

2026

2026... Could this be the year when Jesus returns????!!! Who knows????!!! No one really knows...no one except Father, God. Jesus is always ready to return and the Holy Spirit is continually preparing His people upon this earth for the second coming. We see things are

happening all over this earth that would make us stop and think that time is getting shorter and shorter and Jesus' coming is getting nearer and nearer.

However, as we said, no one knows the exact time when Jesus will return. No one that is except the Father. The scriptures are very clear in letting us know that the Father is the only one who knows when Jesus will be told to return to this earth. Jesus will come and defeat the forces of darkness and begin His millennial (1000 year) rule and reign upon this earth.

No one else can really tell when this will all take place. Yes, we can see things happening upon the earth that may seem as though they are pointing to end of the ages...but let's face it, people have been thinking that since the day that Jesus left this earth forty days after His resurrection. The Holy Spirit then was given to the Body of Christ to aide us in our walk with our God. He was given to help us in telling others about salvation in and through Jesus.

If we read Acts 20:40-47, we read that the early believers were mistakenly under the thinking that Jesus was coming back then, maybe in a few days or at the most, in a few months. This was just after Jesus literally died, resurrected and then after forty days, returned to heaven. It was just after the Holy Spirit was given. The believers sold everything they had the thinking that they would not need anything anymore. Unfortunately, they were mistaken. Their hearts were in the right place. Hey, they wanted to be Jesus and they wanted to be with the Father!!!

However, as we all know, that day was prophesied to come, when the Messiah, the Son of God, Jesus would one day return and destroy the forces of darkness upon this earth and then He will rule for 1000 years before the finale truly happens – the Great White Throne Judgment will come. True believers will be judged, not for what they did but for whose they are... they are children of the most high God only through their belief and acceptance in blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus.

That true finale is when heaven and this earth will pass away and the New Jerusalem will come forth. The true believers, the true children of God, will then joyfully be able to enter into that “New Jerusalem” and be with their God – the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. All others will be judged for their not accepting of that blood that Jesus shed for them. They will then all be cast into the “Lake of Fire” for eternity.

Yes, no one but the Father knows when that time will come. However, all mankind has been warned by God that “that day” will eventually come. The question is, will they hear the Good News and believe or will they reject the Good News of salvation that comes only through Jesus? Many, we know, will unfortunately choose not to believe.

Some will hear the Good News and believe... but then fall under the relentless persecution that will come because they chose to accept Jesus. Will they walk away from Him? Many will hear the Good News and believe... but then the cares of this world will begin to control them. Will they ultimately turn and fall away from their acceptance of the King of kings and Lord of lords?

Or, will many hear the Good News and stand strong and bring forth much fruit – 30, 60 or 100 fold fruit, no matter what comes their way? The scriptures are very clear in this. As we know, all of the above scenarios are told to us by Jesus in the “Parable of the Sower” as found in Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

Only those who will truly believe and then be truly changed by having their spirit, which was once dead to God, be totally changed and made alive, a “born again spirit,” and brought back into true relationship with their Father, God. We must remember that it must be a total lifestyle change and it is not a “one time” thought. It must be a life long and heart changing decision!!!

This doesn't mean that the true believers are perfect. However, it means that they now have a brand new “born again spirit.” They must truly desire to now change their soul, their lifestyle, their behavior patterns, to line up with those that are of God's lifestyle behavior patterns.

This is the process for all true believers in Jesus. Remember, in and through Jesus you are now a totally new creature, a new species of being that is now **in Christ!!** We must choose to live out that lifestyle. We do this by reading His Word and yielding our lives to that Word.

That is what the Father is truly seeking after. Yes, He has given us His Word to let us be aware that the end times will be coming. However, God is very discreet in letting His people know when the exact time of Jesus' return will be. That is something we will never know until it happens. Not even Jesus knows. Not even the Holy Spirit knows. No one, but the Father!!!

If we are truly honest and if we truly look into "church history," we will see that in every century there has been some one or a group of people that have "seen" the signs of their times and have thought the end was imminent in their lifetime. However, as we know, they have all been incorrect. Not that some were very legitimate believers. They had their focus on when the "the end times" were to come but they lacked in their understanding of what the true believer should be doing until Jesus does comes.

Yes, the end times will take place. Everything that the Bible tells us will happen will indeed take place. However, the only thing that we are actually never given is the exact time of when the end times will come and when Jesus will actually come. Instead, we are told of those things but we also are emphatically encouraged to do some other things instead of contemplating and just waiting for when the "end time" will come.

What I am referring to is that, yes, the Bible and God are very clear that the end of time will indeed take place. However, if we really look, we will see that this is all that God really tells His people – the "end time" will indeed come!!! When? We do not know!!! But...there are more important things for us to do!!! Hmmm.... Let's see.....

What God really encourages His people in is not so much as to when the end times will come, but rather, He encourages us, throughout the New Testament, is how we should be prepared and ready and what we should be doing all of the time and not just waiting for the "end times." What I am referring to is our lifestyles. Praise God, our spirit is born again. However, the scriptures are clear we must get our souls lined up with living the way God wants us to live on this earth until Jesus comes. We must be doing the things in which God desires us to do.

