

JESUS CHRIST, THE GLORIOUS SON OF MAN

COREY STARK

I. WHAT ARE YOU BUILDING IN PREPARATION FOR THE COMING STORM?

A. In Luke 17 Jesus describes His return and the decades preceding being likened to the “days of Noah”. We must ask, “In what ways will it be like the days of Noah?” And, “How are we to respond in faith?”

Lk. 17:26 And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: 27 They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all... 30 Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

1. ***Global Corruption*** – The wickedness of man was great in his rebellion against God, as all the thoughts of his heart devised evil continually, corrupting his way and the earth itself through demonic interaction, murder, sexual immorality, and violence or theft (Gen. 6:11-13). These same evils will emerge again in fullness at the end of the age (Rev. 9:20-21; 17:6; 18:24; 19:2).

Rev. 9:20 But the rest of mankind... did not repent... that they should not worship demons... 21 And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

2. ***Divine Forewarning*** – A Divine forewarning was given to and proclaimed through the forerunner ministry (2 Pet. 2:5) of an unprecedented, future and imminent global shaking, while the Lord waits for an “ark of safety” to be prepared by and for the righteous (Hag. 2:6-9; Heb. 11:7; 1 Pet. 3:20).

Heb. 11:7 Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark... saving his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of righteousness...

3. ***Divine Blueprints*** – God gave “Divine blueprints” as instruction (Gen. 6:14-16) for all those with “ears to hear” to build an “ark of safety” that will prevail, not only through, but because of the unprecedented global shaking soon to come (1 Pet. 3:20). The shaking is for us not against us!

1 Pet. 3:20 When once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water [judgment separated and vindicated].

4. ***Universal Disregard*** – The multitudes continued “business as usual” until it was too late. There will be “scoffers” who are willfully ignorant of the truth (Zeph. 1:12-18; Lk. 17:27; 2 Pet. 3:1-13).

5. ***Sudden Judgment*** - The surprising and seemingly swift nature of God’s judgment “destroyed them all” (Gen. 6:7; Lk. 17:26). It will come as a comprehensive and impartial “snare” (Lk. 21:34-36).

Lk. 21:34 But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with... cares of this life, and that Day come unexpectedly. 35 For it will come as a snare on all who dwell on... the whole earth.

6. ***Delayed Wisdom*** - The wisdom of preparation is only apparent after it’s too late for the faithless. They all scoffed until the rain began and suddenly Noah became the wisest man on earth (Lk. 7:35).

B. The ***Church*** Jesus is building (Mt. 16:15-19) will emerge as a ***mature Bride*** (Rev. 19:7; 22:17), dwelling together according to the ***Sermon on the Mount*** (Mt. 5-7; Rev. 2-3), while eternally functioning as a “***kingdom of priests***” (1 Pet. 1:5, 9; Rev. 1:6; 5:10; 20:4; 22:5) in the ***Father’s House of Prayer*** for all ethnic groups (Isa. 56:7), according to the ***Tabernacle of David*** (Ps. 27:4; Am. 9:11-12; Acts 15:16-17).

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II. THE DIVINE BLUEPRINTS FOR A VICTORIOUS CHURCH THAT MOVES IN POWER!

A. The primary issue facing the early apostles responsible for establishing the ***foundation of the church*** was the truth of Jesus' identity. This is being emphasized again by the Holy Spirit, as He brings the end-time Church to her ***final*** and ***fullest*** expression in this age (Jn. 16:12; Eph. 2:19-22; 4:11-13; 5:27; Rev. 19:7).

Eph. 2:19 Now, therefore, you are... saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, JESUS CHRIST Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. (1 Pet. 2:4-8)

B. Mt. 16 was Jesus' first teaching and prophecy on the Church (Mt. 16:13-19). It's one of the most significant passages concerning its ***foundation***, how it would ***function***, and its ***sure victory***, centered on how the early leaders viewed Him (Mt. 16:15). The Spirit is asking the same question to believers today.

Mt. 16:13 Jesus... asked His disciples, "Who do MEN say that I, the Son of Man, am?"¹⁴ So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah..."

