

PTB2-18a: Day of the LORD, 1 of 3.

The Day of the LORD and Lord.

One Day authored and engineered by God Himself will eclipse every day on earth known by man, including the Creation of the earth in six days. Often the day in the Hebrew word is a period of time, and the probability in both the case of Creation and the One Day of the LORD and Lord is much longer than a 24-hour day. It is also very likely that this One day that ends everything on this old earth and the heavens, is one year. No one living on earth at this END can get out of this terminal participation, so it behooves all of us to know as much about it as possible. While the general saying is, everything is relative except death and taxes; well, to that we must add this One Day reserved as a great day of JUSTICE and RECOMPENCE and REWARD for the believers from God the Great Creator, Destroyer and Giver of Rewards. But you have to admit that He has for thousands of years been patient as creatures were hammering His own people, as He was by and large being ignored or rebelled against. But it is as good as done! God has declared it in His Word, and very often in many places in the Bible, Old Testament and New Testament, so that it can not be missed.

Primarily, the Day of the LORD as described in Isaiah 2 is to make things right. Things have been out of balance since original sin in the Garden of Eden, God has been patient, and in this One Day all in creation and creatures will be turned right side up.

1. Balance against the proud, lofty, and all those of status.

“For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low...

2. Entropy and the balance of all creation restored.

And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan, And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up,

3. Balance against all the constructions and creations of men.

**And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall,
And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures.**

4. Balance of who is exalted, God only over man that are lofty and haughty.

And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

5. All substitutes for worship and service are eliminated.

And the idols he shall utterly abolish.

And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.

14-1: Day of the LORD in Zechariah 14.

¹ Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.

² For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

³ Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

⁴ And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

⁵ And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.

⁶ And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark:

⁷ But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.

14-2: Day of the LORD in Revelation 8.

NOTE: How do we know this chapter is about the Day of the LORD, because consistently throughout the Bible from stem to stern, the diminishing of the light of the sun, moon, and stars as the climatic event, is of the Day of the LORD. It is one of the most consistent themes throughout the Word of God. While Scofield

mites can diminish the light of understanding on last things with their false theology of words literally not in the Bible even once, those of rapture, millennium, and dispensationalism, they can not diminish light on the often times in the Bible where the great and final Day of the LORD and Lord is characterized by the diminished light of the sun, moon, and stars. It is difficult, if not impossible, for them to tamper with those oft mentioned characteristics of that Day in the whole Bible.

¹ And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.

² And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.

³ And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

⁴ And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

⁵ And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

⁶ And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

⁷ The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.

⁸ And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood;

⁹ And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed.

¹⁰ And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters;

¹¹ And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.

¹² And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.

13 And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!

14-3: Day of the LORD in Amos and Isaiah.

(1). The Day of the LORD in Amos.

Amos as one of the early writing Prophets introduces this "day of the LORD", although you have to read it carefully in Amos 5:16-20 to know that it is talking about more than just the immediate and temporal judgment on Israel. You see that in the passage with the emphasis on darkness instead of light; and when you take the messages from all the Writing Prophets, Jesus, and the Apostles you know that at the end of the last days the sun, moon, and stars will turned into darkness.

(2). The Day of the LORD in Isaiah.

You see also this One Day of the LORD judgment in Isaiah; and once again there is the more immediate threat to Israel and Babylon, but here is clearer that the larger meaning is an end-time judgment.

"Howl ye; for the day of the LORD is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: and they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames." (Isaiah 12:68)

a. It doesn't say that it is a destruction from the Almighty God, but it says that it will come "as a destruction from the Almighty".

b. Seems like we have navy terminology here as it states that first in Babylon, and then later in the world "all hands" shall be faint.

c. The figurative language continues as it states as these events of judgment begin to unfold, that men's hearts shall melt. It seems that this can be both figurative and literal; for we know from the teachings of the Apostle Peter later that the earth shall be melted with a fervent heat.

d. Every man living on the earth during these end times will be afraid. Recall how Jesus said that men would cry for the rocks of the mountains to fall on them in order that they might be covered up.

e. Although there may be a time of prosperity and luxury now, it will be a time of pain and sorrow then!

f. Men and women will look at each other in amazement, like what are we going to do, what can we do.

g. Their faces will look like flames. I'm sure the blood pressure goes up with what men will see and hear and feel, and from the fervent heat the faces will literally break into flames.

"Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible." (Isaiah 13:9-11 KJV)

a. We read a lot in the Bible about the love and mercy of God; and part of that love and mercy is a warning through His Prophets and Apostles that there is an inevitable Judgment on sinners, evil doers, the iniquities of the wicked, the arrogancy of the proud, and the haughtiness of those in power and wealth. We read in Jonah about the patience and longsuffering of God toward the city of Nineveh; but here not only is coming judgement pronounced on the whole nation of Babylon, but also later at the end of time on the whole world.

b. Notice clearly this time that the sun, the moon, and the stars will cease to give their light. We should look at the same thing re-echoed from Jesus Himself many years later.

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her lights, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken..." (Matthew 24:29 KJV)

c. Notice that God looks ahead past the people of Babylon to the people far in the future near the end of time, telling what they will be like, and what it is about them that displeases him. Can this apply to the people of our nation?

[1]. God will punish the world for its evil. I am sure that Israel during prosperity and Babylon during prosperity and world domination thought they were getting away with evil, but mark these words, **GOD IS GOING TO PUNISH THE WORLD OF EVIL.** Wicked nations and wicked people will be held account- able for their iniquities.

[2]. The arrogancy of the proud will cease. I am sure that in Israel with prosperity and power, and more so in Babylon as a world ruler, the arrogancy of pride was increasing. I am also sure that the increase we are now witnessing.

in pride and arrogancy will continue to increase right up to the time that God says, "No more"; and it will cease!

[3]. God will lay low the haughtiness of the powerful. Those of status and wealth and position and power, especially those that take advantage of the poor, will be brought down from their high position to a low position.

2. God says through Amos for the leaders who live in the palaces of Israel and Egypt to look at the great mass of the oppressed poor people, and then to look in their own palaces where violence and robbery is stored up (Amos 39:1-)

14-4: The Day of the LORD in Joel.

There is an immediate Day of the LORD as immediate judgment is passed on Israel, an army from the LORD. (Joel 2:1-11)

There will be an immediate restoration of the people (Joel 2:18-27)

The last days will start on the First Day of Pentecost after the Ascension of Christ (Joel 2:28-32)

A Final Restoration of the Chosen of God, the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem; and the gathering of all nations for final Judgment (Joel 3:1-21).

(1). The reasons for Harsh Judgment with the nations (Joel 3:2,3).

For the sake of God's people and His heritage in Israel.

Because these nations have scattered His heritage in Israel among the nations.

Because these nations have divided up God's land.

Because these nations have cast lots for God's people.

They have made harlots out of the boys of Israel.

They have sold the girls for wine.

They act like they are trying to get even with God.

They have taken the silver and gold out of the house of God.

They have sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks.

(2). The Gathering of all Nations for Final Judgment. (Joel 3:9-12)
Prepare for war.

Gather all the nations in the valley of Jehoshaphat. There God will sit to judge all the nations round about (Joel 3:12)

Put in the sickle, the harvest is ripe, the wine press is full, and the vats are overflowing with great wickedness (Joel 3:13).

Multitudes are in the valley of decision since the day of the LORD is near: the sun and moon and stars are darkened (Joel 3:14,15)

The heavens and earth are shaken while at the same time God is a refuge to His people. (Joel 3:16)

The New Heaven (Joel 3:17-18).

14-5: Day of the LORD and Lord in Thessalonians.

As always in the Bible, the capitalized version of LORD refers to God the Father while the lower case with a first capital letter refers to the Lord Jesus Christ. You already know from our studies in I Corinthians 15 of how the Lord Jesus Christ at His Second Coming will establish reign over all on earth as in heaven, and then how He will deliver that kingdom of LORD God the Father in order that God the Father might be all in all. **{We should not have any problems with that in spite of our often neglect of this doctrine of the Bible, since Jesus Himself taught us to pray to God the Father as "Our Father which art in heaven..." and taught us that it would be through Him in that He would be after Ascension at the right hand of God the Father to ever make intercession for our sins.}**

1. Day of the LORD is mentioned in Joel 2 where: an alarm is to be sounded from God's holy mountain that all the inhabitants of the land might tremble, "for the day of the LORD is coming" (2:1), yea it is at hand **{you see quite often in the Prophets as here in Joel there is a more immediate day and a more distant day of the LORD, both have in common the elements of disaster, judgment, and punishment}.**

"A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness. Like the morning clouds spread over the mountains **{you know how there is often over the mountains an overcast of clouds in the early morning}.** A people come, great and strong, the like of whom has never been; nor will there ever be any such after them, even for many successive generations. **{It is obvious that right here the Day is the more immediate judgment day, a day of invasion from a foreign army.}** (Joel 2:2)

Yet it is obvious that the Day passes from the immediate to the more distant Day in Joel 2:10-11 for several reasons, the main one being that the common physical disasters of the Day of the LORD as found in both testaments are mentioned--alias, earthquakes, shaking of the heavens as well as the earth, and diminished light from the stars, sun, and moon.

