

ALL ABOUT JESUS – 6
APRIL 15, 2018

ACTS 1:9-11

We just celebrated the anniversaries of three of the spring feasts Jesus fulfilled: Passover, unleavened bread, and first fruits. Pentecost is next, but we know it already happened. We are now living between the last spring feast and the first fall feast. This time of the harvest will end with the rapture of the church.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18 – This time period is also called the time of the Gentiles.

LUKE 21:24

1. Before His return, Jesus said Jerusalem would be conquered and controlled by Gentiles. In AD 70, this was fulfilled by Emperor Titus. The temple was destroyed and the Jewish people were scattered. Israel is now in a state of defilement.

2. Before the rapture: Israel would become a nation, regain control of Jerusalem and the Jewish people will emigrate back to Israel. This is called Aliyah.

A. **ISAIAH 66:8** – On May 14, 1948 Israel was reborn as a nation.

B. In June of 1967 Israel defeated six Islamic nations and regained control of Jerusalem. These nations attacked Israel from every border, looking to finish what Hitler started by attempting to destroy Israel and remove the Jewish people from the earth.

C. **ISAIAH 43:5-7** – The Jewish people are now returning to Israel and setting the stage for the rapture.
MATTHEW 24:32-35 (NLT)

THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH – EPHESIANS 3:1-6

1. The church age is called a mystery because it was tucked between Daniels 69th and 70th week.

A. Pentecost is called the birth of the church and beginning of the harvest. **MATTHEW 9:35-38** – The world is the harvest field, and the church has been commissioned to reap the harvest. **MARK 16:15-20**

2. Jesus spoke of seven-time periods the church would go through before the rapture in **REVELATION 1-3**. The last being the Laodocian or lukewarm period.

A. **2 TIMOTHY 3:1-5 (NLT)** – Paul describes the church of today. Our culture wants the church to adjust to what it believes is culturally acceptable. They deny God's power can change a life.

B. Since all this happened to Israel and the church, why should anyone doubt what will happen next – the rapture? The trumpet is ready to sound!

WHAT JESUS IS LOOKING FOR – LUKE 18:8

1. Jesus is looking for people that believe in His finished work.

A. **GALATIANS 2:20** – There's much to learn about His life and ministry.

B. **COLOSSIANS 2:6-10 (AMPC)** – Rooted and established in Christ.

2. What Paul thought is important.

A. **PHILIPPIANS 3:1-15 (NLT)** – These words were penned by a devout Pharisee committed to removing Christians from the earth.

B. **COLOSSIANS 1:17-22, 25-29** – Christ is our hope of glory!

C. **1 CORINTHIANS 1:30 – 2:5** – Jesus is our wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption.

CONCLUSION:

There is much to learn about the finished work of Christ and His present-day ministry as High Priest, Mediator, Advocate, Intercessor and Surety. He's coming soon, so let's get busy and be ready.