual welfare and future of all people he met within his life.

**1 John 3:14-18** [NIV] *“We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him. This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.”*

The love that we as Christians **must have been** a practical, day-to-day love for all other human beings.

**1 John 4:20-21** [NIV] *“If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.”*

We can only experience this love for others when we have accepted the love that Jesus Christ and the Father have for each of us.

**John 3:16-17** [NIV] *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. **For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.**”*

The birth, life and sacrifice of our **only** Saviour, Jesus Christ, is the perfect example of the love that God has for each of us.

**1 Peter 1:22** [NIV] *“Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, **love one another deeply, from the heart.**”*

The apostle Peter is inspired by the Holy Spirit to show this love is genuine and **not** hypocritical.

**Philippians 2:1-5** [NIV] *“If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. **Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.** Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should **be the same as that of Christ Jesus:**”*

Our attitude is to be a reflection of Jesus Christ.

## **Another key to our preparation for this future job is found the book of Romans**

**Romans 12:1-2** [NIV] *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to **offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship.** Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. **Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will.**”*

A sacrificial love that is prompted by the love and mercy that God has extended to us.

A complete change of mind, that is filled with an outgoing love, **not** an indwelling selfish love.

**Romans 12:3** [NIV] *“For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.”*

In the following verses we are given very important rules for Christian living.

**Know ourselves** – conduct an honest assessment of our own capabilities, without conceit or false modesty.

**Accept ourselves** – use the gifts and talents that God has given us.

Don’t envy the gifts others have but we don’t.

**Often the using of our talents and gifts are in a humble sphere, mostly unseen by others.**

The efficiency of the earth’s ecosystem is dependent on very humble creatures.

For example – the bacteria in the stomach of a worm!

Without this bacteria the worm could not exist.

Without the worm and the work it does we would not be able to feed our bodies.

The work that God is calling us to do depends on a humble, faithful attitude of mind.

Performing tasks that are mostly unseen by other human beings.

**Remember that whatever gift or talent we do have originally came from God –**

**James 1:17** [NIV] *“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.”*

One gift we all can have is one that doesn't need intellect, money or youth, but perhaps courage!

Letting others know we care.

A kind or encouraging word.

A friendly smile, personally I try to give and capture at least twenty smiles each day.

If you do receive a smile, thank the person for it and tell them how much you enjoyed it.

A firm handshake or tender touch on the shoulder, and if appropriate, a friendly hug.

**Romans 12:4-8** [NIV] *“Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. **We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.** If a man's gift is **prophesying**, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is **servicing**, let him serve; if it is **teaching**, let him teach; if it is **encouraging**, let him encourage; if it is **contributing** to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is **leadership**, let him govern diligently; if it is **showing mercy**, let him do it cheerfully.”*

All the gifts and talents we have received must be used for the common good **not** for any personal prestige.

**“Prophesying”** – the Greek word means telling forth, referring to God's Word, the Christian Bible. Expanding and applying it to day-to-day living *“with the authority of one who knows”* [**2 Timothy 2:15**]

**“Servicing”** – practical service was always high on Paul's list of what we should be doing.

**“Teaching”** – ability to apply the Word of God, the Christian Bible, in a simple way that can be used in every situation we find in life.

**“Encourage”** – when God reveals to us through His Word, the Christian Bible, our true selves, it can be very painful and discouraging. [**Hebrews 4:12**] We all need others to lift us out of this attitude of worthlessness.

**“Contributing”** –

There are different ways of giving –

- a) with a moral lecture and criticism;
- b) to pander to our vanity – make us feel good and superior;
- c) out of a grim sense of duty;
- d) to gain favour and out of an ulterior motive.

But the Greek word translated “**generously**” is “*haplōtēs*” with a sincere liberal, non-self-seeking, simple manner.

“**Leadership**” – the Greek word used is “*prōthumōs*” meaning to stand before. We are to lead by personal example **never** asking those we lead to do anything we are **not** willing to do ourselves.

**Romans 12:8** [Amplified Bible] “*To give aid and superintend with zeal and singleness of mind.*”

“**Showing mercy**” – real mercy is forgiveness that is based on love, **not** out of a feeling of superiority.

“*There but for the grace of God go I*” attitude of mind.

**Romans 12:9** [NIV] “*Love must be sincere. **Hate what is evil**; cling to what is good.*”

Love must be sincere, **not** from a judgemental or superior hypocritical standpoint. With **no** ulterior motive.

“**Hate**” – better translation of Greek is “*abhor*” – from “*apōstugēō*” – two basic words meaning to withdraw from and find utterly odious.

**One weapon against sinning is to be shocked by sin.**

We hate sin because it deprives us and others of the full joy in life that God intended all humans to experience.

“**Cling**” – Greek “*kōllaō*” meaning to glue ourselves to, something so keeping constant company with it.

**Romans 12:10** [NIV] “*Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. **Honour one another above yourselves.***”

A true Christian has **no** rights only responsibilities towards other human beings.

**Philippians 2:3-4** [NIV] “*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but **in humility consider others better than yourselves.** Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*”

Paul repeats this wisdom, an attitude of true love for every other human being.

**Romans 12:11** [NIV] “*Never be lacking in zeal, but **keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord.***”

A true Christian can **never** “*rust out*” through lack of action, only “*burn brightly.*” [**Matthew 5:14-16**]

We accomplish this by allowing the Holy Spirit to fulfil His work in and through us.

**Philippians 2:12-13** [NIV] “*Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence, continue to **work out your salvation** with fear and trembling, for it is **God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.***”

The will of God is accomplished by the Holy Spirit working in us to produce spiritual fruits [**Galatians 5:22**] that God can use to influence the lives of other human beings that we meet in our day-to-day life.

