

Parson to Person
1 Corinthians 15
(The Resurrection) – Part 22
(The Transition)

“Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire” (Revelation 20:7–15).

With each dispensational change there is a transitional period. Some of the transitions are brief and others lengthy—ranging in duration.

After the 1000-years there will be a transitional period which we believe will be fairly brief. However, the transition will include Satan’s release from his prison (for a short season—wherein he will successfully work at deceiving many from the nations); Satan’s

deceptive last effort of rebellion against the Lord; a climactic final war (inspired by those who rise up against the Lord through Satan's deceit); God's divine intervention and fiery judgment on all of them; Satan's final judgment—when being cast into the lake of fire; the Sheep and Goat Judgment of the people from the surviving nations; the Great White Throne Judgment; and finally, death and hell are cast into the lake of fire in preparation for a New Heaven and New Earth.

As we continue to look at these end-time attributes, it is important to note that all we are studying is intended to equip you in the knowledge of future events—therefore offering hope.

The world is in upheaval and Satan is working hard to deceive. You know this! Sadly, many believers are falling into his lies—and thus the expression, “The nature of deception is that fact that you don't know you're deceived—believing a lie.”

One of my recent concerns is the present deception many are falling into over the present political distress. Satan has successfully broken through the needed bulwarks of the Republican National Convention to the degree that two of the four major areas have been breached: marriage and life.

On life, the recent declarations of President Trump (who verbally stated his support for abortion—the murder of a human baby, if the child [a gift from God] was conceived through rape and/or incest), and his open endorsement of the abortifacient pill (as “decided” to be lawful, safe, and effective, by the United States Supreme Court—who recently overturned *Roe v. Wade*). What hypocrisy!

This endorsement has led to millions of children being sacrificed on the altars of self—and has degraded many believers by inspiring a deep fall into the trap of compromise in order to “save the nation.” However, we will never save the nation through compromise and disobedience to the Lord.

In Genesis we read, *“Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it”* (Genesis 1:28).

Concerning marriage, the RNC (Republican National Convention) degraded the platform by diminishing the critically required standards of marriage between one man and one woman—which also provides fruitful procreation. No longer does the RNC condemn same-sex marriage. My friends, what is next?

Please allow me to elaborate from more of the foundational Genesis text: *“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”* (Genesis 1:27).

Matthew recorded Jesus saying, *“Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let not man separate”* (Matthew 19:4–6).

Herein Jesus reinforced the union of one man and one woman, and that as a lifelong commitment.

These two arenas of Satan’s four-pronged target will seriously advance his temporary “claim” of victory. The other two remaining spokes, Israel and the Church, have already been compromised. Present-day Israel supports abortion and hosts Tel Aviv as the gay capitol of the world. The modern Church/church is falling headlong into “woke” worldviews over and against the well-defined biblical standards we must uphold. Why? For votes? For people in the pews? For money? God help us!

If the American Church does not wake up to the deception of Satan, and should we compromise with the enemy over political

passion—we are finished as a nation. Sorry, it is already too late. We will suffer judgment!

Therefore, my hope is that you learn the Scriptures, believe the truth, and remain “salt and light” in the face of the present decay. We have a stewardship here in America.

All the things we are studying are intended to encourage you. Know the truth! Believe the truth! Defend the truth! Find the encouragement you need—within the pages and in the Lord. These end-time (eschatological) truths are tools you need in order to “*contend earnestly for the faith*” (Jude 3).

We are a people of hope! We are the people of truth! Know it, embrace it, proclaim it!

The days are coming, and are now upon us, wherein we must say, “*And the Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely*” (Revelation 22:17).

I love you all,
Pastor Paul