What no Christian is to be looking or waiting for

The whole world is waiting on something. Some know what they are waiting on and some do not. People are spending their entire life on this earth frantically running here and running there, to figure out what it is that is coming. They think to hurry and find out what it is so they can “prepare” and have what is needed to control it when it gets here. But they have found nothing yet. They even have spent trillions of dollars on exploration to find out what it is beyond out there somewhere, to no avail. They have prepared a gigantic Hubble Telescope to observe the great beyond, and have come up with some beautiful pictures of the Lords glorious second Heaven, but cannot unlock the mystery. The thing is, is that all they have to do is look into God’s word to find out what is important to know about what is coming, but God and His word are not an option. So they meander on in the name of science and whatever else they call it. The Lord calls it “vanity.” To try to find out something that God has hidden is foolish and unfruitful and history has proven this. There have been great proclamations, but nothing new. Solomon say’s there is nothing new within man’s sphere of knowledge and won’t be. But on they go.

When it comes to this matter of waiting a Christian has been instructed by the Lord what to be waiting for. Not only instructed but commanded what to be waiting for in some instances. Christian, do you know what you are supposed to be waiting for according to the word of God? A few would be found in ***Romans*** ***8:18-25*** (the Adoption); ***Galatians 5:1-6*** (Perfected Righteousness); and ***1 Thessalonians 1:10*** (Our Lord Jesus Christ’s Return). There is a difference in KNOWING and WAITING. There are more, but as you can see up top, in this study we are not looking at what Christians ARE to be looking for, but what Christians **ARE** **NOT** to be looking for. Below there is a list of some of the things that Christians get themselves worried and nervous over that they should not even be looking or waiting on. Granted we can tell the signs of the times, but are not told to get caught up in them. That’s the world’s rat race. Let’s take a look.

1. *The first thing is the “****Tribulation****.” Christians are not to be waiting or looking for it.*

There are people (including Christians) that are messed up on their Bible knowledge about the Tribulation and some teach that a Christian is going into the Tribulation and some say only half of the Tribulation. The truth is as it has always been in the Scriptures and has never changed; that the Christian is “already gone” when the Tribulation arrives. They are not even here on earth anymore. They have been caught up and are with the Lord in Heaven going through the Judgment seat of Christ and the Marriage supper of the Lamb. There not even here! Also, there is not anywhere in the Scriptures that the Lord has indicated that the Church (the Bride of Christ) is appointed to go through the worst time ever on planet earth, and God’s wrath. A Christian is not to be looking or waiting for the Tribulation. You’re not going to be here. If you are here when the Tribulation begins, the Lord is going to damn you and send you strong delusion that you will believe the lies of the antichrist. As the four Gospels go through the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Christ, like so does Revelation go through the Tribulation period four different times. Not in any of those times does the Bible mention the Church being involved anywhere. Why? Because, it is not involved. They are not there. It is a time of God’s wrath, condemnation and Judgment. Do you think Christ would send His Virgin bride that He spilled His blood for through His Judgment on wicked Christ rejecting men that are waging war against Him? Nonsense! **A Church age Christian is not to be looking or waiting for the Tribulation.**

“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”

***1 Thessalonians 4:13-18***

“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.” ***Matthew 24:21***

1. *Next, is* ***the Antichrist or the son of perdition****. Christians are not to be waiting or looking for him.*

The Antichrist shows up on the scene after the Body of Christ is gone. A Christian will not be on the earth at the time of the Antichrist, the son of perdition. The ones that are upon earth during his (the Antichrists) reign concerning the Lords interests are Israel (the Jews) and the Tribulation Saints that are saved during the Tribulation period, not before. In the Tribulation salvation goes to a faith plus works salvation. One can get saved and then lose it during the Tribulation. During the Tribulation God’s interests go back and are on the Jews. Not the Church. The Church period and the age of Grace with free salvation is over and has ended and they (the Church) are gone. God is dealing with the Jews now. The Antichrist, according to your Bible does not go to destroy the Bride of Christ (their not there), he goes after the Jews (Israel) and Tribulation saints that will not take his mark or worship his image. **Church age Christians are not to be waiting or looking for the Antichrist, the son of perdition.**

“Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. **And then** shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.” ***2 Thessalonians 2:1-10***

1. *Thirdly, Christians are not supposed to be looking or waiting for* ***the mark of the beast or the revived Roman Empire.***

The Bible has many numbers in it and we can know and understand that God uses numbers. While studying your Bible the more you grow you will realize that numbers have a mystery to them in how perfect they are and how the Lord uses them. For example, we count by tens. We count one, two, three, and four…etc and then we start over at ten. God counts by sevens. Did you know that? Our God is beautiful. But, speaking of numbers, the Scriptures do teach us that the Antichrist will have a number that is specifically his. It is so specific that any one that gets that number, or mark or his name put on themselves God is going to damn. When this takes place is during the Tribulation, not the church age. Notice that it is during the time that the beast has power over the world. The church is gone at the time all of this takes place. It is in Heaven with the Lord Jesus Christ going through the Judgment Seat of Christ and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. **Church age Christians are not supposed to be looking or waiting for the mark of the beast or the revived Roman Empire.**

“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.” ***Revelation 13:11-18***

“And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God. And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.” ***Revelation 15:1-2***

1. *Christians are not supposed to be looking or waiting for* ***“the spreading of the kingdom or thy kingdom come, thy will be done”***

In the world today “man, the measure of all things” has got it in his head that he is going to bring in the kingdom or utopia that will make for peace all over, and man will no longer be inhumane with his fellow man. All will be well and beautiful. He thinks that he is going to do this without God involved and under his own power and wisdom. Well, it’s not going to happen. Take a look around you and do an evaluation of the time you have lived so far. Is man getting kinder to each other and more humane with each other? Does it appear like there is a big one world utopia being developed and formed by mans wisdom and power, and that not long from now we will all live in peace and harmony? In your stretch of life in the body so far, what have you noticed? Not what is being said, but what is actually happening in the world today. No, brother and sister according to Gods word and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, things are going to wax worse and worse, and man is going to become even viler than he is today. Sad but true. The Body of Christ is able to witness the downward spiral of man as we get closer to the Rapture, but will not be here when God begins to pour out His wrath and His Judgment upon this world. Right now, you are seeing what happens to man (getting worse and worse) on his own because he is kicking God out of everything and wants nothing to do with him. And without God in society to keep man from destroying himself (what the Holy Ghost has been doing for the last 2000 plus years) man will naturally turn into brute beasts. The Lord removes all the believers before His judgment begins. Man is not going to bring in a kingdom of peace and tranquility. He does not have the ability. He is wretched, and getting worse. Peace and a Kingdom of Peace will not come until after God is finished judging this world and Christ returns to rule and reign for 1000 years. Stop looking for a kingdom. You will be with the Lord in Heaven and return with Him when He comes to “bring in the True Kingdom. **Church age Christians are not supposed to be looking or waiting for “the spreading of the kingdom or thy kingdom come, thy will be done”**

“And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.” ***Matthew 24:3-8***

“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, **then** shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:” ***Matthew 25:31?***

“And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and **of his kingdom** there shall be no end.” ***Luke 31:33***

“But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when **they** shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.” ***1 Thessalonians 5:1-3***

“And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies **which were in heaven** followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.” ***Revelation 19:11-16***

1. *Christians are not supposed to be looking for or waiting for* ***“a revived or spiritual renewing and thousands of conversions.”***