**John 7:37-39** [NIV] “*On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. **Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.**” By this he meant the Spirit, whom those*

who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.”

The Holy Spirit will **not** stagnate in us. He must be constantly flowing out of us in works of kindness and love towards others.

**Revelation 19:7-9** [NIV] *“Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For **the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.**” (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) Then the angel said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’” And he added, “These are the true words of God.”*

It is these acts of love, prompted by the Holy Spirit, that weave the wedding robes we will wear when the Christian Church is married to Jesus Christ.

**Matthew 22:11-14** [NIV] *“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ‘Friend,’ he asked, ‘**how did you get in here without wedding clothes?**’ The man was speechless. “Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ “**For many are invited, but few are chosen.**”*

Only then will we **not** be cast out of the wedding feast which celebrates our ultimate spiritual union with Jesus Christ.

**Romans 12:12** [NIV] *“Be joyful in **hope**, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”*

**“Hope”** – there is no such thing as a hopeless Christian.

A true Christian is *“saved by hope.”*

How is this accomplished?

**Romans 8:18-19** [NIV] *“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.”*

The hope we have is in a resurrection when this limited physical existence will be transformed into an eternal life.

**1 Corinthians 15:50-54** [NIV] *“I declare to you, brothers, that **flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.** Listen, I tell you a mystery: **We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.** For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. **For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.** When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”*

All we allow the Holy Spirit to do in and through us is aimed for this dramatic change to take place in us at Christ’s return.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** [NIV] *“**Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope.** We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that **God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.** According to the Lord’s own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. **After that, we who are still alive and are left will be***

*caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage each other with these words.*”

**This is the hope that all Christians should have, for it is a hope for themselves and the rest of humanity.**

**Romans 8:20-25** [NIV] *“For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, **in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.** We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. **But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.**”*

All of physical and spiritual creation is awaiting for this time of liberation from the slavery to sin and Satan.

Most of humanity are totally ignorant of this coming transformation of all society, that will come about under the rulership of Jesus Christ and all who are in this first resurrection of the dead.

Never lose sight of this wonderful time, hope and pray that it will **not** be delayed.

**Romans 12:13** [NIV] *“Share with God’s people who are in need. Practise hospitality.”*

A true Christian is *“open handed ... open hearted ... and their home is an open door to others in need, physically and spiritually.”*

**Romans 12:14** [NIV] *“Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.”*

Our attitude towards suffering *“colours”* our own lives and can bring blessings to others.

**Acts 7:59-60** [NIV] *“While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.”*

I believe that part of the apostle Paul’s conversion was owed to the final prayer of Stephen, which Paul heard at the death of Stephen.

**Daniel 3:13-25** [NIV] *“Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So these men were brought before the king, and Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up? Now when you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?” Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. **If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.**” Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude towards them changed. He ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter than usual and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace. The king’s command was so urgent and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace. Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, “Weren’t there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?” They replied, “Certainly,*

*O king.” He said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.”*

A wonderful example of how we meet with Jesus Christ the Son of God in the midst of any persecution.

**Romans 12:15** [NIV] *“Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.”*

It is a true saying that we are **not** a true friend of another person until we have cried with and for them. We need to spend time to listen to them as they seek to pour out their grief in words and emotions.

**John 15:12-16** [NIV] *“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.”*

We become friends of Jesus Christ when we lay down our lives, our time, in showing love towards other people, and listening to Christ’s words and submitting to them as we study what is recorded in the Christian Bible.

To rejoice with others when they rejoice over some honour or success, is more difficult than crying with them in their grief or trials.

We must rejoice in the same way as if the success or honour were our own.

**Romans 12:16** [NIV] *“Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.”*

The last part of this verse is the guideline to accomplishing the first part, living in harmony.

Pride is what separates us from other human beings, and Satan will use this to divide and destroy families and friends.

Pride was what destroyed the relationship that Lucifer, who became Satan, had with God after his creation and being given a high office by God.

[Read **Ezekiel 28:12-17** and **Isaiah 14:12-14**]

So Satan will seek to divide and destroy the Christian Church by injecting pride into its leaders and members.

**Romans 12:17-18** [NIV] *“Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”*

The effect of a “*bad apple*” in the Christian Church is devastating to the loving and caring image that we should be illustrating.

Note the responsibility to maintain a peaceful atmosphere is with us individually.

But Paul realises this is **not** always possible because of the attitude some so-called “*Christians*” still express, and the selfish hatred injected by Satan into all humans.

**Romans 12:19** [NIV] *“Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord.”*

Why is this true?



**Only** God knows what is in the mind and heart of any human being and the full details that motivate anyone's words or actions.

**Romans 12:20** [NIV] *“On the contrary: **“If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.”**”*

**Kindness is the only way we can influence another person's mind and heart.**

The “*burning coals*” is referring to the way the warmth of a furnace will eventually soften even the hardest metal.

Returning to the original situation of those human beings that remain alive after the tribulation.

Those hiding in the rubble of their cities and towns.

These terrified people will look on us as yet another enemy to harm them.

What should be our first action to serve them?

Feed them!

The smell of food cooking will draw them out of their hiding places and providing this will be the first step towards building a trusting relationship.

From physical feeding and healing we can then gradually move towards spiritual feeding and healing.

**Our training ground for this future is right now and here.**

First we need to love and serve other Christians, then extend this to the rest of those we come in contact with on a daily basis.

Acts of mercy, and practical service practised now will prepare us for the wonderful world tomorrow under the loving rule of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The aim of this website is to bring to the vast majority of people knowledge of the God they do not know and the love He has for them personally.

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