

## How Will the World be Different When Christ Returns? Part 3

Rod Reynolds

**A key theme of the Bible is that of a Messiah to bring salvation to the world (cf.; Isaiah 49:6; 52:10). Jesus Christ is prophesied to return to the earth in power and glory, restore peace, and establish a righteous and just government over the earth (cf. Psalm 72:1-7; Daniel 7:13-14; Revelation 11:15).**

**After the living God, Creator of all that is made, establishes his government over the earth, it will be a much different world. In the final article in this series, we will explore some additional important ways in which the world will be different after Christ returns.**

**First, let's review key points covered in the previous articles in this series. After Christ returns there will be: (1) An end to oppression. (2) Just government. (3) An end to war. (4) Peace and harmony among races and nations. (5) Stable government. (6) Predictable and favorable weather, and abundant produce for all.**

### **(7) Knowledge will increase**

“But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.” (Daniel 12:4).

This prophecy has been and is being fulfilled in today's world. People are going to and fro on the earth to an extent not possible before modern means of transportation. Also, certain types of knowledge have increased. But concurrently the most important knowledge has been scorned and rejected. Even that which had been known has been largely cast aside in the modern world.

A number of leading universities in the United States and other countries were founded by Churches interested in promoting a knowledge of the Bible. But in most of them now the Bible is regarded with scorn, and if discussed at all, is often ridiculed as myth and fable, and not taken seriously as a historical source, nor as a guide to life.

To a large extent, in our secular culture, the materialistic theory of evolution has replaced the idea of a Creator who calls people to account.

As a result of the rejection of God and the Bible as the foundation of knowledge, our world is becoming increasingly ignorant of the most important knowledge of all, how to live.

“Woe to those who rise early in the morning, That they may follow intoxicating

drink; Who continue until night, till wine inflames them! The harp and the strings, The tambourine and flute, And wine are in their feasts; **But they do not regard the work of the Lord, Nor consider the operation of His hands.** Therefore my people have gone into captivity, **Because they have no knowledge;** Their honorable men are famished, And their multitude dried up with thirst. Therefore Sheol has enlarged itself And opened its mouth beyond measure; Their glory and their multitude and their pomp, And he who is jubilant, shall descend into it" (Isaiah 5:11-14).

"The wise men are ashamed, They are dismayed and taken. Behold, **they have rejected the word of the Lord;** So what wisdom do they have?" (Jeremiah 8:9).

"My people are destroyed for **lack of knowledge.** Because you have **rejected knowledge,** I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children." (Hosea 4:6).

God is the source of true knowledge: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, **For wisdom and might are His.** And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He **gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and secret things;** He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him" (Daniel 2:20-22).

The Spirit of Christ is a Spirit of knowledge and understanding. "There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of **wisdom and understanding,** The Spirit of counsel and might, **The Spirit of knowledge** and of the fear of the Lord" (Isaiah 11:1-2).

When Christ returns the veil of spiritual blindness cast over the eyes of most of mankind will be lifted. Lost knowledge shall be made known, and true values will be restored. "And in this mountain The Lord of hosts will make for all people A feast of choice pieces, A feast of wines on the lees, Of fat things full of marrow, Of well-refined wines on the lees. And He will destroy on this mountain The surface of the covering cast over all people, And the **veil that is spread over all nations**" (Isaiah 25:6-7).

The Millennial period following the second coming of Jesus Christ is pictured as a wedding feast. "**The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,** and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come" (Matthew 22:2-3).

Marriage,” in verse 2, and “wedding,” in verse 3, are both translated from the plural of *gamos*: “A marriage feast (γάμους). The plural, as here (2, 3, 4, 9), is very common in the papyri for the wedding festivities (the several acts of feasting) which lasted for days” (Robertson, *Word Pictures in the New Testament*; compare Matthew 22:4). The singular form of *gamos* can also be used of the marriage feast or wedding celebration, as in Matthew 22:8 and John 2:1-2; on which Robertson comments: “A wedding (or marriage festival) took place.”

A marriage feast typically included feasting, with the sharing of food and drink, playing of music, singing, dancing, and similar expressions of rejoicing. These are activities commonly included in keeping the Feast of Tabernacles. The Feast of Tabernacles pictures the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ, as does the weekly seventh day Sabbath. The marriage feast analogy helps us relate to the rejoicing that will occur under the reign of Christ in the Millennium.