C. The people had many ***different views of Jesus' ministry*** and ***what He did for them*** even as today (v. 14).

1. John the Baptist: A holiness preacher with great dedication who fearlessly spoke the truth.
2. Elijah: A prophet, confronting the powers of darkness, having supernatural power over nature.
3. Jeremiah: The weeping prophet of compassion who tenderly cared for the people (Jn. 8)

D. Jesus then asks the question upon which the Church is built. Not ***what I do for you***, but ***who am I to you?***

Mt. 16:15 He said, "But who do YOU say that I am?"

E. ***A Church built on truth about Jesus (v. 16)***: The "Christ" means "the anointed one" or "the messiah." Peter wasn't saying, "You forgive sins." He was saying, "You are the ***full embodiment*** of ALL that the O.T. prophets have spoken about The One who is both ***fully God*** and ***fully man***" (Isa. 2; 9; 11; Dan. 7; Mic. 4-5).

Mt. 16:16 Simon Peter... said, "You are the CHRIST [the Messiah], the SON of the living God... Jesus answered... "Blessed are you... for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father..."

F. ***A victorious Church over darkness (v. 18)***: Only on the magnificent bedrock of truth, concerning who Jesus is as the "***Son of Man***" will the church openly prevail over the "gates" or authority of hell and drive it off the planet forever! The ***foundation*** of the "***victorious church***" that Jesus is building is more than ***what He does***, but ***who He is*** and an ongoing dynamic relationship with Him forever (Jn. 15:5). This includes victory over the darkness in the ***soul*** (mind, will, emotions) and ***body***, as well as, in ***every sphere*** of society.

Mt. 16:18 On THIS ROCK [of truth] I will build My church... the gates of Hades shall not prevail...

G. This answer determines the ***foundation*** (accuracy, depth, strength) upon which the church is built (Eph. 2:20). If we answer "in part", the church is only strong "in part." The reason the ***spiritual vibrancy*** and ***manifest power*** is so weak today is because the church isn't being built upon the ***full truth*** of who Jesus is!

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H. *A powerful Church* (v. 19): Jesus then gives them the way to this victory through intercession, which releases God's power to "bind" (stop) demonic influence and to "loose" (release) God's blessing in prayer.

Mt. 16:19 And I will give you the KEYS of the kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

I. Some focus on "**binding and loosing**" (v.19) without growing in the knowledge of who He is (v.16). This leads to **prayer w/out intimacy**, also called duty-based or needs-based prayer that produces "beat up" and "burned out" workers who are discouraged, disappointed and disconnected from Jesus' heart (Lk. 9:53-56).

Lk. 9:53 But they [Samaritans] did not receive Him [Jesus]... 54 And when James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?" 55 But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. 56 For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them."

J. Others emphasize "**victory over darkness**" (v. 18) without growing in the knowledge of who He is (v.16). This leads to **power w/out intimacy**, producing a ministry style of self-will, presumption and deception (Mt 7:21-23). The foolish virgins valued ministry over intimacy (Mt. 25). We "buy oil" by spending our time.

Mt. 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

K. Jesus emphasized the primary importance of **knowing Him**, as the Scriptures declare to realize the **full manifest victory** on a sure foundation that can withstand the coming shaking (Mt. 16:15-19; Jn. 7:38; Eph. 4:13). The Church will partner with Jesus, having a **vibrant spirit** (Dan. 11:32; Jn. 7:38; Eph. 3:16-19), being **victorious over darkness** (Mt. 16:18) and having **authority in intercession** (Mt. 16:19) to the degree we understand Jesus, as the "**Son of Man**" (Rev. 1:13; 14:14), who is both fully God and fully Man!

Jn. 7:38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.

Eph. 4:13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children...

L. In the greatest time of shaking, it is the people who **know their God** that will be strong (Dan. 11:32-33).

Dan. 11:32 The people who know their God shall be strong [vibrant in inner man], and carry out great exploits. 33 And those of the people who understand shall instruct many...

M. Jesus declared **His House** would be built with a people who intimately **know Him** as the Son of Man (Mt. 16:18). As we behold this "**revelation**" of Jesus Christ (Rev. 1:1) we are **transformed** into His image (2 Cor. 3:18), effortlessly producing **worship** (who He is), **intercession** (what He does) and **proclamation**

Isa. 56:7 For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations. (Isa. 56:7; Mt. 21:13; Mk. 11:17; Lk. 19:46)

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IV. THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST - THE GLORIOUS SON OF MAN (REV. 1:1)

A. The book of Revelation is about the **glory of a Man**, the **wisdom of His plan**, and the **power of His hand!** In Rev. 1 Jesus is revealed, as the **“Son of Man”**, highlighting **52 distinct aspects** of His majesty, strategically given in **14 titles**, **10 attributes** and **28 descriptions**, giving us the **clearest picture of who Jesus is**. As it takes time for eyes to adjust in a dark room, we see more detail as we gaze upon these truths.

