

AMERICA'S HOPE

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WILL GLORIFIED SAINTS RETURN TO EARTH BEFORE THE CHRIST?

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Part I

Throughout church age Christian people have looked forward primarily to one event, the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. But in doing so, they have paid little attention to what the Scripture relates about the closing of this age and the opening of the kingdom age. We must now give increasing thought and study to the transfer from our present age to the new age.

Many seem to imagine that this transfer will take place in an instant but that is not the teaching of the Scripture -- it takes place over a period of time. During the last 40 or 50 years two teachings have been set forth -- one indicating that there will be no change; restitution, correction or adjustment for the better until Christ comes; the other that men will prepare the earth for the kingdom. Both of these teachings are somewhat out of line with the Scripture.

Certainly as we look at the condition of our nation and the world, we must realize that no man or group of men, no organization or human effort could possibly prepare this nation or any part of the earth for the reign of Christ. Good men have tried for 6,000 years to bring in a righteous kingdom condition, and from time to time they have been partly successful, but in a very, very small measure. Even great administrators like Moses, Joshua, Samuel, David and Nehemiah failed to fully bring in this ideal condition.

In II Timothy 3:12 we read, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." This has been true all through the church age -- the more one believes God for, the more the persecution, suffering and opposition that will come.

Continuing on from verse 13: "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." In our nation today, humanly speaking, there are more kind, generous, tolerant people than ever before; but there are also deceivers and seducers who are waxing worse and worse. Paul tells Timothy, "But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been

assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

This includes not only personal salvation, but salvation for our bodies, minds and whole beings in this day and hour. Our salvation, cleansing, wisdom, protection and shield is the Word of God.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

One program that evil men and seducers have instigated in our nation today is the so-called sex education in our public schools. Everywhere people are disturbed, troubled and upset about this. About the only good thing I can say for it is that apparently we have now hit bottom in corruption and deception and the only way to go is up.

In Genesis 6:11-13 we read of the corruption in Noah's day: "The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence." (Note the word "corrupt" in this passage.)

"And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth."

No one can imagine the violence that will sweep our nation and the earth through the teaching of sex to our children in public schools. Who is pushing this program? I believe it is the same group who have been corrupting our nation for the past fifty years. Let me call your attention to a few things they have corrupted in our nation.

Back in 1913 these corrupters, who hate everything that is good, scriptural, sacred and holy, went all out to corrupt our economic system. World War I and World War II were fought largely because of this corrupt