

## New Years Exhortation 1/2/22

Recent lessons in 1 Corinthians

Ch 9:16-27

we are in a race; finish well; run to win!

Ch 10:1-13

Israel as an example of not finishing well

An exhortation to set the tone for 2022 in these last of the last days (Heb 1:1-2)

Again, Israel is the example

1 Chron 12:32a

the children of Issachar, *which were men* that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do

Israel is the Lord's prophetic timepiece whereby His people know what He is doing  
so we can run to win the race and finish well our course

We can only understand the news (current events) in light of the Word of God  
(prophetic events)

What is the next event on God's prophetic calendar regarding the Church?

The Rapture

When does the Rapture happen?

No one knows

Following 1948 and 1967, what is the next event in God's prophetic calendar regarding Israel?

Ezk 38-39 (before Ezk 40-48...the Mil Reign of the King of Israel)

Ezk 38:1-16

Ezk 38:23

Ezk 39:2-7

Ezk 39:13

Ezk 39:21-29

What "News" do we get from the Middle East: Israel, Iran, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Iraq to help us understand the times?

Cannot by watching American news sources

Cover only Covid, politics, violence and lawlessness, celebrities – that which sells  
i.e. ratings...it's all about the money and agenda

Almost no coverage of Israel and their neighborhood

How can we "1 Chron 12:32"...

understand the times in which we live to know what we ought to do...

in "The Information Age" that has become "The Control of Information Age"?

By doing our due diligence elsewhere

Jerusalem Post

Haaretz

[www.israel365news.com](http://www.israel365news.com)

[www.jewishpress.com](http://www.jewishpress.com)

[www.worldisraelnews.com](http://www.worldisraelnews.com)

[www.unitedwithisrael.org](http://www.unitedwithisrael.org)

NewsBreak

Telegram and Amir Tsarfati

Iran smuggling weapons to Hezbollah in Syria and Lebanon for attacks on Israel  
Israel executed 2 precision missile attacks on containers in the Syrian port of  
Latakia last month after departures from Iranian ships,  
causing massive explosions heard 50 miles away  
Pres Assad getting tired of Iran's invasion of their national sovereignty  
blaming Iran vs Israel for destruction of their ports etc  
Russian support of the Assad regime in Syria  
Russia treaties with Iran  
Something has to give...

Iran supplying terrorists in Yemen  
Saudi Arabia coalition is striking back, including on a commercial airport

Much is happening, leading up to the setting of a hook in the jaw by the Lord

When does Ezk 38-39 happen – before or after Rapture?

When the Church is the witness of Jesus Christ on earth...or when Israel is?  
If Israel, where is the Church?!  
In heaven, having been snatched off the earth  
1 Thes 1:9-10  
1 Thes 5:9  
Rev 4:1

These last of the last days are like other days when the righteous are removed before the  
judgment of God falls

## Luke 17:26-33

### Days of Noah

- The wickedness of man was great in the earth (Gen 6:5)
- Every imagination of the thoughts of man's heart was only evil continually (Gen 6:5)
- The earth was corrupt (Gen 6:11)
- The earth was filled with violence (Gen 6:11)
- All flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth (Gen 6:12)
- The wicked were completely oblivious to the judgment coming (Luke 17:27)
- Deception and confusion were rampant

### Noah

- just (Gen 6:9)
- walked with God (Gen 6:9)
- found grace in the eyes of the Lord (Gen 6:8)
- told by God to do something before the judgment of God fell on the earth and he did it (Gen 6:13-22)
  - by faith, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith (Heb 11:7)
  - was a preacher of righteousness (2 Peter 2:5), the 8<sup>th</sup> after Enos when men began to call upon the name of the Lord (Gen 4:25-26)
- his righteousness comparable to Daniel and Job (Ezk 14)
- was saved/preserved/delivered by God from the wrath of God because he was righteous before God (Gen 7)