B. These **52 distinct aspects of Jesus’ majesty** are merely hints that “whisper” of the infinite Person of the eternal God, increasing according to our hunger for more (Mt. 5:6). Each facet is only the **tip of a massive iceberg of truth** that the Holy Spirit will use to guide us into the deeper things of God (1 Cor. 2:9-12).

C. **Titles (14):** Jesus (Rev. 1:1, 2, 4, 9 x2); Christ (Rev. 1:1, 2, 4, 9 x2); Faithful Witness (Rev. 1:4); Firstborn from the Dead (Rev. 1:4); Ruler over the Kings of the Earth (Rev. 1:4); Him Who Loved Us (Rev. 1:5); Lord (Rev. 1:10); Alpha (Rev. 1:11); Omega (Rev. 1:11); First (Rev. 1:11, 17); Last (Rev. 1:11; 17); Son of Man (Rev. 1:13); He who Lives and was Dead (Rev. 1:18); Alive Forevermore (Rev. 1:18).

D. **Attributes (10):** Blood washed us from sin (Rev. 1:5); Voice like a trumpet, as many waters (Rev. 1:10, 12, 15); Feet like fine brass (Rev. 1:13, 15, 17); Chest with golden band (Rev. 1:13); Head white like wool (Rev. 1:14); Hair white as snow (Rev. 1:14); Eyes like flame of fire (Rev. 1:14); Right Hand (Rev. 1:16, 17, 20); Mouth with sharp two-edged sword (Rev. 1:16); Countenance like sun shining in strength (Rev. 1:16).

E. **Descriptions (28):** His revelation (Rev. 1:1); His servants (Rev. 1:1 x2); He sent and signified (Rev. 1:1; 11); His angels (Rev. 1:1); His testimony (Rev. 1:2, 9); He loved us (Rev. 1:5); He washed us from our sins in His own blood (Rev. 1:5); He made us kings and priests (Rev. 1:6); His God (Rev. 1:6); His Father (Rev. 1:6); He is coming with clouds (Rev. 1:7); Every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him (Rev. 1:7); All the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him (Rev. 1:7); His tribulation (Rev. 1:9); His kingdom (Rev. 1:9); His patience (Rev. 1:9); His Day (Rev. 1:10); His appearance behind John (Rev. 1:10); He commissions to write and send (Rev. 1:11, 19); He’s in the midst of the seven lampstands (Rev. 1:13); He’s clothed with a garment down to the feet (Rev. 1:13); He’s girded about the chest with a golden band (Rev. 1:13); He holds the seven stars in His right hand (Rev. 1:16, 20); Out of His mouth goes a sharp two-edged sword (Rev. 1:16); His appearance is deathly terrifying (Rev. 1:17); He laid His right hand saying “Do not be afraid” (Rev. 1:17); He has the keys of Hell and Death (Rev. 1:18); He reveals mysteries (Rev. 1:20).

F. As in Noah’s day (Lk. 17:26), **knowing Jesus** will be an **“A.R.K. of Safety”** in the coming storm!

1. **Agreement: make declarations of agreement** to Jesus about who He is (titles), what He’s like (attributes, authority, appearance, apparel) and what He feels, says or does (emotions, actions, words).

- a. **“You are...** the Faithful Witness, the Firstborn from the Dead, Ruler over the Kings,” etc.
- b. **“You have...** eyes like a flame of fire, a sharp two-edged sword, the keys of Hell and Death,” etc.
- c. **“You do...** hold the seven stars in Your right hand, dwell in the midst of the churches,” etc.

2. **Revelation: pray for increased revelation** of these specific aspects of Jesus majesty. For example, “Reveal Yourself to me as the Faithful Witness. Show me why Your eyes are like fire,” etc.

3. **Keep the Prophecy: commit to respond** in loving faith and obedience to these specific truths, **ask for strength** to walk them out in the face of resisting temptation or enduring persecution and ask Jesus to **empower us** to reveal these aspects of Himself in our lives and ministries.