The parable in Matthew 22 of the wedding feast, and the similar parable in Luke 14, both point to the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ, picturing it, by way of analogy, as a wedding feast, which in the custom of the Jews at the time of Christ and before usually lasted for as long as a week (cf. Judges 14:10, 17).

But there is one feature of the Feast of Tabernacles, and of the Kingdom of God, that is not typically found in a wedding celebration. That feature is the **imparting of knowledge** through teaching and instruction. Indeed, that may be included in preparing the bride and groom for marriage, but usually it's not part of the wedding celebration itself.

From the standpoint of the Bible, **formal instruction** in the word of God is to be a feature of keeping the feast of Tabernacles, along with other activities such as feasting, music, dancing, and so forth.

In describing a service held at the time of Ezra and Nehemiah on the Feast of Trumpets, we find this: “... Levites, **helped the people to understand the Law**; and the people stood in their place. So they **read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading**.”

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“And all the people went their way to eat and drink, to send portions and rejoice greatly, **because they understood the words that were declared to them**” (Nehemiah 8:7-8, 12).

And similarly, this was done during the Feast of Tabernacles: “Also day by day,

from the first day until the last day, **he read from the Book of the Law of God.** And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day there was a sacred assembly, according to the prescribed manner” (Nehemiah 8:18).

The feast was a time for teaching God’s word. “And Moses commanded them, saying: ‘At the end of every seven years, at the appointed time in the year of release, at the Feast of Tabernacles, when all Israel comes to appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses, **you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing.** Gather the people together, men and women and little ones, and the stranger who is within your gates, that they **may hear and that they may learn to fear the Lord your God and carefully observe all the words of this law,** and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear the Lord your God as long as you live in the land which you cross the Jordan to possess” (Deuteronomy 31:10-13).

Not only is this part of the very purpose of the feast, it also points to the teaching of knowledge, especially spiritual knowledge, during the time when Jesus Christ rules the earth. Christ will rule in wisdom and knowledge. “The Lord is exalted, for He dwells on high; He has filled Zion with justice and righteousness. **Wisdom and knowledge** will be the stability of your times, And the strength of salvation; The fear of the Lord is His treasure” (Isaiah 33:5-6).

The teaching typically done on the Sabbath also is, in part, a type of the teaching that will be done under the government of Jesus Christ after he returns to the earth in power and glory (cf. Mark 1:21; Luke 6:6; Acts 18:4).

God will teach knowledge to mankind. “He who planted the ear, shall He not hear? He who formed the eye, shall He not see? He who **instructs the nations,** shall He not correct, **He who teaches man knowledge?** The Lord knows the thoughts of man, That they are futile. Blessed is the man **whom You instruct, O Lord, And teach out of Your law,** That You may give him rest from the days of adversity” (Psalm 94:9-13).

The nations will after a time be ready, even eager, to learn God’s ways: “The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord’s house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, ‘Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, To the house of the God of Jacob; **He will teach us His ways,** And we shall walk in His paths.’ For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the Lord from Jerusalem” (Isaiah 2:1-3).

God will commission teachers to impart knowledge: "'Return, O backsliding children,' says the Lord; 'for I am married to you. I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion. And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, **who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.**'" (Jeremiah 3:14-15).

The knowledge of God that has been lost, or that was never known before, will be revealed, and taught to mankind during the Millennium. "The eyes of those who see will not be dim, And the ears of those who hear will listen. Also the heart of the rash will **understand knowledge**, And the tongue of the stammerers will be ready to speak plainly" (Isaiah 32:3-4). "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For **the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord As the waters cover the sea**" (Isaiah 11:9).

**No longer will nations be ignorant** of the true God, and they will learn to understand his ways. The potential for the revealing and the learning of knowledge then will be unlimited, and it will be based upon a proper spiritual foundation.

### **(8) Health and longevity**

In the United States today, it's estimated that about 60 million people have some form of long term respiratory disease, such as hay fever, asthma, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

About 23 million Americans have or have had a serious cardiovascular disease, and this does not include those diagnosed with high blood pressure. Twenty-three percent of Americans, according to the Centers for Disease Control, have some form of arthritis. It's estimated that about 43 million Americans have some form of mental illness. About 1 in 6 Americans get sick with a food borne disease each year. One in nine Americans 65 and older are afflicted with Alzheimer's disease. In a given year about 11 percent of women in America have a urinary tract infection. About 29 million Americans have diabetes. Six to ten percent of the population has thyroid disease. More than 4.5 million contract some form of venereal disease each year. ("10 Most Common Health Conditions," Norene Anderson, [www.livestrong.com](http://www.livestrong.com); June 15, 2018).