However the LORD "gives a voice before His army" since His camp is very great, and strong is "the One" **{obviously the Lord Jesus Christ}** "who executes His word". Thus is apparent that in this Day of the LORD we have also the more clearly taught Day of the Lord Jesus Christ of the NT, although veiled somewhat in "The One": it also being obvious that God is about to rescue at the same end time, the army of His own large camp **{this reminds us of the camp of the saints near Jerusalem that God Himself through Christ intervenes to save, at the great battle of Armageddon.}**

"For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; who can endure it?" (Joel 2:11b)

2. We know of the famous quote by the Apostle Peter from Joel 2:28-32 given as an explanation of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost in which Peter not only establishes firmly **{that is Peter and the Prophet Joel and the Word of God}** the day of the LORD as "the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD" but also the beginning and end of the last days. (Acts 2:14-21)

(1). Peter clearly defines the beginning of the last days as that very day, marked by the coming of the Holy Spirit in special power and a special way. It is the same as the famous binding of Satan of the book of Revelation; and consequently the loosing of Satan after a figurative one thousand years, is when the Holy Spirit is withdrawn as we will look at more closely in II Thessalonians.

(2). There is a little difference in time between the end of the last days at the famous Day of the LORD and of the Lord, alias the second coming of Christ with subsequent judgment and punishment, and the time when the Holy Spirit is withdrawn from the earth. That short period of time is somewhere in the historic period of the Falling Away, also of II Thessalonians, perhaps approximately 40 years. The withdrawal of the Holy Spirit although made clear in II Thessalonians is somewhat veiled in Daniel as when "the power of the Holy people is completely shattered."

(3). On that first day of Pentecost after the Ascension of Jesus, you know how the Holy Spirit more democratically came on male and female, young and old, while in OT times it was more isolated like when the Spirit came on Samson and the other judges to meet certain specific problems.

(4). The period of the last days will be marked from beginning to end with the signs (a) in the earth beneath, (b) blood, (c) fire, and (d) vapor of smoke. Note that with any disaster you witness on TV there is those three elements of blood, fire, and vapor of smoke, whether God sends an earthquake, a hurricane, a tornado, or whatever natural disaster. It is all part of the continuous from beginning of the last days to the end of the last days "groaning of all creation like a woman in travail", often called as it comes to an end of the last days as not only a shaking of the earth as previously during the flood but also a shaking the last time of the heavens and the earth.

(5). Just before the coming of the great and awesome Day of the LORD and of the Lord, then the lights are diminished, of sun and moon and stars, the sun into darkness and the moon into blood.

(6). Now the good news is not only that the Holy Spirit will be there during most of these last days to restrain against the flood of sin and lawlessness, by convicting the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment--doing the same work that Jesus did when He was on earth except on a larger world-wide scale--but also it is a time of salvation for many", "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." (Acts 2:21 and Joel 2:32)

3. The Prophet Joel also in the context of Joel 2 and 3 having announced in 2:32 that plan of salvation as a "deliverance in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem", obviously the life, message, and death of Christ for salvation; also mentions how God will call only "a remnant" (2:32), and before that coming of the Messiah {it is veiled of course}, there will be the restoration of the Captives.

"For behold, in those days and at that time, when I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; and I will enter into judgment with them there..." (Joel 3:1,2a)

What is not apparent until you take it in the context of the whole Bible is that between the restoration of the captives and the gathering of all the nations for a great battle and judgment, alias the distant Day of the LORD, has a large gap of time in it that Revelation choses to describe figuratively as one thousand years. You see how it could have been if precise 2012 years, or 2007 years, or something similar; and you will recall how the one thousand years between the coming of the Spirit in power and the withdrawal of Spirit is not exactly the same one thousand years {long and indefinite or unidentified period of time} of the last days. We would estimate that there must be about 40 years at least of the Falling Away before the end of the last days, and the Second Coming, with some where during that Falling Away the withdrawal of the Holy Spirit from work on earth.

4. Again the final and distant Day of the LORD with typical describers is mentioned in Joel 3:14-16.

"Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will diminish their brightness. The LORD also will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; the heavens and the earth will shake; but the LORD will be a shelter for His people {for a complete description of "His people" at this time as Jews and Gentiles, the real Israel, the real Jews, the real children of Abraham and of God, the reader is referred to the book of Romans}, and the strength of the children of Israel." (Joel 3:14-16)