

The Jesus Trip, Jesus Is Coming Back

By: D. Karl Thomas

We Begin with Two Trees We Finish With One Tree — Banished from the Tree of Life ... Given access to the tree of life.

Genesis 3:4 *“Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’”*

“Original sin” was eating from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. The sin of pursuing LIFE (our identity, worth, significance and security) for ourselves. An attempt to know what only God can rightly know.”

Satan’s challenge to Adam and Eve was, don’t you want to be Godly, knowing right and wrong?

The fruit of self was introduced to mankind. **INDEPENDENCE**

We have the ability to now determine what is right and wrong. We will self govern! **MORALISM**

Moralism:— the belief that the Gospel can be reduced to improvements in behaviour.

Galatians 2:21 **“I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”**

Morgan Guyton “So we should not be pursuing the knowledge of good and evil when we read the Bible; that’s eating the same fruit that Adam and Eve ate. Instead we should be reading the Bible to discover the love of God that makes us more loving.

Sadly, too many Christians want knowledge rather than love because knowledge gives us a feeling of power. It makes us think we can be like God, exactly what the serpent tricked Eve into believing.

But knowledge itself, even perfect knowledge of good and evil, has no power to make us like God at all. It is love that makes us like God, and only God can be the origin of love; we can only be its recipients and conduits.

Revelation 1:1-2 *“This is a revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants the events that must soon take place. He sent an angel to present this revelation to his servant John, who faithfully reported everything he saw. This is his report of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.”*

Revelation Of Jesus Christ — Written to common people in a way that they would understand in their day.

Not Jesus in the manner of the Gospels. Jesus as risen Lord with direct instructions.

Revelation Brief Chapter Outline:

1-3 Intro And Letters To Churches

4-5 God’s Throne Room

6-8 Seals To Reveal

9-11 Trumpets To Warn

12-14:5 Spiritual Battle Won

14:6-18 Bowls Of Wrath

19-20 Jesus Victory And Reign

21-22 New Heaven And Earth

Seven real churches being encouraged because of persecution and false teachings.

Ephesus: Working hard but forgot about simply resting in My love

Revelation 2:5 “*Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first.*”

Laodicea: The Self-Righteous

Revelation 3:15,19 “*But since you are like lukewarm water, neither hot nor cold, (MIXTURE) I will spit you out of my mouth! ... I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference.*”

I'm fine. I am self-sufficient. **People who didn't see their hopelessness with out Christ ... thought they were OK**

John 6:37 “*All that My Father gives Me will come to Me; and the one who comes to Me **I will most certainly not cast out** [I will never, never reject anyone who follows Me].*”

Two Witnesses Revelation 11:3-12

70 AD Jerusalem was brutally and thoroughly destroyed. — 3 1/2 Year battle. 1260 Days

It could only experience this type of destruction by two witnesses. **THE LAW**

Who were the witnesses?: **Moses and Elijah** — Law and Prophets **The Law - Old Covenant.**

Jesus warned of this destruction in the Olivet Discourse in Matthew 24.

Church history tells us that it is believed not one Christian was in Jerusalem at the time of its destruction.

Eusebius “...the royal city of the Jews and the whole land of Judea were entirely of holy men.”

Antichrist: Does not appear in the book of Revelation.

Appears 4x's in John's Epistles. 1 John 2:18, 22, 4:3, 2 John 1:7

All references to any deceiving spirit that does not recognize Jesus as the Christ and coming in the flesh.

“Fear -based eschatology is dangerous. It binds the free and makes the church look foolish. Worse, it destroys the gospel and portrays God as something other than our heavenly Father who loves us.”

Paul Ellis —AD 70 And The End Of The World (Page 9)

This We Are Convinced Of: JESUS IS COMING AGAIN!!!

Revelation 22:7 “*Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.*”

Prophecies of the second coming out number those of the incarnation 8-1. 1845

260 chapters in the New Testament and the second coming is mentioned 318x's. 1 in 30 verses.

Before the King of Glory comes the manifest Glory of the King will fill all the earth.

Habakkuk 2:14 “*For the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, As the waters cover the sea.*”

Isaiah 40:5 “*The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.*”

Isaiah 2:2 (Micah 4:1) “*Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it.*”

How Will He Come?

A. In Person Acts 1:11 “*This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.*”

B. Publicly In Power And Glory **Matthew 24:30-31** "...and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

C. Suddenly **Matthew 24:44** "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

When Will He Come?

A. No One Knows **Matthew 24:36** "However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows."

B. A Long Time **Matthew 25:19** "After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them."

C. Not Until: 1. Decay Of World Systems 2. His Kingdom Has Influence

Haggai 2:6-9 "For thus says the Lord of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory, ... 'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,..."

D. Observe The Signs **Mt. 24:37-39** "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be." **WHAT SIGNS?**

What Should I Do Now?

Be A Faithful Servant, Witness and Colaborer

Luke 19:13 "And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come." (KJV)

1 John 3:1-3 "...when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure."

2 Peter 3:11-12 "You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming."

Revelation 22:1-2, 17, 21 "Then the angel showed me a river with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. It flowed down the center of the main street. **On each side of the river grew a tree of life,...**"

"The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' Let anyone who hears this say, 'Come.' Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life ... May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's holy people."