

## **WHERE ARE WE?**

### **2 Peter 3:3-4**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION-**

- a. Taking long trips in the car with small active children... can be a challenge.
- b. Today there are all kinds of electronic gadgets to keep children preoccupied on trips... but that was not the case when our children were small.
- c. Back in the day... traveling a long distance in the car with small children ...would really teach you a lot of patience.
- d. Back then we did not have GPS systems as we do today... we used actual paper maps.
- e. One of our children loved to hold the map when we traveled... and he would want to know often... like every five minutes often... where we were on the map... and where we were going.
- f. Today I want to use the Bible as a map... to talk about where we are in human history.
- g. One of the things the Lord has done in His Word... is to give us an outline... a map of human history.
- h. The map of history the Bible gives us begins with Genesis 1:1... and ends with Revelation 22:21... the first and last verses of the Bible.
- i. The Bible does not tell us how many days and years are in between those two verses... but the Bible does give us an outline of history between them ... and using the map of the Bible... we can have a good idea of where we are in human history.

#### **II. THE ASSAULT ON THE BIBLE-**

- a. One of the things that Satan has tried to do over the centuries... is to cause people to doubt and dismiss the Word of God... that began in the Garden of Eden and it continues today.
- b. No other book in history has been assaulted and attacked like the Bible ... and it is not just atheists and non-Christians that Satan has used to attack God's Word.
- c. Over the centuries... Satan has used multitudes of false Christians and fake believers ... many of them presenting themselves as Christian preachers and teachers... to undermine, pervert, assault and attack the Bible as God's Holy Word.
- d. In Matthew 7:15... Jesus warned... *"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves."*
- e. Today the attacks on the Bible as God's Word...from inside and outside the church... have never been greater.
- f. The two books of the Bible that Satan attacks the most ... are the first and last books... Genesis and Revelation.
- g. Genesis tells us of Satan's rebellion and fall... Revelation tells us of his final defeat and his destiny in the lake of fire.
- h. Genesis tells us where mankind's journey began... and Revelation tells us where mankind's journey in this world will end.

### **III. SATAN'S ASSAULT ON GENESIS-**

- a. Satan's focus has always been on denying the creation account of Genesis... since time began...Satan has attempted to erase God the Creator from His creation.
- b. To do this in modern times... Satan concocted the idea of evolution ... the ridiculous idea that everything there is came from nothing.

- c. Satan has sold evolution as the truth... and many in this gullible and rebellious world have bought the idea of evolution completely.
- d. Not only have many in the lost world accepted evolution as true... but many in the church... from the current Pope to many main-line evangelical preachers and teachers have to some degree or another accepted the theory of evolution.
- e. I have in my library a book by a leading evangelical pastor... who says that he believes that God used evolution to create the world.
- f. But, if you are a serious student of God's Word... and you do a careful, serious, word-for-word expository study of the creation account found in Genesis 1 ... you will discover that God Himself makes it very clear that He did not use evolution in creation.
- g. The creation account of Genesis 1 and the theory of evolution cannot be mixed and they cannot be reconciled... evolution and the creation account of the Bible are like oil and water... they cannot be mixed.
- h. You cannot cram the theory of evolution... into the creation account of the Bible.
- i. In the creation account of Genesis 1... God makes it very clear by the precise grammar and language He uses... that He created the universe and all that there is in seven, twenty-four hour days.
- j. God did not have to take seven days to create all that there is ... He could have created all that there is in an instant and even faster.
- k. But God took seven days to create all that there is... to embed and establish in His creation... a rhythm of time and a rhythm of life for mankind.
- l. When God created all that there is... He did not create it stages and He did not use a process to create.

- m. The Bible says that God spoke and it was instantaneously done... and God created all that there is fully matured with the appearance of age ... and that includes Adam and Eve.
- n. The theory of evolution is not provable because it is not true... it is not scientific... it is not logical... and it is not possible ... yet today Satan has used the theory of evolution to deceive multitudes and to deny the truth of God's Word.
- o. Today in our schools and universities ... students who reject evolution and believe the Bible's account of creation... are laughed at... intimidated...and made to feel like idiots...but we are not the idiots... we are not the ones who believe that nothing created all that there is.
- p. We may be laughed at now... but on the day of judgment... we are not the ones who will stand before the One who created all that there this and hear Him say... as He said to Job in Job 38:4... "*Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?*"
- q. The Bible says that Adam was a real person... and according to Genesis 5:5 Adam lived 930 years.
- r. Since Adam was created on the sixth day of creation... we can use the genealogies and the timeline of the Bible to pinpoint when creation occurred and how old the earth is.
- s. According to the Bible... the earth is not billions of years old as evolution claims... according to the Bible the world was created somewhere around 6,000 years ago.
- t. What evolution says took billions of years to evolve... God did in an instant of time... and He did it around 6,000 years ago.
- u. Those who believe in evolution mock this... but prior to Charles Darwin the author of evolution... any educated man who suggested that mankind was older than 6,000 years was seen as a fool.

- v. All historical records fit into this 6,000 year time period... you can study European history... you can study Egyptian historical records ... you can study the history of any ancient country and culture... and they all go back no further than 6,000 years.
- w. What about fossils?... Noah's flood caused many of them... What about carbon-dating?... because evolutionary theories of time measurement are false... carbon dating is not accurate ... What about the dinosaurs?... species may die... species may adapt ... but there is absolutely no evidence that species evolve.
- x. If creation occurred 6,000 years ago... how can we see light from stars that are millions of light years away?... when God created the stars... He created the light they produce between the stars and earth.
- y. By the way... if man came from monkeys... why are there still monkeys?
- z. According to the Bible... mankind's journey began... 6,000 years ago.