### Days of Lot (Sodom)

- Pride...proud of their rebellion against the holy God (Ezk 16:49)
- Fulness of bread...everything we need, on top of the world (Ezk 16:49)
- Abundance of idleness...material prosperity, unwilling to work (Ezk 16:49)
- Neglect of the poor and needy (Ezk 16:49)
- Haughty...arrogant, self-exalted (Ezk 16:50)
- Committed abomination...disgusting, perverted sexual sin (Ezk 16:50, Lev 18, Lev 20)
- Gave themselves over to fornication with strange flesh (Jude 7)
- An example to those that should live ungodly (2 Peter 2:16), suffering the vengeance of eternal fire (Jude 7)
- The wicked were completely oblivious to the judgment coming (Luke 17:28)
- Deception and confusion were rampant

Lot

- just (2 Peter 2:7)
- righteous (2 Peter 2:8)
- was saved/preserved/delivered by God from the wrath of God (2 Peter 2:7)

As were the Days of Noah and the Days of Lot, so are these last of the last days

Things are NOT falling apart, they are falling into place

The madness, the fear, the confusion, the deception...everything is falling into place

Days that end with the judgment of God

But first, the righteous are preserved/saved/delivered

Today, the Church is still the witness of Jesus Christ on earth

The Church is not commissioned to save the world, but to call people out of the world into the kingdom of God

As then (Days of Noah and Lot), so now – Refining fire before Consuming fire

1 Peter 4:17 the time *is come* that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if *it* first *begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God?

The Lord is currently testing and refining

1. His Church (all fellowships, all who carry His name)
2. Every church (us as a fellowship)
3. Every part of His Body (us individually)

Ch 9:19-27 we are in a race; finish well; run to win!

Ch 10:1-11 Israel as an example of not finishing well

1 Cor 14:3 His Word is for our edification, exhortation, and comfort

The exhortation, the call to self-examination:

- a. Are we entangled in the fear and confusion and deception of the world...  
or have we clarity of sight and discernment coupled with a resolved diligence to  
finish well our course?  
and are we focused on the calling the Lord has given us to know Him and make  
Him known to deflect the stream of distractions the world hurls at us?
- b. Are we witnesses of Jesus Christ to the lost people all round us...  
running to win the all-too-real race to the Finish Line of seeing Jesus Christ  
face-to-face?  
pushing thru the pain to the glory that lies ahead?

Or are we on a Peloton

- simply running in place
- running alone, seeing only digital representations of other people
- a “play” race, remote participation, training but not running a real race  
to win to see Jesus?

Or are we...

- tuned out, oblivious as the world in the Days of Noah and Lot
- distracted by the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches
- giving up and stopping short of the Finish Line, like Israel did

To run to win in days like the Days of Noah and the Days of Lot,  
We need to be as Noah and Lot

- just
  - Zech 8:16-17      These *are* the things that ye shall do; Speak ye every man  
the truth to his neighbour; execute the judgment of truth  
and peace in your gates: And let none of you imagine evil  
in your hearts against his neighbour; and love no false oath:  
for all these *are things* that I hate, saith the LORD
  - Zech 8:19b      love the truth and peace
- righteous, heirs of righteousness which is by faith (1 Cor 1:30-31, Rom 8:17)
- having grace in the eyes of the Lord and walking with God  
(Gen 5:24, Enoch before Noah)
- told by God to do something before the judgment of God fell on the earth and  
faithfully doing it...
  - call upon the name of the Lord
  - seek and save the lost...NOT to save the world
  - occupying until Jesus comes to snatch us off the earth
  - teaching and preaching the Gospel (Matt 28:18-20, 2 Tim 2:24-26)
  - exhorting the lost to be reconciled to God...Rom 10:13
  - shining our Light
  - walking by faith and not driven by fear
- saved/preserved/delivered by God from the wrath of God

Luke 21:28    And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

Luke 21:36    Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Matt 24:22-24    And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. 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.

The pervasive deception in the world is especially dangerous to...the Church!  
Our diligence as followers of Jesus Christ is being tested

Zech 6:15b    diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God

- Daily Reading
- Prayer
- Love, Light, Life

The tone for 2022:

- understand the times (can only if understand the Bible)
- diligence in our walk with the Lord every day, in every situation and circumstance
- focus on the Finish Line
- being a good witness of the love and hope of God in Jesus Christ
- watching and being ready for the next prophetic event regarding the Church

Prayer