



December 2017



"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord" Luke 2:11

From the Administrative Bishop Daniel W. Hampton

Additional Signs of Jesus Coming

For the last two months I have written about what I believe are facts and signs of Jesus return to catch His waiting bride away to be with Him. I want to continue the series with this article as we are celebrating the birth of our Savior in just a few days. Just as the birth of Jesus was foretold by the prophets many years before it occurred; so it is with the promise of His coming again for those who are looking for Him. We should never ignore the facts of scripture as it relates to the rapture of the church and we should hold on tightly to that promise.

In the last article I mentioned two very obvious signs of Jesus coming, which were MORAL DECADENCE and COSMIC UNREST. I will endeavor to point out other things which I believe Scripture reveals as direct signs we should be taking great notice of as the day draws near.

What about the INCREASE of KNOWLEDGE? In the book of Daniel Chapter 12 and verse 4 we read; "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." When Jesus lived on earth life was pretty much the same as it had been for centuries. Men lived very simple lives, traveled by donkey, horse or camel. His dwelling was predominately a tent or very small one or two room house. They used hand tools to plant and harvest their fields. Occasionally someone would have an ox to work the fields, but they never saw a tractor or combine. Communication was by word of mouth or a messenger delivering a hand written letter. They never saw a typewriter, telegraph, telephone, television or computer. The Great Physician never visited a hospital, clinic or laboratory. In those days there were no automobiles, buses or airplanes. The list could go on and on of the things they never saw, which we have, that are so common to our everyday existence. Look around and see the progress humanity has made which is taken for granted as we get in automobiles with our cell phones, computers and all the electronic devices which go with them. Yes, knowledge has and is being increased at a very rapid pace. We go to bed tonight and tomorrow someone has come up with a new device which changes the entire world.

Another sign is THE DISTRESS OF NATIONS. "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars: and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken." (Luke 21: 25-26)

Is this not a perfect description of what is going on in our world today? Who has a solution to the world's problems both here at home as well as around the world? Perplexity is defined as without resources, left wanting, embarrassed, in doubt, not knowing which way to turn.

Who has the solution to all the tension that seems to be mounting politically, racially, domestically, not to mention the threat of terrorism? Our world is in crisis and in need of a church that is in revival. Of course, all we who believe in Jesus know He is the answer. There is no other solution that I know or could recommend save Jesus Christ the only Son of God.

As we enter this Christmas season, why don't we determine that in light of all the signs we see, the greatest gift we could give is to testify to everybody we meet about what Jesus did for us. He is the greatest gift and we must share Him with those around us. Don't get so wrapped up in all the stuff of Christmas and forget the Person who we are celebrating.

Time will not permit me to elaborate on one of the greatest signs of His return but I must mention it and that is the REBIRTH OF ISRAEL. I want to encourage you to read Deuteronomy 28: 63-66. It was the Lord speaking through Moses saying the Jews would be scattered throughout the world and their lives would be in danger. That prophesy was fulfilled but God also spoke through the prophets Isaiah, Ezekiel and Amos that the Jews would be gathered again in their homeland. Read Isaiah 11: 12 and Ezekiel 36: 24 & 28.

In Amos 9: 14 & 15 we read; "And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon the land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God." He is coming so make sure you are ready if He comes today.

We wish each of you a very Merry Christmas. Our theme for next year is **JOYFULLY REJOICING IN 2018**
(Psalms 126).

FAITHFUL & FREE SENIOR ADULT DAY 2017



Male Vocal Solo
Winner
Vernon Sexton
Princeton COG
Female Vocal Solo
Winner
Cathy Norman
Summersville COG



Prayer Conference

“Joyfully Rejoicing in 2018”

Please Join Us
January 15 - 16, 2018
Mountain View Church of God
with special guest
P. Douglas Small



“The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man
availeth much..” James 5:16

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www.cogyouth.org
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Deepest Condolences to the Families of:
Rev. Judith Eplin
who passed away November 7, 2017
Sallie Morgan, wife of Rev. Ivan Morgan
who passed away November 11, 2017

Pastoral Appointments
Pastor Aaron & Linda Davidson
Rupert
Pastor Jason & Stacy Newsome
Davis Creek
Pastor Jason & Tracy Crabaugh
Renick

Merry Christmas From Our Family to Yours...



*Bishop Daniel & Ruth Hampton,
Bishop Bill & Amanda Woodruff
Tammy, Sarita & Patra*

December: Scripture – Luke 2:11

1.....Minister & Spouse & NRR Christmas Dinner - Dream Center
18 - Jan 1.....Christmas Holiday - STATE OFFICE CLOSED

January: Scripture – 2 Corinthians 5:15

1.....New Year's Day - STATE OFFICE CLOSED
15-16.....Prayer Conference - Mountain View Church of God
19-20....."Nexus" Youth Leaders Retreat - New River Ministry Center

February: Scripture – Psalms 42:1

2-4.....Premier Winterfest - Ocean City, MD
Sync Retreat - Pigeon Forge, TN
16-18.....Wild West Winterfest - Rapid City, SD