

## **GOD'S PLAN FOR END-TIMES CHRISTIANITY**

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What if you knew how all this was going to come down?

All this what?

All this latter descent of civilization into chaos.

What if you knew the details of Saint Peter's statement that earthly judgment shall come first to the Church and then to the world [1 Pet. 4:17]?

Well, you can know, because, it's in the Bible, detailed in 180 specific scriptures. This scribe read those scriptures and put together the story they told. And, it's quite a story. It follows the outline shown below.

The story shows that in our time of Jesus' second advent, events are going to follow the pattern set by His first advent. Just as His Jewish Church was judged, so our Christian Church shall be judged. Just as Jesus' followers were persecuted by the government, so shall Jesus' end-times followers be persecuted. It's going to be a replay of the Book of Acts, all over again. However, now the Book of Revelation also applies.

And, it's all going to happen here on Earth. We're not talking about heaven or eternal judgment.. That's later. We're talking about the Church and the world being judged by God in the here and the now. That judgment includes persecution, both inside the churches and outside. And, there's no 'easy out' for us, just as there was no 'easy out' for Jesus. Jesus told us in Matthew 24 that we'd go through Great Tribulation, and John confirmed it in Revelation 7. So, there's no 'Pre-Trib Rapture,' to take us out before it happens. That's just wishful thinking.

Knowing this 'bottom line', what shall we do?

Francis Schaeffer asked the same question.<sup>1</sup> His answer was that believers are to understand what their Christian duties are in these times, and to take action, based on that understanding. Christians are not excused from speaking, just because the world or the churches don't want to hear it. And, that's our answer, too.

We're sitting on top of the 'what, why, and how' of God's plan for Christians in the very end-times. We are to carry this message to the churches and the world. As for the 'where and when' of carrying the message, we must rely on the Holy Spirit to send us, just as did Jesus and the original apostles. And, the Holy Spirit always comes through.

So, what we need to be doing now is getting the story together for all those Christians and unbelievers who don't know about what's going to happen. We need to get prepared to explain that the present downward trend of civilization is all factored into God's plan. He's foreseen it and planned for it. And, so must we.

## **The ‘What’ and ‘Why’ of God’s Corporate Plan**

Detailed in The First Book – The Church Visited<sup>2</sup>

1. Corporate Idolatry and the Prophets’ Role.
  - a. The Nature of Christian Corporate Idolatry.
  - b. The Elijah Role – Then and Now.
2. A Necessary Transition in the Prophetic and Governance of the Churches.
  - a. Transition in the Prophetic.
  - b. Transition in Governance.
  - c. The Connection Between the Transitions - Jesus.
3. First Signs of the Transition.
  - a. Shepherds Selling Out the Flock.
  - b. Travail in the Churches – The Sheep Are Fleeing.
  - c. Jesus Takes Over Directly Feeding the Unchurched.
4. The Prophets’ Tasks – Warning God’s People.
  - a. Warning - Get Ready to Move Out.
  - b. Warning – Lack of Understanding.
  - c. Warning – Idolatry in the Churches.
5. Differentiating Individual and Corporate Prophecy.
  - a. Prophets as Watchmen Over the Churches.
  - b. It’s About the New Covenant.
  - c. Corporate Restoration of the Churches.
  - d. How God Deals With Corporate Apostasy.
6. Judgment in the Churches.
  - a. From Idolatry to Judgment to Captivity.
  - b. Judging, Based on Hearing Jesus.
  - c. Recognizing That the Enemy is in the Sanctuary.
7. Standing Fast in Individual Faith.
  - a. God Won’t Forsake Individuals During Corporate Judgment.
  - b. Remembering What God is Doing, Corporately.
  - c. Hear and Learn From God, Individually.
8. Jesus’ Corporate Appearance in the Churches.
  - a. Jesus as “The Branch,” Rebuilding the Temple.
  - b. It’s Jesus’ “*phaneroo*” Appearance in the Church.
  - c. It’s Jesus, Manifested Corporately.
9. Judgment of the Churches.
  - a. Two Kinds of Doctrinal Error – Pastoral and Governmental.
  - b. Judgment of the Church, Just Before the Times of the Antichrist.
  - c. The Sequence of Judgmental Events.
10. Bringing the Churches to Maturity.
  - a. The Starting Point – Where We Are, Now.
  - b. What Happens During The Transition.
  - c. What Happens After The Transition.
  - d. The Maturing Process.

## **The ‘How’ of God’s Corporate Plan**

Detailed in The Second Book – The Church In Transition<sup>3</sup>

1. Commissioning the Transition Prophets.
  - a. God Has a Plan.
  - b. It’s for the Remnant of the Captive Remnant Church.
  - c. It Will be Seen as the Third (Corporate) Advent of Elijah.
2. Apostolic Prophets.
  - a. It Starts With Ministry to the Remnant Church Before Its Total Captivity.
  - b. It Confronts the Governance of The Remnant Church.
  - c. It Results in Persecution by the Churches of the Confronting Prophets.
3. Restoring the Churches.
  - a. Replanting the American Church – The Biblical Symbolism of the Eagle.
  - b. The Corporate Jesus – Glorified by Church Prophetic and Governance.
  - c. Seeing Jesus in the Great Tribulation.
4. Teaching the Great Tribulation Church.
  - a. The Corporate Jesus.
  - b. Resting in God.
  - c. Spirit and Heaven Versus Flesh and Earth.
  - d. Admonishing Bad Teaching.
5. Restoring the Apostolic Governance to the Church.
  - a. Apostolic Prophets as Friend of the Bridegroom.
  - b. Carrying Jesus’ Message to the Bride Before the Wedding.
  - c. Restoring Apostolic Governance as it Was in Jesus’ Time.
6. Birthing the Overcoming Church of the Great Tribulation.
  - a. The ‘New Church – Old Church’ Situation.
  - b. Carrying a Message That Says, “*The Church Condition is as Prophesied.*”
  - c. Rejection of the Message by the Old Church.
  - d. Eleven Common Themes of Apostolic Persecution in the Churches.
7. The Apostolic Tasks Following the Transition.
  - a. It’s a Teaching Ministry.
  - b. It’s All About Spirituality, Maturity, and the Will of God.
8. Churches in Captivity – False Prophecy.
  - a. The Captivity is God’s Judgment on the Church.
  - b. We Worship Where We Can, in Homes and Temporary Places.
  - c. We Don’t Rebel and Play Church With False Prophets.
  - d. It’s Going to Be This Way Until The Rapture.
9. Jesus’ Reassurance.
  - a. Don’t Tolerate False Prophecy. Hang On Until I Come.
  - b. It’s All About Power – Wait For It.
  - c. Your Praise Will Be From God, Not Man.

<sup>1</sup> The Complete Works of Francis A. Schaeffer, vol. 5, book 2, Chapter 13, The alternatives, A Special Note, pp. 253-255, Crossway Book, ISBN 0-89107-336-1, 1982.

<sup>2</sup> The Church Visited, [http://alphaquila.org/Library/book\\_tcv\\_download.pdf](http://alphaquila.org/Library/book_tcv_download.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> The Church in Transition, [http://alphaquila.org/Library/book\\_tcit\\_download.pdf](http://alphaquila.org/Library/book_tcit_download.pdf)