

THE COMING OF JESUS: THE SON OF MAN LUKE 21: 25-28

Introduction

The Lord now begins to cover the most significant event yet to occur in human history: His own personal return. The language points toward the Lord's personal return to earth (Lk. 21:27, 35). The point is this: there are signs that precede His coming, signs that will enable His followers to be prepared and strengthened to the utmost in endurance.

- I. The signs of astronomical happenings and their results (v. 25-26).
- II. The actual coming of Jesus, the Son of Man (v. 27).
- III. The great encouragement to the believer: look up — your redemption is near (v. 28).

I. Luke 21: 25-26 The Signs of Astronomical Happenings

The signs of astronomical happenings and their results. There shall be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. What will happen is described in both Mathew and Mark (Mt. 24:29; Mk. 13:24). Mark says...

- “The sun will be darkened.”
- “The moon will not give its light.”
- “The stars of heaven will fall from the sky.”
- “The heavenly bodies will be shaken.”

Very practically, such astronomical happenings occur now. The earth is sometimes darkened by dust from earthly catastrophes such as volcanic eruptions, wind storms, and smoke from huge fires. Of course, whatever darkens the sun, hides the light of the moon from earth. The stars, that is, meteorites of varying sizes, fall throughout space often. “The heavenly bodies” being shaken could mean the heavenly bodies outside our solar system that are called by the Bible “the heavenly array” (Deu. 4:19).

Something should be mentioned about the power of the atom. The atom exploded on earth is powerful enough to darken the sun and moon from earth's view. Worldwide atomic warfare would cause so much dust and pollution it would be difficult for any man to see anything in outer space. But as the atom is known today, it could not affect the axis or rotation (the falling or shaking) of the sun and moon and stars unless there were to be an inter-galactic war of some sort way out in the future, and unless there was a power much greater than what we know today. This is not to say that atomic warfare will never happen. There will be wars and rumours of war as long as the earth stands. But what the Bible teaches is that God is going to end all things, not man. When the world ends, it will be God's ending it by His own will and act.

An extreme literalism needs to be avoided when interpreting these verses, for there is so much we do not know about the laws (powers) of nature and the forces God has put in motion throughout the universe. However, there is absolutely no reason for not understanding the Lord's words as actual or literal events.

What the present passage seems to mean is that the whole universe is going to be affected by Christ's coming to earth. The sun and moon, the stars and powers (laws) of heaven will be affected in the sense that they will *open up and receive Him* and serve notice that He is the Creator, the Son of Man, God's very own Son, who is now coming to earth in great power and glory. Imagine a spectacular universal fireworks display, and perhaps what Christ is saying is being pictured. A simple question is: Why would not everything, including the heavenly bodies, put on a display (that would be terrifying to man) when its Creator, the Son of God, returns?

The astronomical bodies are affected because of the *evil of men and the wrath of God*. The scene of falling stars (meteorites) will not be for man to witness a spectacular event; it will be to point to the Son of God, to His judgment falling upon the earth. Every man is going to know beyond any doubt that Jesus Christ is coming in all the power and the glory of God Himself. As Jesus said, "with power and great glory" He is coming. He is coming "that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father (Phil. 2:10-11).

The astronomical happenings will, of course, have devastating results upon earth. These results are the very point of Luke.

- => There will be distress and perplexity of nations. The picture is that of leaders' and governments' meeting and trying to figure out what is happening to the heavenly bodies in the sky above. However, they will not know nor be able to cope. They are perplexed and distressed, sensing the doom of the universe.
- => There will be the roaring effect upon the oceans and the upheaval of their waves and tides. This, of course, is to be expected since the oceans are controlled by the heavenly bodies.
- => There will be men fainting from terror; men will be gripped by fear, a desperate fear, sensing the end of the world is at hand. And note: the end *will* be at hand.

Mark 13:24-25 *"But in those days, following that distress, 'the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'"*

Luke 17:29-30 *But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulphur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all. "It will be just like this on the day the Son of Man is revealed."*

Luke 21:25-26 “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.”

Acts 2:19-20 I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

Rev 6:12-17 I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?”

