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KEY QUESTION:

How do we as Christians express our autonomy?

1. When did “The Day of Man” begin?
2. What was the essence of Old Testament idolatry? (Cf. Isaiah 44.13-17)
3. How was man exalted in rabbinical Judaism?
4. What was the ultimate expression of man’s self-exaltation in ancient Israel? (Luke 19.12-14)
5. What gave impetus to the Atheism movement of the 18th century?
6. Why is the Atheism movement fading away?

A.

B.

C.

A.

B.

C.

D.



Josef Stalin, murderer of 60 million

7. To what is the world turning in place of Atheism?

8. How will man's propensity to deify himself have its ultimate expression in the End Time?

9. What does it mean to be lawless?

10. Who is the Man of Lawlessness?

11. Will he be truly autonomous?

11. What comes at the very end of "The Day of Man"?

12. Then what happens?

Responses to the Key Question:



KEY QUESTION:

Why will some “Christians” not enter the kingdom (Mat 7.22)?

1. Considering how we used the phrase “The Day of Man,” what do we mean by “The Day of the Lord”; is it a literal 24-hour day?

2. Then what exactly is “The Day of the Lord”?

3. Why did Israelites in antiquity long for The Day of the Lord (Amos 5.18)?

4. When will The Day of the Lord begin (Zec 12.1-9)?

It will begin when the nations gather against Jerusalem in

this is when the Lord will appear and begin to dispense retribution (Isa 66.16).

5. When will the Day of the Lord end?

6. How could the Thessalonian Christians think The Day of the Lord had already come (2Th 2.1,2)?

7. Doesn't Peter say the heavens and earth will be destroyed in The Day of the Lord (2Pe 3.3-14)?

The Day of the Lord is an important eschatological concept that runs through the prophetic writings. It refers to the complex of events surrounding the coming of the Lord in judgment to conquer his foes and to establish his sovereign rule over the world. The people were looking forward to that day. Apparently they understood it as the time when Yahweh would act on their behalf to conquer their foes and establish Israel as his people forever. They regarded their election as the guarantee of the Lord's favor. But their moral vision was blurred. They failed to see the Day of the Lord as the time when God will judge all sin—even theirs. They named the name of Yahweh but did not obey his precepts. For these people, Amos said, that coming day will be one of darkness. — Thomas Edward McComiskey, *Expositor's Bible Commentary*

8. The NT describes the approach of The Day of The Lord in terms of labor and delivery. According the Olivet Discourse (Mat 24; Mar 13; Luk 21), what will constitute the “beginning of birth pangs” ?

False messiahs

Pestilences

Wars

Terrors

Famines

Signs in Heavens

Earthquakes

Persecutions

9. What will constitute the “hard labor”?

The unprecedented distress (Mat. 24.21) that begins with the appearance of the “abomination of desolation” (24.15).

10. What will constitute the birth?

a. The sudden dawn of the Day of the Lord with its destruction of the ungodly (1 Thessalonians 5.2,3).

b. The spiritual awakening (rebirth) of national Israel (Isaiah 54.1; and Isaiah ch. 66).

11. How will Israel’s rebirth come about?

a. At the height of Antichrist’s rule in the middle east, God will raise up _____ to witness to compromised, Sodom-like Jerusalem (Rev 11; Isa 3)

b. Then, God will allow Israel to reach its final extremity by persecution, invasion and cosmic disaster (Isa 3.1-11; Zec 12.1,2; 14.1,2).

c. At the last moment, the Lord Himself will visibly intervene, and Israel will begin to give credit where credit is due (Zec 12.3-9; 14.3,4)

d. Finally, in a _____ God will pour out the Holy Spirit upon Israel and bring them to repentance as a nation (Eze 36.25-27; 39.29; Zec 12.10 to 13.1).

The Survivors

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12. So neither the world nor all the unbelievers will be destroyed when the Lord returns?

