

NO FEAR OF THE FUTURE

There is fear in our world after 9/11/01, fallout from the Enron bankruptcy, AIDS, SARS, the ongoing war against terrorism in Iraq and elsewhere. We haven't yet seen the events Jesus speaks of as He tells about the future in what we call the Olivet Discourse. Here are words He spoke on the Mount of Olives.

And there will be strange events in the skies—signs in the sun, moon, and stars. And down here on earth the nations will be in turmoil, perplexed by the roaring seas and strange tides. The courage of many people will falter because of the fearful fate they see coming upon the earth, because the stability of the very heavens will be broken up. Then everyone will see the Son of Man arrive on the clouds with power and great glory. So when all these things begin to happen, stand straight and look up, for your salvation is near!
Luke 21:25-28

If we open our lives and invite Christ to be our Savior and Lord, we can receive the salvation He speaks of. We need not fear the future as we . . .

1. Remember who we were and rejoice in who we are.

You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins. He canceled the record that contained the charges against us. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ's cross. In this way, God disarmed the evil rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross of Christ. Colossians 2:13-15

2. Remember what Jesus has done and rejoice in what He will do.

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
2 Corinthians 5:21.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away Revelation 21:4.

All honor to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for it is by his boundless mercy that God has given us the privilege of being born again. Now we live with a wonderful expectation because Jesus Christ rose again from the dead. For God has reserved a priceless inheritance for his children. It is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. And God, in his mighty power, will protect you until you receive this salvation, because you are trusting him. It will be revealed on the last day for all to see. So be truly glad! There is wonderful joy ahead, even though it is necessary for you to endure many trials for a while. These trials are only to test your faith, to show that it is strong and pure. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—and your faith is far more precious to God than mere gold. So if your faith remains strong after being tried by fiery trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him, you trust him; and even now you are happy with a glorious, inexpressible joy. Your reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 1:3-9