These are just some of the diseases that afflict the population of the United States. Other countries in the world have their share of diseases among their own populations as well.

A study of global disease in 2013 published in *The Lancet*, a medical journal,

concluded that 95% of the world's population was sick with some kind of significant illness during the year. A third of the population was found to have had more than five chronic or acute illnesses during the year ("A sick world: More than 95% of us are ill," [www.abc.net.au](http://www.abc.net.au), retrieved 9-27-18).

An average of more than \$10,000 per person is spent in the USA on health care each year (as of 2016). ([www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/health-expenditures.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/health-expenditures.htm)). An estimated \$477 billion was spent on pharmaceutical drugs in the United States in 2016, according to CDC statistics (*ibid.*, table 94, retrieved May 28, 2019).

These statistics tell us that sickness of some kind is the norm in our society. Some people remain relatively healthy until close to the time of death at an advanced age. But it seems this is not the expectation for a very large segment of the world's population.

God told the people of Israel when they were in the wilderness: "If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you" (Exodus 15: 26).

He also said to them: "Therefore you shall keep the commandment, the statutes, and the judgments which I command you today, to observe them. Then it shall come to pass, because you listen to these judgments, and keep and do them, that the Lord your God will keep with you the covenant and the mercy which He swore to your fathers. And He will love you and bless you and multiply you....

.....

"And the Lord will **take away from you all sickness**, and will afflict you with none of the terrible diseases of Egypt which you have known" (Deuteronomy 7:11-13, 15).

When Jesus Christ returns to earth to establish his kingdom, he will come with the power to heal the sick, and bring health to the nations.

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to **heal the brokenhearted**, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting

of the Lord, that He may be glorified” (Isaiah 61:1-3).

A preview of the healing that shall occur at the second coming of Christ is found in the healing displayed at his first coming in the flesh: “Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus’ feet, and He **healed** them. So the multitude marveled when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel” (Matthew 15:30-31).

Many prophecies testify to the healing that will occur with the coming of Jesus Christ, including the following: “Behold, your God will come with vengeance, With the recompense of God; He will come and save you. **Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing**” (Isaiah 35:4-6).

“But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With **healing** in His wings” (Malachi 4:2)

“Bless the Lord, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, **Who heals all your diseases**” (Psalm 103:1-3).

“Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; For it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful. The Lord builds up Jerusalem; He gathers together the outcasts of Israel. **He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds**” (Psalm 147:1-3).

“Behold, I will bring it [Jerusalem] health and healing; I will **heal** them and reveal to them the abundance of peace and truth. And I will cause the captives of Judah and the captives of Israel to return, and will rebuild those places as at the first. I will cleanse them from all their iniquity by which they have sinned against Me, and I will pardon all their iniquities by which they have sinned and by which they have transgressed against Me” (Jeremiah 33:6-8).

““As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land; I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them in good pasture, and their fold shall be on the high

mountains of Israel. There they shall lie down in a good fold and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I will feed My flock, and I will make them lie down,' says the Lord God. 'I will seek what was lost and bring back what was driven away, **bind up the broken and strengthen what was sick**'" (Ezekiel 34:12-16).

"Look upon Zion, the city of our appointed feasts; Your eyes will see Jerusalem, a quiet home, A tabernacle that will not be taken down; Not one of its stakes will ever be removed, Nor will any of its cords be broken. But there the majestic Lord will be for us A place of broad rivers and streams, In which no galley with oars will sail, Nor majestic ships pass by (For the Lord is our Judge, The Lord is our Lawgiver, The Lord is our King; He will save us)

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"And the inhabitant **will not say, 'I am sick'**; The people who dwell in it will be forgiven their iniquity" (Isaiah 33:20-22, 24).

Physical healing will accompany the **spiritual restoration and healing** that will occur at that time as well (cf. Psalms 85:1-8; 107:17-20; Proverbs 3:7-8).

Physical human beings will in general be granted very long lives during the millennial period following the return of Jesus Christ. "They shall build houses and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; They shall not plant and another eat; **For as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people**, And My elect shall **long enjoy** the work of their hands" (Isaiah 65:21-22). Trees are perhaps the longest living of life forms on the earth, living for hundreds, even sometimes thousands, of years. This implies that many in that period will live physically for probably hundreds of years.