Isa 13:10-13 The stars of heaven and their constellations will not show their light. The rising sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light. I will punish the world for its evil, the wicked for their sins. I will put an end to the arrogance of the haughty and will humble the pride of the ruthless. I will make man scarcer than pure gold, more rare than the gold of Ophir. Therefore I will make the heavens tremble; and the earth will shake from its place at the wrath of the LORD Almighty, in the day of his burning anger.

Isa 24:17-22 Terror and pit and snare await you, O people of the earth. Whoever flees at the sound of terror will fall into a pit; whoever climbs out of the pit will be caught in a snare. The floodgates of the heavens are opened, the foundations of the earth shake. The earth is broken up, the earth is split asunder, the earth is thoroughly shaken. The earth reels like a drunkard, it sways like a hut in the wind; so heavy upon it is the guilt of its rebellion that it falls — never to rise again. In that day the LORD will punish the powers in the heavens above and the kings on the earth below. They will be herded together like prisoners bound in a dungeon; they will be shut up in prison and be punished after many days.

Joel 2:30-31 I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

Joel 3:15-16 The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine. The Lord will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the sky will tremble. But the Lord will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.

II. *Luke 21: 27 The Return of Jesus Christ*

The actual coming of Jesus, the Son of Man. There are three significant points in this verse.

1. It will be the Son of Man who comes. Jesus claimed to be the Son of Man, God's very own Son incarnate in human flesh as Perfect Man (See *Jesus the Son of Man*, Mt. 8:20). In that day, there will be no doubt about who He is (see Mk. 14:61-62). Right now He is recognized only by believers, but then His identity will be unmistakable: He is the Son of Man.
2. Every eye, all men, shall see Him return. This is what is meant by "they." Mathew actually says, "All the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming" (Mt. 24:30). His return will be visible to every man on earth, and every man shall then acknowledge Him to be Lord, God's very own Son (Phil. 2:9-11; see Rev. 1:7).
3. He is coming "in a cloud with power and great glory." Picture the scene. The backdrop of heaven is pitch dark, without any major light from the sun and moon. And then, suddenly, as quickly as the flash of lightning, the most brilliant focus of light ever known to man appears. The Shekinah glory of God will shine in the person of Jesus Christ as He appears to the world. The Son of Man is there, in the clouds, having returned in power and great glory just as He said He would.

Acts 1:11 "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? 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."

2 Th 1:7-10 And give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marvelled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

2 Th 2:8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendour of his coming.

Rev 1:7 Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen.

Rev 19:11-16 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on

him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron sceptre." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

MATHEW 08:20 JESUS, THE SON OF MAN

*Jesus replied, "Foes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." **Mathew 08:20***

Jesus is not only what an ordinary man is, a son of man; Jesus is what every man ought to be, the Son of Man Himself. He is the Ideal Man, the Representative Man, the Perfect Man, the Pattern, the Embodiment of everything a man ought to be. Jesus Christ is the perfect picture of a man. Everything God wants a man to be is seen perfectly in Jesus Christ (see Jn. 1:14; Col. 2:9-10; Heb. 1:3.)

The title also means the Ideal Servant of man. It stresses His sympathy for the poor, the broken-hearted, the captives, the blind, the bruised, the outcasts, the bereaved (see Lk. 4:18). Jesus is the Pattern, the Model, the Perfect Example of concern and caring. He served and set a perfect example of how every man ought to serve other men.

Jesus calls Himself "the Son of Man" about eighty times. It is His favourite term. The title 'Son of Man' is probably based upon the Son of Man in Daniel (Dan. 7:13-14). Scripture also gives a picture of Jesus as the heavenly Son of Man contrasted with Adam as the earthly Man (1 Cor. 15:45-47). Each serves as a Representative Man for the human race in God's plan for world history.

***Mat 9:6** "But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins..." Then he said to the paralytic, "Get up, take your mat and go home."*

***Mat 16:13,16** When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*

***Mat 20:28** "Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

***Mark 8:38** "If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."*

***Luke 19:10** "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."*

John 5:26-27 “For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.”

John 13:31-32 When he was gone, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.”

