

Mockers within Christendom

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If you are one who believes Jesus is going to physically return one day, prepare to be mocked. Last time, we discussed the concept that Jude speaks of, that people will mock those who believe in that physical return of Jesus.

There are many people who do not believe Jesus is going to return and unfortunately, some of them are in Christendom. They deny He will return except spiritually.

It doesn't help when we have people within Christendom who come to the fore and predict the exact day that Jesus is supposed to return. This is wrong, according to Scripture.

It doesn't help when people like Harold Camping predict that the Lord is going to return May 21, 2011, and when that doesn't pan out, change it to the Lord returned "spiritually" at that time. This gives the world greater reason to laugh and increase the mockery towards Christians.

Yet this is what is happening today. Most leaders within the Emergent or Postmodern Church also mock the idea that Jesus is going to return. They believe, rather, that as Christians work to create a better society, Jesus will gain more of a foothold over the entire earth and the earth will slowly, consistently become more of what it was meant to be.

This type of thinking is insane in light of the conditions in the current world system. We have seen countries collapse and need bailing out by the European Union (EU) and we have experienced the many unprecedented deaths and destruction caused both by man and because of the many natural disasters.

Moreover, the hateful rhetoric continues to spew surrounding the situation in the Middle East, with no plausible end in sight. The world to a great degree now stands opposed to Israel like never before in recent history.

People are becoming exactly as Jesus, Paul, Peter, and Jude described for us, yet millions don't see it, and too many of these people are in the churches. They dutifully hold to their wishful thinking that one day the church will have such an effect on the world that it will become much better, as if wishing for it will make it so. This is in spite of what God says about what He is doing now and what He will do then in the end.

According to the Bible, this world will not get better by itself, any more than Evolution is fact. We are seeing more greed, more avarice, more hatred, more war, skirmishes, and rumors of war throughout the globe than ever before. The world is *not* getting better. It is getting far worse, just as the Bible predicted.

When they aren't mocking those of us who believe that Jesus is going to physically return to this earth one day, they are accusing us of *wanting* the world to get worse. One radio show host and well-known figure within Preterism accused me of *wanting* the Tribulation to happen so it would destroy the Jews; therefore, he accused me of being anti-Semitic! What nonsense. First of all, I do not *want* the Tribulation to occur, but I believe the Bible teaches that it *will* occur. Second, I do not want the Jews to be extinguished, and even though the Tribulation will be horrific and multitudes will die, including Jews, God will reserve for Himself a Remnant. This final Remnant will be the ones who – as a nation – will inherit the full scope of Land that God originally set aside for the Israeli nation.

Mocking is generally done when the individual has no serious answer or rebuttal to something. Sarcasm or ridicule is used in place of a solid response. Unfortunately, I have been guilty of this myself. While sarcasm has its place, as a rule, it should not be used as a regular form of rejoinder or rebuttal because it accomplishes nothing and does not further the conversation.

When I am mocked or scorned because of my personal belief that the Bible teaches that Jesus will return one day to set up His Millennial Kingdom from which He will reign from David's throne in Jerusalem, I cannot take it personally. I have to merely understand from Scripture that this is going to be the norm for these times because God is not only giving people over to themselves, but is sending a strong delusion so that they will believe the lie (cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:11). This is simply the way things will be, and I had better prepare myself for it, or I will be overcome by it.

Again, Jude is taking the time to remind his readers that in the end, mockers will come, and they will simply scorn everything that authentic believers hold dear, as taught in Scripture. The reason these individuals do this is because they are following their own lusts. They want no part of God. They want to do what they want to do and live their life their way without having to feel as though they answer to anyone other than themselves.

These people ridicule because the truth gets in the way of fulfilling their lusts. They will often become angry at people like me who deign to believe that when Jesus said upon His return every eye will see Him (cf. Matthew 24), this is exactly what will happen. I believe that His return is going to be seen like lightning flashing from one end of the sky to the other. It is going to be a purposeful return and no one will miss it. This is what Jesus said, so to not believe that is to call Him a liar. How can I do that when I know that He is not a liar? In Him, there is nothing but truth.

Mockers believe that the idea of Jesus returning physically some day is what myths and fantasies are made of, and by believing this we are ignoring our own responsibility to help make life on this planet a better place. Ultimately, mockers believe that things like

environmental groups and peace groups are what will, in the final analysis, bring this world to the point where God wants it to be. This is bunk, in my opinion.

God has given us His *plan*. He has told us beforehand, and we have a choice to believe that or to disbelieve it. For mockers, the truth bothers them because it intrudes on their particular plans and world view. They don't want people preoccupied with something as fanciful as Jesus' Second Coming. They want people to focus on *them* so that they will get done what they want done. This is the apostate.

Those who mock do so because they themselves do not understand the fundamental truths of Christianity. Jesus said He would return physically. The angels in Acts 1 said He would return physically. What more do we need?

That's our show for today. Thanks so much for joining me and I look forward to you joining me again next time. Until then, may God open your eyes to show you how blessed you are in Him!