No, the Lord will deal distinctly with at least 10 groups:

a. <i>Late Christians</i>	<i>Resurrected & caught up</i>	1Th 4.13-18
b. <i>Christians Still Living</i>	<i>Changed & caught up</i>	1Co 15.51,52
c. <i>False Christians</i>	<i>Thrown into the fire</i>	Mat 13.24-30,36-43
d. <i>Antichrist & False Prophet</i>	<i>Thrown into the Lake of Fire</i>	Rev 19.20
e. <i>Anti-Christians</i>	<i>Killed & tormented</i>	Rev 14.11; 19.21
f. <i>Elect Jewish Remnant</i>	<i>Brought to repentance</i>	Zec 12.10-13.1
g. <i>Armageddon Survivors</i>	<i>Sent to evangelize</i>	Isa 66.19; Zec 14.16-19
h. <i>Unevangelized Gentiles</i>	<i>Accompany Jews to worship in Jerusalem</i>	Isa 66.20,21; Zec 8.20-23
i. <i>Satan</i>	<i>Bound for 1,000 years</i>	Rev 20.2
j. <i>Gospel Rejecters</i>	<i>Suffer God's wrath</i>	Joh 3.36

13. What will surviving Israelite's do in the course of their national repentance?

a. *They will cleanse their land of every vestige of _____*

b. *They will execute their own _____*

c. *They will resettle their towns and rebuild Israel's ruins (Eze 36.33,38).*

d. *With God's blessing they will grow a _____ in the land (Eze 36.34,35).*

13. (Continued) What will surviving Israelite's do in the course of their national repentance?

e. They will restore the testimony of _____ (Eze 40-48; Zec 14.16-21); the promise to Abram (Gen. 12.2,3) will be fleshed out.

f. They will welcome the rest of their dispersed brothers, brought back to Israel from foreign lands (Isa 11.11,12; 66.20).

g. Political rivalries will end in Israel's unity of purpose (Isa 11.13; cf. Zec 11.14).

14. Will life be different physiologically?

• *There will be no more _____*



• *Physical health will be enhanced so that the people of Israel will live as long as _____*

• *Man's authority over beasts will be restored so that all creatures will be tamed and eat only vegetable matter (Isa 11.6-9; 65.25; cf. Gen 1.30).*

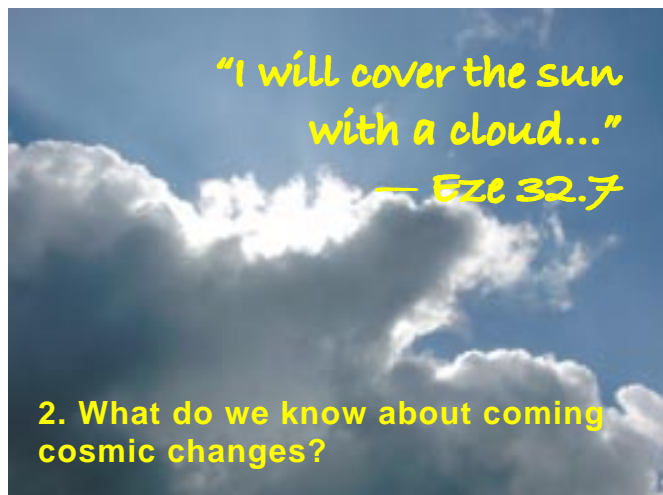
Responses to the Key Question:



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KEY QUESTION:

Why won't Christ rule by himself?



1. As The Day of the Lord begins, what will be the state of Israel's infrastructure (Zec 13.8; 14.2)?

2a. See Isa 13.10; 30.27; Jer 31.35,36; Eze 32.7,8; Joe 2.1-11; 3.15; Zec 14.6 (NASB, NKJ); Mat 24.29,30; Rev 1.7; 6.12,13; 8.12:

The sun and stars will be obscured by a cloud, but won't disappear from _____.

2b. See Isa 30.26; 60.1-3; Zec 14.7; Mal 4.2; Rev 21.23-25; 22.5:

2c. Will there still be weather? (See Isa 4.5,6)

Yes, but the Shekinah will form a _____

3. What will contribute to people's longevity? (Isa 65.19-23; 33.24)

A. The cessation of _____ (Psa 46; Isa 2.2-4; Mic 4.1-3)

B. The taming of _____ (Isa 11.6-9; 65.25; Eze 34.25)

C. Protection from the _____ (Isa 4.6; 49.10)

D. Provision for _____ (Rev 22.2)

E. People's spiritual _____ (Jer 24.5-7; 30.17; 31.33,34)

4. At the climax of Armageddon, when the Lord appears to deliver Zion, what will the inhabitants of Jerusalem see when they look up?

