

# The Bible tells us what and when God's day will be

The Bible warns of God's day of vengeance, Armageddon or the Judgment Day. It is called many things and means different things to different people. But what does the Bible say it is? And does the Bible give us any idea when it will be?

Acts 17:31 says, "Because he has set a day in which he purposes to judge the inhabited earth in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and he has furnished a guarantee to all men in that he has resurrected him from the dead."

God has appointed his son, Jesus, whom he resurrected, to judge the inhabited earth.

Revelation 16:14 says, "They are, in fact, expressions inspired by demons and perform signs, and they



## sharon corcoran

- use it or lose it

go forth to the kings of the entire inhabited earth, to gather them together to the war of the great day of God the Almighty."

God's judgment will take place during this war. Those who are judged unfavorably by God already suspect as much and will gather together to fight him. They have chosen not to do His will.

2 Thessalonians 1:6-9 says, "This takes into account that it is righteous

heaven with his powerful angels in a flaming fire, as he brings vengeance upon those who do not know God and those who do not obey the good news about our Lord Jesus. These very ones will undergo the judicial punishment of everlasting destruction from before the Lord and from the glory of his strength."

Those judged unfavorably have caused tribulation to those who serve God faithfully. He will repay

that tribulation; His vengeance will be for that, for refusing to accept the good news about His son and for refusal to obey God's commandments. Their punishment will be everlasting.

Matthew 25:31-46 describes the judgment as a separation of the sheep and the goats. The goats are deemed wicked for not offering even the most basic help to Christ's brothers.

Those judged as wicked on God's day did not do what was right. They did not accept the "good news," information on God's kingdom, and do what was necessary to be a part of that kingdom.

Jesus warned his followers to "stay awake," to be aware of the need to proclaim God's kingdom to as many as possible. His disciples asked him when he would come to judge the wicked.

At Matthew 24:3, they asked, "What will be the sign of your presence and of the conclusion of the system of things?"

Jesus listed many things that would be taking place on earth leading up to his presence, signs that would show a serious deterioration of the world. For example, "nation will rise against nation;" there will

be food shortages, earthquakes in one place after another, and the love of the greater number will cool off.

Those days would become so difficult, verse 22 points out, that "unless those days were cut short, no flesh would be saved; but on account of the chosen ones those days will be cut short."

Even though times would be tough, Jesus' followers were interested in knowing when that would be because they were looking forward to the destruction of the wicked. As 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9 points out, it means the end of those who have made tribulation for them.

As Matthew 25:46 points out, the sheep would go into everlasting life after that destruction, so the end is good news for Christians.

Some look to Matthew 24:36 and say we will have no idea when Jesus' presence will be. That verse says, "Concerning the day and the hour, nobody knows, neither the angels of the heavens nor the Son, but only the Father."

Does this mean we'll have no idea? To answer that, think about what he said we wouldn't know, the day and the hour. What is a day and an hour? They are specific time pe-

riods.

If we know the day and the hour of something, we know, for example, that it will take place at 2 p.m. Tuesday. We can mark it on our calendars and plan to be there.

Jesus' presence would not be like that. It is compared in the Bible to a thief coming in the night; it will catch many off guard. If we knew a thief was coming at a specific time on a specific day, we would stay up and have people with us to help and would have weapons and would fight off the thief.

Since we don't know when a thief might come, we lock our doors and perhaps buy a security system and join the Neighborhood Watch. We take measures to protect ourselves at all times.

When Jesus told his followers to "stay awake," he meant they needed to be ready for his day whenever it would come. We won't know the day and the hour; we can't plan when to be there.

But we do have an idea when it will be. Jesus told his followers the warning signs. We see them being fulfilled now. The end is near, but we have to be ready all the time because no one is going to tell us when.

## Family shelter takes 700 calls

The Northwest Kansas Family Shelter in Hays reported in its newsletter that the shelter had handled 700 victim-related calls from its 18-county service area in the first five months of the year.

The shelter received 115 crisis calls from January through May and served 145 victims. Shelter was provided for 28 adults and 13 children for a total of 349 nights.

The shelter reports many donations from area individuals and businesses during the five-month period and hopes these continue.

