

# Can We Face The Future Without Fear?

Conditions over the whole world are so grave that no thinking person is able any longer to maintain a spirit of optimism.

The world's philosophers have ceased to preach peace, except as a goal towards which the nations should frantically struggle even while they have but little hope of attaining it.

**Romans 3:17** [King James] *“And the way of peace have they not known.”*

Referring to humanity as a whole, this is a statement that is the central result of a description of the general nature of humanity and the only way that peace will come to this world.

**Romans 3:10-16** [NIV] *“As it is written: ‘There is no-one righteous, not even one; there is no-one who understands, no-one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no-one who does good, not even one.’ ‘Their throats are open graves; their tongues practise deceit.’ ‘The poison of vipers is on their lips.’ ‘Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.’ ‘Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways.’”*

This is a fair description of what is happening in the world today.

The best brains in the world have been involved in the production of tools which will, if deployed, destroy all society.

When the Pharaoh of Egypt was faced with trouble, [**Genesis 41:1-8**] he sent for Joseph, [**v14**].

When Nebuchadnezzar was in distress, [**Daniel 5:5-9**] he eventually sent for Daniel, [**v13**].

Both these enlightened men had the ability to predict the future and point out a way to safety.

They were wise with a wisdom that was **not** of this world.

**James 3:13-18** [NIV] *“Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbour bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such ‘wisdom’ does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.”*

Two sources of wisdom, one limited to human thought and another that is given by the Creator God through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, [**1 Corinthians 12:8**].

**John 16:13** [NIV] *“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and **he will tell you what is yet to come.**”*

Note the Holy Spirit will reveal the future to us.

The Holy Spirit is only given to those who obey the Creator God, [**Acts 5:32**].

**Proverbs 9:10** [NIV] *“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”*

This is what was lacking in the world described in **Romans 3:10-16**, and is given as a solution to the lack of peace in **verse 17**.

**Proverbs 1:7** [NIV] *“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.”*

God looks on those who refuse or ignore His wisdom as fools.

Joseph and Daniel were both able to face the future with confidence and cheerfulness, even when they knew how dark and troubled that future would be.

Today also there are a few people who can face the future years without discouragement or terror, such people are true God-fearing Christians.

True Christians are **not** smiling optimists who draw their comfort from a denial of the facts or base their hopes upon false expectations of world leaders seeking peace.

True Christians are realists, they insist upon squaring their beliefs with the truth, as found in God’s Word, the Christian Bible, and do **not** hesitate to face up to any truth wherever it is found.

**The world has lost its way in a “stormy sea” and Christians alone know the way to the desired peaceful haven.**

While things were going well society scorned true Christians with their Bible but now the world, even if they do **not** know it, or will **not** accept it, needs what is revealed in the words of the Christian Bible.

The true Church needs to get the world’s attention, **not** by trying to please people with talk of God’s love, without telling of His justice and judgement.

God is holy and only those who are seeking to become holy through the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives will be acceptable to the Creator God.

**John 16:5-8** [NIV] *“Now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment:”*

**These verses list the work of the Holy Spirit in humans whom God is preparing to be a major part of the “world tomorrow,” that is a new world that will dawn at the Second Coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ, the Son of God.**

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ is central to the faith that true Christians have in a future that will eventually be one of righteousness and peace.

**Revelation 19:11-16** [NIV] *“I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no-one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. ‘He will rule them with an iron sceptre.’ He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.”*

The promised [Acts 1:9-11] Second Coming of Jesus Christ [the Word of God, **John 1:1-5, 14**] this time to make war against all that is evil in society and then to take over world rule, creating a new society.

**Revelation 21:1-8** [NIV] *“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I*

*heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' Then he said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.' He said to me: 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practise magic arts, the idolaters and all liars, their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulphur. This is the second death.'"*

An exciting vision of the New World tomorrow in which peace and love will reign supreme.

**Revelation 22:10-17** [NIV] *"Then he told me, 'Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, because the time is near. Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy. 'Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, those who practise magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practises falsehood. I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.' The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life."*

**This is the message that the true Christian Church must proclaim to this world, that whomever God is calling at this time may have their chance to be a part of that new world.**

The "last time" that is the end of human misrule may be nearer than we think.

**Matthew 24:3-14, 21-25** [NIV] *"As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. 'Tell us,' they said, 'when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?' Jesus answered: 'Watch out that no-one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, "I am the Christ," and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumours of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth-pains. Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.'" ... "For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now, and never to be equalled again. If those days had not been cut short, no-one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect, if that were possible. See, I have told you ahead of time."*

**This is a personal warning and promise from Jesus Christ and the hope and confidence in the future for every true Christian.**