(Isa 31.5).

5. Who or what is coming with Jesus?

(Zec 14.5)

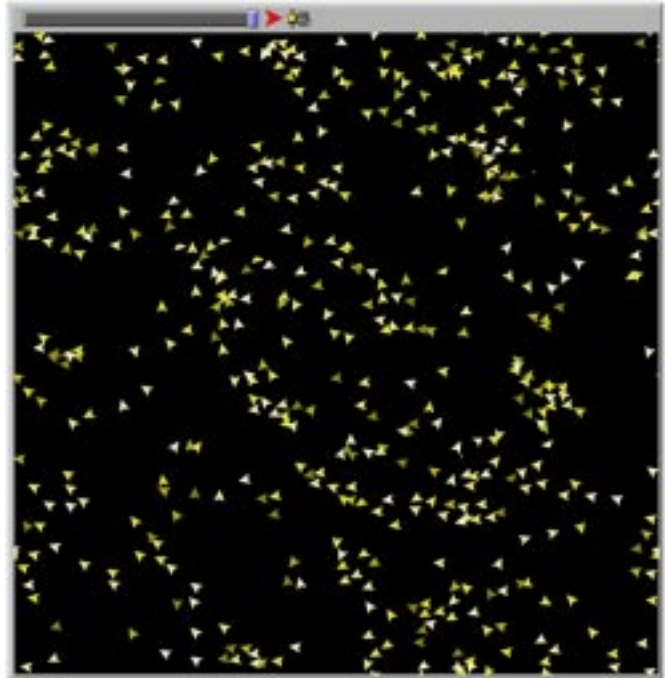
6. Which “holy ones” exactly?

*All the _____
(see 1Th 3.13; 4.14-17, Dan 7.21), but also hosts of angels (cf. Deu 33.2,3; Jude 14,15).*

7. What will believers do after the rapture?

8. What will that look like in the aftermath of Armageddon vis-a-vi Israel?

*_____ (Isa 30, particularly verses 20-22), and
_____ (Isa 32.1-5).*



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Responses to the Key Question:

Work Sheet 4a The Banquet



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KEY QUESTION:

How should our destiny shape our present life?

MAJORITY VIEW

- Don't kill
- Don't steal
- Don't lie
- Don't commit adultery

- No tears
- No death
- No pain
- No marriage

NOW



HEAVEN

BIBLICAL VIEW

- Shepherd nations
- Shelter the frightened
- Teach the foolish
- Rebuild civilization
- Grow a new Eden
- Judge angels
- Serve in the Temple

1. Many Christians in our culture think of “glorifying God” in terms of “not doing stuff.” When asked about heaven, they likewise think in terms of what doesn’t happen there. No wonder Christians pursue their own agendas rather than the Kingdom’s; they’re unaware of God’s agenda! No wonder Christianity is no longer compelling to unbelievers; it’s a religion of “not doing stuff” for the eternal reward of a heaven that is “no fun.” At the end of this lesson, let’s describe a more exciting Christian life under the blue time-arrow above.

2. Now, let’s talk about our Wedding Banquet (Isa 25.6-9; Luk 14.15; 22.15,16; 22.28-30; Rev 19.1-9)! The Bible addresses this after-the-rapture event in terms of five themes. What do they imply for us?