Acts 7:56 “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

Rev 1:12-13 I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lamp stands, and among the lamp stands was someone “like a son of man”, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. □

III. Luke 21: 28 The Great Encouragement

The great encouragement to the believer. What a glorious hope the believer has! When the terrible events come in the heavens and upon the earth, he is...

- not to be distressed and perplexed, as the nations will be.
- not to fear and have a failing heart, as men will have.

Believers are not to be discouraged, but encouraged. They are to look up and lift up their heads, for their redemption draws near. The consummation of their salvation and hope is about to take place.

Titus 2:12-14 It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope — the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Col 1:14 In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Col 1:21-22 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour. But now he has reconciled [redeemed] you by Christ’s physical body through death to [eternally] present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.

Titus 2:13-14 While we wait for the blessed hope — the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us [eternally] from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Heb 9:15 *For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance — now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.*

Rev 5:9-10 *And they sang a new song: “You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”*

Psa 121:1 *I lift up my eyes to the hills — where does my help come from?*

Psa 113:1 *Praise the LORD. Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.*

Isa 40:25-26 *“To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One. Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. ■*

THE WARNING: WATCH AND PRAY FOR THE DAY OF JESUS' RETURN LUKE 21:34-36

Introduction

The universe is to suffer much in coming days. Sometime out in the future, the world will experience disasters and calamities as never before. There will be an increase...

- in wars and conflicts of nations (vv. 9-10).
- in natural disasters such as earthquakes, famines, disease (v. 11).
- in persecution of believers (vv. 12-19).
- in attacks upon Israel (vv. 20-24).
- in astronomical happenings (vv. 25-26).
- in distress of nations (v. 25).
- in ocean disturbances (v. 25).
- in men's hearts' failing and fearing (v. 26).

Jesus warned the believer. The believer must watch and pray for that day.

- I. It demands taking care (vv. 34-35).
- II. It demands watching and praying always (v. 36).

I. *Luke 21: 34-35 The Day of the Return of Jesus Christ Demands Taking Care*

That day (the end time and the day of the Lord's return) demands taking care. The word *careful* (prosexete) means to give attention, to focus one's mind, to guard, to beware, to take care. Note the believer is to *be careful*, that is, to guard his life. *How?* By not engaging in worldliness. His heart is not to be *weighed down* (barethosin): heavy, burdened, over-charged overloaded, filled up, indulged. Three worldly acts in particular are mentioned.

1. *Dissipation* or *careless ease* (kraipale). The words mean to be light-hearted, silly, frivolous, giddy. Medically, it referred to drunken nausea or headaches. It is the kind of light-heartedness, silliness, frivolity, and giddiness that comes from partying and drinking. It is the loose, giddy, suggestive movements and talk that take place...

- at parties
 - on dates
 - at clubs
 - on business trips
 - at social gatherings
 - behind closed doors
 - at luncheons and dinner engagements
 - in the dark (1 Th. 5:5-10)
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2. *Drunkenness* (methei). The word comes from the word meaning *wine* (methu). It means to be drunk with wine (or any other strong drink or drug), to be intoxicated. Drinking wine (or any other strong drink or drug) has several bad effects:

=> It indulges the lust, the appetite of the flesh.

=> It *loosens up* a person's moral restraints and allows the indulging of sexual and immoral cravings.

=> It dulls the mind to responsibility.

=> It burdens the heart and conscience and causes guilt, at least until a person becomes hardened in his sin.

=> It deadens feelings for spouses and loved ones, causing distance and withdrawal (such is seldom, if ever, regained).

=> It harms the body.

Rom 13:13 *Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness [revelling, carousing, partying, not in sexual immorality and debauchery sensuality, licentiousness], not in dissension and jealousy.*

Gal 5:19, 21 *The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

Eph 5:18 *Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.*

3. Anxieties or cares of this life. This means to indulge one's cravings for more and more of the things of this world. Man too often gives his attention and focuses his mind upon more and more of this world. *He desires far more than what he needs, more...*

- food and delicacies
- houses and furnishings
- cars and other vehicles
- money and wealth
- clothes and the latest styles
- property and holdings
- free time and recreation
- recognition and esteem

1 Pet 4:3-4 *For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do — living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you.*

2 Pet 2:12-13 *But these men blaspheme in matters they do not understand. They are like brute beasts, creatures of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and like beasts they too will perish. They will be paid back with harm for the harm they have done. Their idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad daylight. They are blots and blemishes, revelling in their pleasures while they feast with you.*

Why is the believer to be careful, to guard himself against these things? The point is crucial. The believer can be focusing upon the things and possessions of the world so much that he is caught unaware, snared and entrapped in the end time. That day, the day of the Lord's return, can catch him unexpectedly and unprepared.