First, of course, He desires for each of His true believers to worship Him in spirit (to live our new “born again” lives in and with the Holy Spirit leading and guiding us) and in truth (be living out His Word as found in the entirety of the scriptures). This is the primary thing for each and every believer.

The main purpose for living our lives in “spirit and truth” is to live our lives the way God desires for us to live. We must continually renew our minds to now think and see things the way God thinks and sees things. I don’t mean politically or culturally, but rather spiritually. This is done through the power of the Holy Spirit and by reading, studying and applying His truth, God’s Word. Remember, we are to be His ambassadors, His representatives, first and foremost.

We must live our lives so that others would see our “Christlike” lifestyle and it would make them desire it and cause them to accept that lifestyle, the lifestyle that Jesus taught, for themselves. Remember, Jesus was never political or cultural. He was **real** and that is what the people saw. They recognized the difference. This is difficult. Hey, if we look at the apostle Paul, after his salvation he went away over 8 years to set and get his mind straight. Hmmm....

This truly happens only through truly making and allowing Jesus to be our personal Savior and Lord. That is what we need to tell and bring to others. We need to bring them to the place where they choose to make Jesus their Savior (save them from the grips of hell) and their personal Lord (to be the absolute, supreme and final authority in their own personal life). This is what we, as children of God, are required to do – bring others to come to Jesus.

We must grasp the fact and understand that the main purpose of our life now in Christ, is not just to reap all the benefits of being a child of God – which are unfathomable – but rather our main purpose is to witness and tell others about salvation in and through Jesus. This happens through our lifestyle and also sometimes by the words we speak. It is called “evangelism.”

We do this so that others could also be saved and then they can have a relationship with God and also have those unfathomable riches. However, we must teach them that they then are to go and tell others about Jesus. And that cycle is to continue until Jesus returns.

Romans 10:14-18 tells us, *“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!’ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, ‘LORD, who has believed our report?’ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”* (Isaiah 52:7; Nahum 1:15; Isaiah 53:1; Psalm 19:4)

This is a very important aspect of being a child of God. We must tell others about the Good News of salvation in and through Jesus. How will they hear about Jesus unless we tell them? How did you hear about the Good News of Jesus? Didn't someone tell you? Didn't you hear it somewhere?

We sometimes forget but we must remember that the greatest commandment there is according to Jesus and as found in the scriptures is, *“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.”* (Deuteronomy 6:5, Matthew 22:37) However, Jesus tells us that the second is **just as important as the first**. Jesus tells us Matthew 22:39, *“And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”*

In other words these two commandments are, in essence, the same. We must love the Lord our God **and** we must love others. To love God is to love your neighbor. If you truly love your neighbor, than you are truly loving your God. They are connected. You cannot truly have one without the other. If you love your neighbor you should desire for them to come to know Jesus.

You cannot say that you love God if you do not, at the same time, love those that are around you. Likewise, you cannot say that you truly love all man if you do not love the Lord our God. Wow!!! That can be difficult. No one said being a child of God was going to be easy. Hmmm.....

This is what our God is truly desiring His people to be like. Just as Jesus loved all those He came in contact with, He also loved those that He did not come in contact with. When He died, He died for the sins of **all men and women** – not just for those he came in contact with in Israel or even just for those who believed in who He was at that time.

No, He died for ALL – those who believed in God’s promise of a Messiah even before He came upon this earth; He came and died for all those who were on this earth at the time of His first coming upon this earth; He died for all of those who came after His lifetime here on this earth; He came for those who are even now living upon this earth; and... He came for all those that will come to this earth until Jesus comes again!!! They all just needed to and still need to believe God’s Word and His promises that are found in and through Jesus.

That is the Good News for 2026!!! The Gospel of Jesus is the “Good News” in any and every year that came, is and will come!!! The Gospel of Jesus is the “Good News” because it contains the wonderful message of God’s love and the power of His redemption of sinful humanity, you and I, through the death, punishment in hell and, most importantly, the resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. This is the heart, the central core of our faith. We must never forget that!!! And... He is coming back!!!

The English word for “gospel” comes from the Anglo-Saxon term “*godspell*,” which literally means “glad tidings.” It is translated from the Greek word “*evangelion*,” which means “good message.” Originally, that word was related to news of military triumph. However, believers in Jesus used it to refer to victory over the forces of darkness and the sting of eternal death. This meant that “new life” was available. You are now victorious over eternal death. You have eternal life through Jesus. We must now go and spread that “Good News.”

The gospel or the “Good News” of Jesus Christ, is the greatest love story that was ever truly exhibited by anyone in all of creation itself. We read this in John 15:13 as it tells us, “*Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*” Jesus laid down His life for all mankind. He chooses to call us His friends. All we need to do is accept it.

Our Father, God promises each of us this very thing through His Son, Jesus Christ.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him” - John 3:16,17

Have a blessed 2026!!!

Go tell someone about the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ!!

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