Items on the shelter's wish list are Hays Access Van tickets, Dillon's or Wal-Mart gift cards, prepaid phone cards, postage stamps, HP nos. 56, 57 and 78 printer cartridges, Lexmark nos. 16, 20, 26 and 70 printer cartridges, laundry soap and dryer sheets, all-purpose kitchen and bathroom cleaning supplies, over-the-counter medicines, coffee and tea, cooking spray, peanut butter, boxed meals, small reading lamps, new bath towels, business envelopes, paper supplies, new women's undergarments, small wall mirrors, kitchen and large trash bags, aluminum foil, 60- or 75-watt light bulbs, large-size diapers, baby wipes, baby food, boxed children's snacks, small gift bags, women's new socks, contact lens solution, a

video recorder, copy paper, sugar, flour, salt and pepper. Of course, the shelter also accepts cash.

Director Charlotte Linsner said the cost of starting over financially alone is monumental for a woman who has to leave her home.

The cost of housing in northwest Kansas starts at \$350-400 a month, she said, with a damage deposit of the same amount. Before the family can move in, she said, there are utility deposits of \$100 for electricity and water and \$100 for gas.

To begin life in a new dwelling, Linsner said, costs \$1,000 up front, not including money for food, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, clothing, furniture and the like.

In order to keep the household going, Linsner said, the victim has to work, often for minimum wage. The average wage, she said, is \$8 per hour.

At that rate, she said, the family's income for a 40-hour workweek is \$320. With 25 percent taken out for taxes, she said, that leaves \$240 a week, or \$960 a month.

Expenses, she said, are \$400 for rent, \$150 for utilities (no phone) and \$400 minimum for food. The total just to survive is \$950 a month, Linsner said, leaving \$10 for school supplies, clothing, car expenses, etc.

And victims of domestic abuse often have legal fees, she said, due to abusers being able to use the legal system to control and harass them.

Often a victim is forced to take a second job, Linsner said, and then is chastised because they are not spending enough time with the children.

The director said she is often told, "I don't understand why the victim continues to return to the abuser."

Linsner responds, "How many of those who do not live in an abusive home could live on this income and face the financial burden, not to mention the emotional strain?"

Sherman County donors included Emmanuel Lutheran Church; Hazel Estes, former Kanorado mayor; the City of Goodland; Genesis; J.C. Penney; Wal-Mart; and Marcia Golden, Janet Mehling, Ada Taylor and Floriene Whisnand of Goodland.

Although there are no paid staff members in Sherman County, Linser said, there are three volunteers in the county, and the shelter is looking for more.

There are only five staff members in Hays, she said, so the shelter relies on volunteers. There are over 20 volunteers in the 18-county area, she said.

## matters of record

### Real Estate

The following real estate transactions were reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:

Rod L. Boyce, Candice D. Boyce, John and Mary Doe (Tenants/Occupants) and Janice A. Steinle to Bankwest of Kansas, Lots 8, 9 and 10, Block 5, Country Meadows Addition to the City of Goodland.

Raymond R. and Henrietta H. Schulte to R & H Distribution, L.L.C., a Colorado Limited Liability Company, the NW/4, Sec. 29, T6S, R42W.

Albert E. and Vol L. Fenner quit-

claim to Vol L. Fenner the east 80 feet of Lots 1 and 2, Block 11, Third Addition to the City of Goodland.

Dean R. and Erna S. Blume, trustees of the Dean R. Blume Revocable Trust, and Erna S. and Dean R. Blume, trustees of the Erna S. Blume Revocable Trust, to Motor Town LLC., a tract of land in the SW/4, Sec. 19, T8S, R39W.

Sherman County Sheriff Doug Whitson to First National Bank in Lamar, Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, Block 21, Harstines Second Addition to the Town of Kanorado,

foreclosed property of John and Stephanie Corcoran.

Charles R. and Theresa C. Luckert, trustees of the Charles R. Luckert trust, to Elie and Heidi Ouaknine all of Sec. 23, T10S, R37W and the SW/4, Sec. 14, T10S, R37W.

Heidi and Elie Ouaknine quitclaim to Elie Ouaknine all of Sec. 23, T10S, R37W and the SW/4, Sec. 14, T10S, R37W.

Marlene L. and Earl M. Chenoweth, of Butte County, S.D., to RES-0410, LLC., of Boulder County, Colo., all of Sec. 17, T10S, R38W.

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