Bro. Jim Brown's last sermon
The Coming of Christ

1 Thessalonians 5:1-8 (1) But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.
(2) For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.
(3) For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.
(4) But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.
(5) Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.
(6) Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.
(7) For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.
(8) But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.
An unrepentant and wicked world will be sunk in carnal security when He comes again. They will regard themselves as safe. They will see no danger. They will give no heed to warning. They will be unprepared for His advent. So it has always been, it seems, to be a universal truth in regard to all the visitations of God to wicked people for punishment, that He comes upon them at a time when they are not expecting Him, and that they have no faith in the predictions of His advent. So it was in the time of the flood; the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, and of Jerusalem; so it is when the sinner dies, and so it will be when the Lord Jesus shall return to judge the world. One of the most remarkable facts about the history of man is, that he takes no warning from his Maker;
2Peter 3:1-4 (1) This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:
(2) That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

(3) Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,
(4) And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.
Before Christ makes His second advent, there shall come - scoffers - persons who shall endeavor to turn all religion into ridicule, as this is the most likely way to minimize truth in the sight of the multitude. All things continue as they were; what bearing should all this, after 2000+ years of delay, have on our thought about Christ's coming? Should we abandon hope? NEVER! At least His coming is 2000+ years nearer than it was. The Church has been hindered by destructive heresies, covetousness, pernicious ways, corruption, and these expressions are used as referring to false teachers arising from within the Church itself. The scoffers, having no solid argument to produce against revelation, endeavor to make a comedy of some parts, for instance - the creation, the world wide flood of Noah's day, the promise of Christ's second coming; and then to laugh at it, and get superficial thinkers to laugh with them. Such as would make a mock at sin, make light of it, plead for it, openly commit it, and glory in it; and scoff at all religion as prejudice of education and individual rights. Such it is today, God thrown out of education, marriage laws changed to accommodate men with men and women with women walking after their own lust, - science falsely so called scoff at religion as a fable, has penetrated education at all levels, as well as commerce, government and news reporting. This has all come about in the last 150 years in the wake of Darwinism, even penetrating mainstream religion; On October 23, 1996, Pope John Paul II announced to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences that evolution was "more than a hypothesis," and sanctioned its study and teaching, as long as it was theistic evolution. *This is only one example at twisting the word of God in an attempt to conform it to Godless evolution. Darwinian evolution is a tremendous fabrication out of the mind of man, in an attempt to discount special creation, deify science and ridicule the promise of His coming. But come He shall;*
1Thessalonians 4:15-17 (15) For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of

the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.
(16) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
(17) Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
The following description of the Lord's descent from heaven is intended to emphasize the fact, that the reunion of dead and living believers will be accomplished by the Lord in person. When the dead in Christ are raised, their vile bodies being made like unto his glorious body, then, those who are alive shall be changed, and made immortal. The eternal states of quick and dead being thus determined, then all who shall be found to have made a covenant with him by faithful obedience, and to have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb, shall be taken to His eternal glory, and be forever with the Lord. What an inexpressibly terrific glory will then be exhibited! Bro. Jim said, "I cannot predict when the Lord is coming, but consider this";
(1) What will cause Him to come?
Why did God destroy the world with water? And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually (Genesis 6:5). *However, further study reveals that Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord and did all God commanded him. Noah was given a blue print of the ark and he built it in exact detail. Jesus died to purchase His Church, we have the blue print but not many go by it. Further study of reveals that;* The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence (Genesis 6:11). *Would you say the world is filled with violence and corruption today? God's past judgment is but a shadow;*
Genesis 18:20-23 (20) And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;
(21) I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.
(22) And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward

Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.
(23) And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?
Why did God destroy Sodom and Gomorrah? It was because of wickedness. What was this wickedness?
Genesis 19:4-8 (4) But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:
(5) And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may **know** them.
(6) And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him,
(7) And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.
(8) Behold now, I have two daughters which have not **known** man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.
*Bring them out unto us, that we may **know** them;*
not who they were, and from whence they came, and what their business was; nor did they pretend anything of this kind to hide and cover their design from Lot, but they were open and impudent, and declared their sin without shame. Their meaning was, that they might commit that unnatural sin with them, which they were addicted to, and in common used, and which from them to this day bears the name of Sodomy. Lawful mating of a husband and his wife is modestly expressed by "knowing her", (Genesis 4:1); so this unlawful, shocking and disgusting state of 'man with man' is expressed by this phrase; and that sodomy was their meaning is plain from Lot's answer to them, and that was their wickedness.
Just after midnight, October 21 2013, New Jersey became the fourteenth state to allow same-sex couples to marry with Senate-elect Corey Booker (Democrat) presiding over the first unions in Newark. When Booker asked if anyone objected to the marriage of the night's first gay couple -- a protester yelled that the marriages were "unlawful in the eyes of God and Jesus Christ," the Associated Press reported. The protester was then removed, as Booker continued the ceremony, saying he was not, "hearing any

substantive and worthy objections." Woe unto them that call good evil and evil good (Isaiah 5:20). *Concerning Adam and Eve;* And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth (Genesis 1:28). *Men knowing men cannot propagate the species, nor can two women. In the strict sense of language, two people of the same sex cannot consummate a marriage. God has reserved marriage as between a man and a woman, to whom, each was given a unique capability to consummate a marriage. Homosexuality was one of the great sins of Sodom and Gomorrah, they were unbelieving and disobedient, stiff-necked and stubbornly resistant to moral influence, who despised faith and incurred destruction through their own sins. Would you say the present time is similar to Sodom and Gomorrah?*
Romans 1:26-28 (26) For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:
(27) And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.
(28) And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;
(2) When is He coming?
Matthew 24:36-39 (36) But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.
(37) But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
(38) For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,
(39) And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
They were not satisfied, they wanted to know when shall these things be? and what sign will there be when these things shall come to pass? It is difficult to separate all the answers, and one answer may have bearing on more than one question. Preparing for

Christ's second coming, it is foretold that there shall be a great change, in order to the making of all things new, the destruction of the temple signifying forever the end of the Mosaic law was certainly part of the final change. At his first coming, he was set for a sign that should be spoken against, but at his second coming, a sign that should be admired. His prophecy reaches to the day of final judgment; Men of the world scheme and plan for generation upon generation here, but they plan not with reference to the overwhelming, approaching, and most certain event of Christ's second coming, which shall do away every human scheme, and set aside forever all that God forbids. That will be as surprising a day, as the flood to the old world or the destruction of the temple. The one remaining surprise is the second coming of Christ. People have predicted His coming for ages gone by without success. Why?
Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. (Mat 24:44).

(3) Coming for what?

Matthew 25:31-40 (31) When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:
(32) And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:
(33) And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.
(34) Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:
(35) For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:
(36) Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.
(37) Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?
(38) When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?
(39) Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?
(40) And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto

you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.
The inheritance is for the children of the family - if children, then heirs, (Galatians 4:7), but not otherwise. The children shall enjoy the father's estate. The kingdom of glory is designed for such as have received the blessing of the Father, and were holy, harmless, undefiled, and separated from sinners. All nations will be gathered before him, waiting for the final sentence to be pronounced upon them by Him; and begins with those on his right hand, His sheep, the chosen, the redeemed, and called of God, saying to them, come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.
(4) What will we be judged by?
Revelation 20:11-15 (11) And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.
(12) And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.
(13) And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.
(14) And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
(15) And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.
John saw not only the general books opened containing the records of the deeds of people, but that he had a distinct view of the list or roll of those who were the followers of the Lamb. It would seem that in regard to the multitudes of the impenitent and the wicked, the judgment will proceed "on their deeds" in general; in regard to the righteous, it will turn on the fact that their names had been enrolled in the book of life. That will be sufficient to determine the nature of the sentence that is to be passed on them. He will be safe whose name is found in the book of life; no one will be safe who is to have his eternal destiny determined by his own deeds;
For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good

works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them (Eph 2:10). *Judged according to the works which God hath ordained - And according to their faith also, for their works would be the proof whether their faith were true; because faith only without works is dead; death and hell shall be cast into the lake of fire.*

(5) What will be the sign of His coming?