Mat 24:38-39 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

Eccl 9:12 Moreover, no man knows when his hour will come: As fish are caught in a cruel net, or birds are taken in a snare, so men are trapped by evil times that fall unexpectedly upon them.

LUKE 21:34 END TIME TRAP / SNARE

“Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap.” Luke 21:34

The word *trap* (pagis) means to snare as in a net. That day, the end time, is going to catch the whole world unprepared. The terrible events and calamities of the end times are going to fall upon the earth and entrap all. All who dwell upon the earth shall be caught in the disastrous events, the destruction and devastation, distress and misery, misfortune and loss, suffering and affliction. (Lk. 21:5-33.)

Jesus warned the believer. He must “be careful,” for in the end time the world will experience great tribulations unparalleled in history. A quick glance at the great distress or tribulation period covered in *Revelation* will give some idea of the trials (See Dan. 12:1-2.)

=> Thundering, lightning, and an earthquake (Rev. 8:5; see 8:1-5).

=> Natural catastrophes (Rev. 8:6-12).

=> Demonic-like locust or plagues (Rev. 8:13-9:11).

=> Demonic-like army (Rev. 9:12-21).

=> Nations angry and destroying the earth (Rev. 11:18; see 11:14-19).

=> An evil political ruler (Rev. 13:1-10).

=> A false and evil religious ruler (Rev. 13:11-18).

=> Terrible destruction and suffering both upon nature and men (Rev. 16:1-21).

=> An evil, deceptive world power (Rev. 17:1-18:24). □

II. *Luke 21: 36 Demands: Watching and Praying*

That day (the end time and the day of the Lord's return) demands watching and praying *always*. The word "watch" (*agrupneite*) means to be sleepless, awake, on guard. It means a spirit of being wakeful, of being restless, of guarding.

Praying always means the believer is to live in a spirit of prayer...

- praying all day, as he walks throughout the day.
- praying on all occasions and about everything.
- praying at appointed times, times set aside for nothing but prayer and devotions or quiet times.

There are three reasons why the believer is to watch and pray.

1. Watching and praying cause God to count the believer "worthy." The man who watches and prays for the Lord's return truly believes in the Lord, and God takes that man's belief and counts it worthy. Note: God does not *make* the man worthy; He counts the man worthy. The man's faith, his watching and praying, are counted as righteousness. (See *Justification*, Lk. 20:35; *Justification*, Rom. 4:22. See Rom. 4:5 and 4:1-3; 4:1-25.)
2. Watching and praying cause the believer to escape the things coming to earth (See *Snare*, Lk. 21:34). This can mean...
 - to escape the presence of the coming judgments altogether (by being raptured away).
 - to escape the sufferings of the judgments (by being supernaturally protected; for example, Israel was protected during the Egyptian plagues, Exodus 5:1f).
3. Watching and praying cause the believer to stand justified before the Son of Man (See *Son of Man*, Mt. 8:20). The picture is that the faithful believer will have no fear or dread, no apprehension or hesitation in facing the Son of Man. He will stand before his Lord...
 - justified.
 - ready to be "transformed just like His glorious body" (Phil. 3:21).
 - ready "to be conformed to His image" (Rom. 8:29).
 - ready to "see the face of the Father" (Mt. 18:10).
 - ready to "serve Him [God] day and night in His temple" or world (Rev. 7:15).

Mat 25:13 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."

Luke 12:37 "It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them."

1 Th 5:5-6 *You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled.*

Rev 3:11 *I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown.*

Rev 16:15 *“Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed.”*

Mat 26:41 *“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.”*

1 Cor 10:12 *So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!*

Col 4:2 *Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.*

1 Pet 5:8 *Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ■*

LUKE 20: 35 JUSTIFICATION: HEAVEN AND WORLD

*“But those who are considered worthy of taking part in that age and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage.” **Luke 20:35***

Entrance into the two worlds differs. A man has nothing to do with his entrance into this world. He is conceived and born by the act of a man and a woman. But note three facts about the next world.

