

SURVIVING THE COMING JUDGMENT

30/10/11

There are extreme forces and powers in the solar system, but we are protected from most of them by natural counterbalances. Extremes of heat, cold and radiation are balanced by natural insulation that stop these forces destroying all life. The human race has adapted some of the powers of nature for their benefit. Electricity is one such wonder... despite its uses, it can be fatal if it is not insulated from direct human exposure. There is another force that is not talked about all that often and that is the power of God. The bible reveals that this power is going to judge the earth and those in it. However, there is a way to avoid judgment and live forever... that is the purpose of the gospel. The following scriptures reveal how to avoid judgment and how to safely use the available power.

A positive and dedicated response to the word of God and his promises is essential. *There are two responses possible. Accept or deny and once you have started... there is no turning back because the power of God will never leave you. This is good if you want eternal life... but not so good if you waver. This story highlights two differing attitudes to the plan of God... And the inevitable outcome of both choices.*

NUM 13:30 And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it. *This attitude is based on faith.*

31 But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they *are* stronger than we. *This attitude is built on doubt.*

This is God's reply to their unfaithfulness... keeping in mind that the holy spirit power was always present.

NUM 14:29 Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,

30 Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, *concerning* which I swear to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

31 But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the **land which ye have despised.**

32 But *as for* you, your carcasses, they shall fall in this wilderness.

33 And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness. *This is what happened to the unfaith.*

Let's compare the difference that faith makes... keeping in mind that the same spirit and the same power was over both groups of people.

NEM 9:19 Yet thou in thy manifold mercies forsookest them not in the wilderness: the pillar of the cloud departed not from them by day, to lead them in the way; neither the pillar of fire by night, to shew them light, and the way wherein they should go.

20 Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst.

21 Yea, forty years didst thou sustain them in the wilderness, *so that* they lacked nothing; their clothes waxed not old, and their feet swelled not and thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years. *And yet the same power and blessing only brought death and destruction to the faithless.*

These verses in By Isaiah explain how the two different results come about.

ISA 28:9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? *them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. This is the way to build faith.*

10 For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and* there a little: *A steady growth path is always in action.*

11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

12 To whom he said, *This is* the rest *wherewith* ye may cause the weary to rest; and *this is* the refreshing: yet they would not hear. *The perfect language of prayer achieves much more than people realize.*

13 But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and* there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken. *These people missed the mark, even though they had the same power and were diligent to grow in knowledge... something was missing.*

See the solution in... 1PET 4:8 And **above all things** have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. *This is the love of others based on obedient faith... there is nothing better.*

2THE 1:7 And to you who are troubled rest with us (*do what we do*), when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: *There is another promised land coming soon... let's make sure we help promote God's inheritance.*

2PET 2:9 The Lord **knoweth how to deliver** the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: *Let's be motivated to follow the example set for us without wavering.*