So in contrast to the world of sickness and disease we have today, in the world under Christ's rule, there will be health, freedom from sickness and disease, and long life for the fleshly human beings who will live in that age, except for the relatively small number who rebel against him.

### **(9) Nations will learn to worship the true God**

In today's world most people are in spiritual bondage to false gods, and false worship. There are many churches, many religions of every conceivable description. Yet the true God and his ways are largely hidden from the view of mankind.

When God gave his commandments, three of them pertained specifically to

idolatry, or false worship: “And God spoke all these words, saying: ‘I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. **You shall have no other gods before** [or **besides**, as it could be translated] **Me**. You shall not make for yourself a **carved image**, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; **you shall not bow down to them** nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. You shall not take the **name of the Lord your God in vain**, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.’” (Exodus 20:1-7).

Yet, the people of Israel, although nominally worshiping Yahweh, persistently broke the commandments forbidding idolatry and false worship.

This is mentioned in many places in the Bible, among them the following: “Also I raised My hand in an oath to those in the wilderness, that I would scatter them among the Gentiles and disperse them throughout the countries, because they had not executed My judgments, but had despised My statutes, profaned My Sabbaths, and their eyes were fixed on their **fathers’ idols**. Therefore I also gave them up to statutes that were not good, and judgments by which they could not live [i.e., laws of their own making]; and I pronounced them unclean because of their ritual gifts, in that they caused all their firstborn to pass through the fire, that I might make them desolate and that they might know that I am the Lord. Therefore, son of man, speak to the house of Israel, and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “In this too your fathers have blasphemed Me, by being **unfaithful to Me**. When I brought them into the land concerning which I had raised My hand in an oath to give them, and they saw all the high hills and all the thick trees, there they offered their sacrifices and provoked Me with their offerings. There they also sent up their sweet aroma and poured out their drink offerings. Then I said to them, ‘What is this high place to which you go?’ So its name is called Bamah to this day.’ Therefore say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Are you defiling yourselves in the manner of your fathers, and committing harlotry according to their abominations? For when you offer your gifts and make your sons pass through the fire, you **defile yourselves with all your idols**, even to this day. So shall I be inquired of by you, O house of Israel? As I live, ‘says the Lord God, I will not be inquired of by you.’”’” (Ezekiel 20:23-31).

For these sins the people of Israel anciently were sent into captivity. “For so it was that the children of Israel had sinned against the Lord their God, who had brought

them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and they had **feared other gods**, and had walked in the statutes of the nations whom the Lord had cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made.

“Also the children of Israel secretly did against the Lord their God things that were not right, and they built for themselves high places in all their cities, from watchtower to fortified city. They set up for themselves **sacred pillars and wooden images** on every high hill and under every green tree. There they burned incense on all the high places, like the nations whom the Lord had carried away before them; and they did wicked things to provoke the Lord to anger, for they **served idols**, of which the Lord had said to them, ‘You shall not do this thing.’

“Yet the Lord testified against Israel and against Judah, by all of His prophets, every seer, saying, ‘Turn from your evil ways, and **keep My commandments and My statutes**, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by My servants the prophets.’ Nevertheless they would not hear, but stiffened their necks, like the necks of their fathers, who did not believe in the Lord their God. And they rejected His statutes and His covenant that He had made with their fathers, and His testimonies which He had testified against them; **they followed idols, became idolaters**, and went after the nations who were all around them, concerning whom the Lord had charged them that they should not do like them.

“So they left all the commandments of the Lord their God, made for themselves a **molded image** and two calves, made a wooden image and worshiped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. And they caused their sons and daughters to pass through the fire, practiced witchcraft and soothsaying, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke Him to anger.

“Therefore the Lord was very angry with Israel, and removed them from His sight; there was none left but the tribe of Judah alone. Also Judah did not keep the commandments of the Lord their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel which they made. And the Lord rejected all the descendants of Israel, afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of plunderers, until He had cast them from His sight.” (2 Kings 17:7-20).

For theses same sins, God is going to allow the peoples descended from Israel in our age [including many Americans, Britons, and others] to be taken into captivity in a similar manner. But then God will intervene, to bring out those who are left

alive, and restore them.

“Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of **Jacob’s trouble**, But he shall be saved out of it. ‘For it shall come to pass in that day,’ Says the Lord of hosts, ‘That I will break his yoke from your neck, And will burst your bonds; Foreigners shall no more enslave them. But they shall serve the Lord their God, And David their king, Whom I will raise up for them. Therefore do not fear, O My servant Jacob,’ says the Lord, ‘Nor be dismayed, O Israel; For behold, I will save you from afar, And **your seed from the land of their captivity**. Jacob shall return, have rest and be quiet, **And no one shall make him afraid.**” (Jeremiah 30:7-10).

When physical Israel is brought out of captivity following the return of Jesus Christ, they will come out repenting of their idolatry, and other sins.

“‘For on My holy mountain, on the mountain height of Israel,’ says the Lord God, ‘there all the house of Israel, all of them in the land, shall serve Me; there I will accept them, and there I will require your offerings and the firstfruits of your sacrifices, together with all your holy things. I will accept you as a sweet aroma when I bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you have been scattered; and I will be hallowed in you before the Gentiles. Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I bring you into the land of Israel, into the country for which I raised My hand in an oath to give to your fathers. **And there you shall remember your ways and all your doings with which you were defiled; and you shall loathe yourselves in your own sight because of all the evils that you have committed.** Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have dealt with you for My name’s sake, not according to your wicked ways nor according to your corrupt doings, O house of Israel,’ says the Lord God.” (Ezekiel 20:40-44).

The nations will see the example of the people of Israel being freed from the grasp of their captors: “‘And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; and **the nations shall know that I am the Lord,**’ says the Lord God, ‘when I am hallowed in you before their eyes. For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land.

‘Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My

statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

'Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God. I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. I will call for the grain and multiply it, and bring no famine upon you. And I will multiply the fruit of your trees and the increase of your fields, so that you need never again bear the reproach of famine among the nations.

'Then you will remember your evil ways and your deeds that were not good; and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight, for your iniquities and your abominations. Not for your sake do I do this,' says the Lord God, 'let it be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel!'

"Thus says the Lord God: 'On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also enable you to dwell in the cities, and the ruins shall be rebuilt. The desolate land shall be tilled instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass by. So they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited. **Then the nations** which are left all around you shall know that I, the Lord, have rebuilt the ruined places and planted what was desolate. I, the Lord, have spoken it, and I will do it.

"Thus says the Lord God: 'I will also let the house of Israel inquire of Me to do this for them: I will increase their men like a flock. Like a flock offered as holy sacrifices, like the flock at Jerusalem on its feast days, so shall the ruined cities be filled with flocks of men. **Then they shall know that I am the Lord.**'" (Ezekiel 36:23-38).

Having been gathered out of captivity, and repented, the peoples descended from Israel after they are restored will cleanse the land of idols. "Thus says the Lord God: 'I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. **And they will go there, and they will take away all its detestable things and all its abominations from there. Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.** But as for those whose hearts follow the desire for their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their deeds on their own heads,' says the Lord God.'" (Ezekiel 11:17-21).

The Gentile nations also, seeing the example of Israel, will forsake their idols:

“‘Therefore behold, the days are coming,’ says the Lord, ‘that it shall no more be said, “The Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,” but, “The Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north and from all the lands where He had driven them.” For I will bring them back into their land which I gave to their fathers. Behold, I will send for many fishermen,’ says the Lord, ‘and they shall fish them; and afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks. For My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity hidden from My eyes. And first I will repay double for their iniquity and their sin, because they have defiled My land; they have filled My inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable idols.’ O Lord, my strength and my fortress, My refuge in the day of affliction, **The Gentiles shall come to You From the ends of the earth and say, ‘Surely our fathers have inherited lies, Worthlessness and unprofitable things.’** Will a man make gods for himself, Which are not gods? Therefore behold, I will this once cause them to know, I will cause them to know My hand and My might; **And they shall know that My name is the Lord.’”** (Jeremiah 16:14-21).

In this series of articles we have discussed a variety of differences between the world as it is now, and the way it will be under the reign of Jesus Christ.

There will be an end to oppression; just government; end to war; harmony among races and nations; stable government; favorable weather and abundance for all; knowledge will increase; health and longevity will be the norm rather than sickness and short lives; the nations will learn to worship the true God. This is by no means an exhaustive list of differences to be made by the presence of Jesus Christ on the earth. But I hope it provides food for thought about what it will mean when, we expect in the not too far distant future, the Kingdom of God under Jesus Christ is administering God’s government over the entire world.

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