#### **IV. SATAN'S ASSAULT ON REVELATION-**

- a. Not only does Satan hate the book of Genesis... he also hates the book of Revelation.
- b. Revelation exposes Satan for who he is... it exposes what he really wants for mankind... it exposes how the world would be if he was in charge ... it exposes his eternal destiny and the end result of what happened when Jesus defeated him at the cross and by His resurrection.
- c. As Satan has deceived many into doubting and dismissing the book of Genesis... he had deceived many into doubting and dismissing the book of Revelation.
- d. Today like never before...what the Bible teaches about the rapture of the church... the time of tribulation... the Antichrist... the battle of

Armageddon ... the Second Coming of Jesus Christ... is scoffed at by the world... and not only by the world... but by many in the professing church.

- e. What the Bible predicts in 2 Peter 3:3-4... has truly come to pass in our day... *“Knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.”*
- f. It is one thing when the world rejects the Second Coming of Jesus Christ... it is something else... when those who claim to be Christians and those in the professing church denies the Second Coming.
- g. There are some churches in America... where the Second Coming of Jesus Christ has not been preached in years... if ever.
- h. Since the idea of the Second Coming of Jesus... is scoffed at, dismissed, seen as ridiculous and deemed offensive by the world.
- i. Many of today’s churches who have a desire to be seen as trendy, modern, contemporary, hip, different and tolerant... stay away from the book of Revelation and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.
- j. Not only do they stay away from the Second Coming... they stay away from the cross... and sin... and hell too.
- k. These churches stay away from these great truths so they will not offend the world ... the problem with these churches is that they want to attract the world ... more than they want to save the world through preaching and proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- l. And they stay away from the Second Coming in particular... because they don’t really believe it is going to happen.
- m. If they do happen to delve into Revelation... they usually ignore or butcher its true meaning.

- n. The same Bible that tells us of the birth of Jesus and His first coming ... is the same Bible that tells us that He is coming again... not as a baby born in a stable... but as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
- o. Peter said in 2 Peter 3:10 you can scoff at the Second Coming of Jesus Christ if you want to... *“But the day of the Lord will come...”*
- p. Jesus is coming again... to judge the earth and those who have rejected Him ... and that includes Satan and his angels... and those human beings who follow him.
- q. Jesus is coming again to end the curse of sin... to restore the earth ... to rule and reign over this earth for a 1,000 years ... and then finally to bring in the New Heaven and New Earth where His people will live with Him forever.
- r. So the story of mankind in this world began in Genesis 1:1... it will end in Revelation 22:21... so where are we in this journey?
- s. If Genesis 1:1 is where mankind began... and Revelation 22:21 is where we are headed... then where are we right now on the map and the timeline of the Bible?

## **V. WHERE ARE WE?**

- a. Let's follow the map... the timeline of the Bible... to find out where we are in history.
- b. According to the Bible... 2,000 years after world was created ... Abraham was born... and from Abraham the nation of Israel was established.
- c. 2,000 years after Abraham and the establishment of the nation of Israel... Jesus was born.
- d. 40 days after Jesus died and rose again He ascended into Heaven... 10 days after Jesus ascended... on the Day of Pentecost ... the church as

we know it was born... and according to the timeline of the Bible... the Church Age began.

- e. The Bible also calls the Church Age... the last days.
- f. According to the Bible... the Church Age will continue until the Rapture of the Church.
- g. Shortly after the Rapture of the Church... a 7 year time of tribulation will come upon the earth... after the tribulation... Jesus will return to this earth.
- h. According to the Bible... when Jesus returns He will reign on this earth for 1,000 years... and then after those 1,000 years... Jesus will usher in the New Heaven and the New Earth... the eternal home of God and His people.
- i. That is the timeline of the Bible... so where are we on that timeline?
- j. According to the Bible we are in the Church Age... we are in the last days... and according to the signs the Bible gives us... we are in the latter part of the last days.
- k. That means... if you will look off in the horizon... you can see the Rapture of the church... and the events of the end times rapidly approaching.
- l. We have no idea when the Rapture of the church will occur... the Bible says that no one does... but the Bible does give us signs to let us know how close we are getting... and according to the signs of the times ... we are getting close.
- m. As you travel on the road on a trip... signs will tell you where you are and how close you are getting to your destination.
- n. The Bible gives us signs to tell us where we are... and how close we are getting to the Rapture and the end of human history as we know it.

- o. There are many signs that tell us we are getting close to the Rapture ... one is the return of the Jewish people to their homeland of Israel.
- p. In 70 AD... the Jewish people were exiled from the land of Israel ... the land God gave them... the Jews did not regain control of their God-given homeland until 1948... and when they did ... the clock starting ticking toward the Rapture.
- q. Another sign that we are rapidly approaching the Rapture ... is the ever-increasing perilous times we are living in.
- r. *2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NLT2) “You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days perilous times will come. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly.”*
- s. Never has the world been more dangerous and wicked ... and it is not getting better... it is getting worse.
- t. There are many other signs that tell us... we are getting close to the end of mankind’s journey in this world.

## **VI. CONCLUSION-**

- a. In light of these truths what should we do?... if you are not a Christian ... you should get saved.
- b. When the Rapture happens you will be left behind... in a world that will rapidly become literally hell on earth... if you will not turn to Christ now in an time of grace and freedom... why do you think you will trust in Christ... in a world that is ruled by Satan and demons... when trusting in Christ will cost you everything?

- c. If you are a Christian... you should be more faithful to the Lord than you have ever been... faithful to His church... faithful in serving Him and living for Him... pursuing a holy and godly life... sharing the gospel with others.