1. Only those who are considered, accounted worthy shall obtain that world. This is significant. A man does not work or earn his way into the next world. He is not worthy; he is only counted worthy. Worthiness is accounted to him, merely laid to his account: Scripture says that it is his faith that is counted as making him worthy. God takes a man's faith and counts, credits it as “righteousness” (See *Justification*, Rom. 4:22; 5:1. See Rom. 4:5; 4:1-3, 4:1-25).

Rom 5:1 *Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Rom 4:23-25 *The words “it [righteousness] was credited to him” were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness — for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.*

Gal 3:6 Consider Abraham: “He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

2. Jesus was speaking of the resurrection of believers only. He did not say “the resurrection of the dead” which would mean all the dead, but He said “the resurrection from the dead” which means the resurrection of believers from among the dead.

John 5:25 “I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.”

John 6:40 “For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Acts 24:15 And I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

3. Every man continues to exist after this world, but all will not enter “that age,” that is, heaven. Those who have not lived a life of faith in Christ, who are not counted worthy, will not enter “that age,” but will enter hell.

Luke 16:24 So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’

John 5:28 - 29 “Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out — those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.”

Acts 24:15 And I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.

Dan 12:2 Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. □

ROMANS 04: 22

JUSTIFICATION: FAITH, RIGHTEOUSNESS

*This is why "it is credited to him as righteousness." **Romans 04:22***

In simple terms *justification* means that God takes the believer's faith and counts it as righteousness (Rom. 4:3; see Gen. 15:6)

When a person *really believes* that Jesus Christ is *his Saviour*, God takes that person's faith and counts it for righteousness (Rom. 4:3, 5, 9, 11, 22, 24). The person is not righteous; he has no righteousness of his own. He is still imperfect, still sinful, still corruptible, still short of God's glory as a sinful human being. But he does believe that Jesus Christ *is his Saviour*. Such belief honours God's Son (whom God loves very much), and because it honours God's Son, God accepts that person's faith for righteousness. God counts that person's faith as righteousness. Therefore, that person becomes acceptable to God. A person's belief — the right kind of belief — is critical.

Gen 15:6 *Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.*

Rom 5:1 *Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Gal 3:6 *Consider Abraham: "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."*

1 Cor 6:11 *And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

Phil 3:9 *And be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. □*

MATHEW 08:20 JESUS, THE SON OF MAN

*Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." **Mathew 08:20***

Jesus is not only what an ordinary man is, a son of man; Jesus is what every man ought to be, the Son of Man Himself. He is the Ideal Man, the Representative Man, the Perfect Man, the Pattern, the Embodiment of everything a man ought to be. Jesus Christ is the perfect picture of a man. Everything God wants a man to be is seen perfectly in Jesus Christ (see Jn. 1:14; Col. 2:9-10; Heb. 1:3.)

The title also means the Ideal Servant of man. It stresses His sympathy for the poor, the broken-hearted, the captives, the blind, the bruised, the outcasts, the bereaved (see Lk. 4:18). Jesus is the Pattern, the Model, the Perfect Example of concern and caring. He served and set a perfect example of how every man ought to serve other men.

Jesus calls Himself "the Son of Man" about eighty times. It is His favourite term. The title 'Son of Man' is probably based upon the Son of Man in Daniel (Dan. 7:13-14). Scripture also gives a picture of Jesus as the heavenly Son of Man contrasted with Adam as the earthly Man (1 Cor. 15:45-47). Each serves as a Representative Man for the human race in God's plan for world history.

Mat 9:6 *"But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins..." Then he said to the paralytic, "Get up, take your mat and go home."*

Mat 16:13,16 *When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*

Mat 20:28 *"Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

Mark 8:38 *"If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."*

Luke 19:10 *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."*

John 5:26-27 *"For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man."*

John 13:31-32 *When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once."*

Acts 7:56 *"Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."*

Rev 1:12-13 *I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lamp stands, and among the lamp stands was someone "like a son of man", dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. □*