Laodicean says it all. “Lukewarm” Not the world! The term in the Scriptures of Laodiceanism is not used toward the world or for the world. The world is in darkness. Has been and will always be until Jesus Christ is here ruling and reigning. The term is being used for the church. The Body of Christ that is saved and on its way to glory. In these last days in the Laodicean period the church goes into apostasy. It is as we speak. It has turned away from the “truth” and become “lukewarm” and the Lord says He will spue it out of His mouth. The church and its importance here on earth as we wait on the Lord is steadily becoming ineffective. It is no longer producing any effect upon the world, or the effect that the Lord intended. There are those that are still faithful to the Lord and serving Him, and there still are souls being won. But to be waiting on and looking for a revival or spiritual renewing is vanity. Look around. Does it appear there is a spiritual renewal coming, or even a desire for it. There is a spiritual change going on indeed, but not by God the Holy Ghost. He is fixing to leave this world for a while. The spiritual change is headed into apostasy, away from the truth and into deceit and lies. **Church age Christians are not supposed to be looking for or waiting for “a revived or spiritual renewing and thousands of conversions.”**

“And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.” ***Revelation 3:14-19***

“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not. For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord. But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption; And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man’s voice forbad the madness of the prophet. These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.” ***2 Peter 1-22***

“Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before.” ***Matthew 24:23-25***

“I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.” ***2 Timothy 4:1-4***

“For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely. They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace. Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD. Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.” ***Jeremiah 6:13-16***

1. *The Christian is not to be looking for or waiting for* ***“the Last Judgment, or end of the world.”***

As you read previously ***“…they will not endure sound doctrine.”*** Not only is it becoming rare for sound Bible Doctrine to be taught to the saints, they have begun to not endure it. Sound Doctrine will not go along with the world or mingle with the world so it has to be cooled off to a lukewarm state. Having said that, Christians are not to be looking or waiting for the Last Judgment, or the end f the world. If they knew their Bibles better they would know that there is not only the last judgment but Seven main Judgments spoken about in the Scriptures. Many have not been taught this, and many Christians that have been in church a long time still do not know in which one (if not more) of these Judgments they will appear, or is concerning them.

The Scriptures tell us that the saved (Born-Again saints) (the Body of Christ) (the Church) appears at the Judgment seat of Christ after the Rapture when the Lord comes privately and catches away the Church age saints. They go to Heaven with the Lord and appear before the Lord Jesus Christ to be judged for their works that they did in the body while they were upon earth and after they were saved. This Judgment has nothing to do with salvation or Heaven and Hell. All being judged at this Judgment are saved. No lost person appears at this Judgment. The “LAST JUDGMENT” is what is referred to as the Great White Throne Judgment in which all the dead stand before God and are sentenced to the Lake of Fire. No saved are sentenced to the Lake of Fire from the Church-age. The end of the world happens just before this Judgment. It is dissolved by fire by the Lord and burnt up. The Christian is “once saved always saved” from the Church-age in which we are in right now. You (if you are saved) will not appear before God at the “Last Judgment,” nor do you have to fret the end of the world. You will have been with the Lord a good while before He destroys the world literally and do not have to worry about being burnt up with the world. You have “Eternal Life” if you are saved in the Church-age. Therefore, **the Church age Christian is not to be looking for or waiting for “the Last Judgment, or end of the world.”**

“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.” ***Revelation 20:11-15***

“But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.” ***Romans 14:10-12***

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”

***2 Corinthians 5:10***

“But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.” ***2 Peter 3:8-13***

1. ***The Church-age Christian IS “to be looking for and waiting for the Lord Jesus Christ to show up.”***

“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.”

***Titus 2:11-15***

“WE ARE NOT JUST TO BE “**KNOWING**” THAT CHRIST IS COMING;

BUT **“WAITING”** AND **“LOOKING”** FOR HIS RETURN

A boy was told by his mother (right before she made a two-block trip to the grocery store) not to “get into the cookie jar” while she was gone. He promised. She left, but having forgotten her check book; she turned around about a block short of the store and came back. She caught “junior” standing on a stool in the pantry with one hand in the jar, one hand on the shelf, and a large-sized oatmeal cookie in his mouth. Did he **know** she was going to return? Of course! Was he **waiting** and **looking** for her return? You answer! ~PSR~