1Thessalonians 5:1-3 (1) But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.
(2) For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.
(3) For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

As a thief in the night - Suddenly and unexpectedly, as a robber breaks into a dwelling. A thief comes without giving any warning, or any indications of his approach. He not only gives none, but he is careful that none shall be given. In this way the Lord Jesus will return to judgment; and this proves that all the attempts to determine the time when he will come, must be false. The sign of the thief will prove to be to late if unprepared, the time for preparation is now! Another sign is; the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: (1Thessalonians 4:16).

The United Nations is mans attempt at peace and safety, but it has not worked. Peace and safety - That is, when the wicked shall say this, for the Apostle here refers only to those on whom "sudden destruction" will come. In regard to the destruction here referred to, we may remark:

(1) it will be after the return of the Lord Jesus to judgment; and hence it is not true that the wicked experience all the punishment which they ever will in this present life;

(2) that it seems fairly implied that the destruction which they will then suffer will not be annihilation, but will be connected with conscious existence; and,

(3) that they will then be cut off from life and hope and salvation, quite frankly because they were not doers of the word. They had not faith to, believe, repent, confess and be baptized, or they had fallen from grace.

(6) How is He coming?

Acts 1:9-11 (9) And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.
(10) And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;
(11) Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.
When they saw Him received by a cloud, they could not doubt that he had ascended into heaven, and that God approved his work, and would carry it forward. This event was exceedingly important:
(1) It was a confirmation of the truth of the Christian religion.
(2) It enabled the apostles to state distinctly where the Lord Jesus was, and at once directed their affections and their thoughts away from the earth, and opened their eyes on the glory of the scheme of religion they were to establish. If their Saviour was in heaven, it settled the question about the nature of His kingdom. It was clear that it was not designed to be a temporal kingdom.

(7) Will we be able to visit our loved ones?

Revelation 21:1-4 (1) And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.
(2) And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
(3) And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.
(4) And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.
The former state of things when sin and death reigned will be changed, and the change subsequent on this must extend to everything, even to the most intimate relationship of this life, that of husband and wife. For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven (Mark 12:25). *Under the former heaven, and*

upon the former earth, there was death and sorrow, crying and pain; all which occasioned many tears: but now pain and sorrow are fled away, and the saints have everlasting life and joy. Where were the joy if the former things had not fled away?

(8) The good news is: we all can be ready!

Matthew 11:28-30 (28) Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
(29) Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
(30) For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Jesus has provided a way that we can meet Him in peace. He built His Church (Matthew 13:16), into which anyone can be added when obedient to His word.

Acts 2:40-41 (40) And with many other words he besought and exhorted them, saying, Save yourselves from this (froward) generation.
(41) Then they that received his word, were baptized, and the same day there were added to the Church about three thousand souls. (1599 Geneva Bible)

This is that solid foundation. Do you have faith that is the effect of belief, if so, come and by faith repent, confess Jesus Christ and be baptized by authority of Jesus Christ for remission of sin and you will be added to the Church. Or if one needs prayer, come.

This message approved by
Jack Warford
a minister for Christ

Study Aids; Does It Help To Compromise With Evolution? by John D. Morris, Ph.D. ICR
Clarke's Commentary on the Bible
Gill's Exposition of the Entire Bible

This message presented to; WestvilleOk-April 2017/ PleasentViewOk-April 2017/PineMtAr-April2017/