A. _____ (Rev 2.17; 3.12)

B. _____ (Isa 40.10,11; 62.11; Mar 16.27; 1Co 3.12-14; Col 3.23,24; Rev 11.18; 22.12)

C. _____ (Isa 28.5; 1Co 9.25; 1Th 2.19,20; 2Ti 4.8; 1Pe 5.4; Rev 4.4,10)

D. _____ (Mat 19.28; Luk 22.28-30; Rev 3.21; 20.4)

E. _____ (Phi 2.14-16; 2Co 1.12-14)

3. What does 1 Timothy 4.8 teach us about godliness?

4. When Christ returns, how will the relationship of Jesus to saints be like that of Potiphar to Joseph? (Gen 39.4; Mat 24.44-47)

5. Why does the master put servants in charge of assets? (Mat 25.14-30)

6. What will be Christ's chief assets on earth when He returns?

7. How will we shepherd the nations? (Luk 19.12-27)





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KEY QUESTION:

What would it look like for the Kingdom to come in your city?

We have often spoken of God’s concern for nations, families and individuals. It is God’s concern for cities *as corporate relational units* to which we now turn our attention.

- 1. What shocked Abraham about the Lord’s intent to bring Sodom and Gomorrah to account (Gen 18.25)?**

- 2. Does God only concern Himself with cities when He decides to destroy them (Jonah 4.10,11)?**

- 3. Did Jesus concern Himself with cities as corporate entities (Mat. 11.20-24)?**

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by Jim Unger



"I doubt if you know it.
It's a very small country."

- 4. Which city was the city of Jesus?**

He was known as Jesus of _____, but He will be known as the King of _____. It was the latter city that He longed to gather in his arms as children (Mat 23.37).

- 5. Is the Day of the Lord a day of cities?**

6. Why does God concern Himself with cities (Ezr 4; Neh 4 and 6)?

7. What is the overlooked message in the book of Nehemiah?

8. Did God predestine us to live in our city?

9. Why does God command His people to seek the peace and prosperity of their cities (Jer 29.7; Psa 122.6-9)?

10. Why should our church help other churches in our city?

Responses to the Key Question:



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KEY QUESTION:

What is your heart's deepest longing?

Augustine's Thought Experiment

An Excerpt from *Heaven: The Heart's Deepest Longing* by Peter Kreeft

"Thou hast made us for thyself, and [therefore] our hearts are restless until they rest in thee."

The great Augustine, who penned that sentence, one of the most profound in all human writing, also proposed the following little thought experiment to show you, his reader, that your deepest desire is indeed the desire for God. Imagine God appeared to you and said, "I'll make a deal with you if you wish. I'll give you anything and everything you ask: pleasure, power, honor, wealth, freedom, even peace of mind and a good conscience. Nothing will be a sin; nothing will be forbidden; and nothing will be impossible for you. You will never be bored and you will never die. Only...you shall never see my face."

Did you notice that unspeakable chill in your deepest heart at those last words? Did your surface desires leap after the first part of God's deal and your deepest desire freeze in standstill shock at "you shall never see my face"? Your surface mind, which is in touch with your surface desires, may not admit it, but your deepest mind, which knows your deepest desires, knows it: you want God more than everything else in the world. Your heart too is restless until it rests in him.

- A. Why is it unreasonable to believe "Heaven" will involve a diminishing of pleasures for the Saints (Psa 16.11)?**

- B. Doesn't the NT frown upon "pleasures" (Luk 8.14; Tit 3.3; Jam 4.3)?**

- C. Have we imagined all that God has prepared for those who love Him (1Co 2.9-12)?**

D. Is our role as bride a present or only future reality (Joh 3.29; Rev 19.7)?

E. What does the bride do before the wedding (Rev 22.17)?

F. What longings will be fulfilled for the Bride in The Day of the Lord?

1. _____ : *to lose ourselves in the total enjoyment of another (Psa 16.11)*
2. _____ : *to fellowship with someone wholly admirable (2Th 1.10)*
3. _____ : *to be fully known, yet wholly desired (1Co 13.12; Sol 6.10)*
4. _____ : *to be like our lover, and suited to join Him in His plans (1Jo 3.2; Hos 2.16)*
5. _____ : *to know we are eternally in the heart and care of the perfect lover (Sol 8.6)*
6. _____ : *to see our children's children (Psa 128.6; Pro 17.6; Isa 59.21; Eze 37.25)*
7. _____ : *to know and fulfill what we were created for (Joh 17.4; Col 4.17; 2Ti 4.5)*

Responses to the Key Question: