

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Oct. 3, 2024 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:03

Welcome to our guests

Members of the Church of God Big Sandy welcome all guests as we worship on the Feast of Trumpets. Following is the schedule.

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Dave Havar
Presentation study—2:00 Dave Havar
(also transmitted live)
Church service—3:00 Reg Killingley

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Offertory Piano solo
Scripture reading 1 Corinthians 15:12–28; 35–58
Sermon Reg Killingley

Feast speaking schedules

Big Sandy

Oct. 17—Wynn Skelton
Oct. 18—Dave Havar
Oct. 19—Dave Havar
Oct. 20—Bert Moers
Oct. 21—Ray Hall
Oct. 22—Music Fest
Oct. 23—Ray Hall
Oct. 24—Richard Crow

Destin

Oct. 17—Ken Tate & Bill Crow
Oct. 18—Neil McIver & Ben Franklin
Oct. 19—Chad Tate & Music Fest
Oct. 20—Daniel Hammons & John Havar
Oct. 21—Dave Havar & Danny Miller
Oct. 22—Steven Gibson & Music Fest
Oct. 23—Dave Havar & Bill Crow
Oct. 24—Music Fest & Ken Tate

Fiction is stranger than truth

Following is a conversation from *Fiddler on the Roof*—Question to the rabbi: “Is there a proper blessing for the czar?” Response from the rabbi: “A blessing for the czar? Of course. May God bless and keep the czar [pause] far away from us.”

Calamity and Restoration in the Book of Joel

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Sept. 12, 2020.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—As we approach the Feast of Trumpets in 2020, we reflect upon the biblical approach to prophecy. Bible students are aware of the connected prophecy themes of calamity and restoration.

First comes the bad news. Then comes the promise of the good news. Let’s look at an example.

Warning about calamity

Joel 1:6-8—“For a nation has come up against My land, strong, and without number; his teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he has the fangs of a fierce lion. He has laid waste My vine, and ruined My fig tree; he has stripped it bare and thrown it away; its branches are made white. Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth for the husband of her youth.”

Joel 2:1-5—“Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the LORD is coming, for it is at hand: a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. A people come, great and strong, the like of whom has never been; nor will there ever be any such after them, even for many successive generations. A fire devours before them, and behind them a flame burns; the land is like the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; surely nothing shall escape them. Their appearance is like the appearance of horses; and like swift steeds, so they run. With a noise like chariots over mountaintops they leap, like the noise of a flaming fire that devours the stubble, like a strong people set in battle array.”

Foretold of restoration

Joel 2:12-14—“‘Now, therefore,’ says the LORD, ‘Turn to Me with all your heart,

with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.’ So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm. Who knows if He will turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him—a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God?”

Joel 2:15-17—“‘Blow the trumpet in Zion, Consecrate a fast, Call a sacred assembly; gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children and nursing babes; let the bridegroom go out from his chamber, and the bride from her dressing room. Let the priests, who minister to the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar; let them say, ‘Spare Your people, O LORD, and do not give Your heritage to reproach, that the nations should rule over them. Why should they say among the peoples, “Where is their God?”’ ”

Calamity and restoration

Joel 3:14-18—“‘Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will diminish their brightness. The LORD also will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; the heavens and earth will shake; but the LORD will be a shelter for His people, and the strength of the children of Israel. So you shall know that I am the LORD your God, dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, and no aliens shall ever pass through her again.’ And it will come to pass in that day that the mountains shall drip with new wine, the hills shall flow with milk, and all the brooks of Judah shall be flooded with water; a fountain shall flow from the house of the LORD and water the Valley of Acacias.”

Calamity and Restoration in the New Testament

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Sept. 19, 2020.

By Dave Haver

BIG SANDY, Texas—In last week’s article, we discussed the connected prophecy themes of calamity and restoration as found in the Old Testament—specifically in the book of Joel. This week, we will recognize the same prophecy themes foretold in the New Testament.

First comes the bad news. Then comes the promise of the good news.

Warnings about calamity

Matthew 24:2—The stones of the temple were to be thrown down.

Matthew 24:4-5—People were going to be deceived.

Matthew 24:6-7—There were to be wars and rumors of wars.

Matthew 24:7—There were to be famines, pestilences and earthquakes.

Matthew 24:8—All these occurrences were only the beginning of sorrows.

Matthew 24:9—Disciples were going to be delivered to people (whether to government officials or to mobs) and killed. This action was a behavior of hatred.

Matthew 24:10—Disciples were going to betray one another.

Matthew 24:11—False prophets were going to deceive many.

Matthew 24:12—Because lawlessness was going to abound, the love of many disciples was going to wax cold.

Matthew 24:15-16—The abomination of desolation was going to affect the disciples in Jerusalem.

Matthew 24:21—There was going to be tribulation as has not been seen since the beginning of the world.

Matthew 24:29—The sun and moon were going to be darkened, stars were going to fall from heaven and the powers of heaven were going to be shaken.

Foretold of restoration

Matthew 24:30-31—“Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn,

and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”

Matthew 25:31-34—“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’”

Acts 1:10-11—“And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.’”

1 Corinthians 15:50-52—“Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18—“For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

Scriptures for the season

Revelation 11:15-18—Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!” And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying: “We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was and who is to come, because You have taken Your great power and reigned. The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear Your name, small and great, and should destroy those who destroy the earth.”

1 Corinthians 15:50-55—Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?”

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17—For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Matthew 13:44-46—Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Matthew 25:1-13—Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight a cry was heard: “Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!” Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the wise answered, saying, “No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.” And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, “Lord, Lord, open to us!” But he answered and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.” Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.