

## *The Israel of God Bible Study Class*

2515 E. 75<sup>th</sup> Street

Chicago, IL 60649

(773) 374-6413 or (800) 96-BIBLE

### **The Promise and The Time Of Its Fulfillment**

What did the Lord promise to those that will follow His covenant and testimonies? Was it the Third Heaven, which is the Father's Throne? No! The scripture states very clearly that the meek shall inherit the earth, which is the first heaven. (The second heaven is the firmament. A full study on all three heavens can be read at <http://www.theisraelofgod.com/iogheavens.htm>). This study will be brief and straight to the point. Let's begin in Revelation chapter 3 and start at the 20th verse, there we will see the Lord's promise. Take note!

**Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. (Revelation 3: 20-21)**

Note what the verse states, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne." The Lord said, "Sit in His Throne" not the Father's correct? So, what we need to do is, find out where the Lord's throne will be. Let's go into the book of Luke, the first chapter, so we can find out where His throne will be.

**And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. (St. Luke 1: 30-33)**

So, where will the Lord Jesus' throne be? Note what the above verses state, "the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David." The next question that should be asked is; where was David throne? We will go into I Chronicles the 29th chapter to find this out. Take note.

**Thus David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel. And the time that he reigned over Israel was forty years; seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem. (I Chronicles 29: 26-27)**

So, where is David's throne? Note what the scripture states, "Seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem." David ruled longer in Jerusalem on the "earth", not in the third heaven, which is the Father's throne. So, I ask "YOU" where will the Lord's throne be? ON THE EARTH IN JERUSALEM! The Lord stated in Revelation the third chapter that, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in "MY" throne." Let's confirm what we have learned thus far, by reading from the book of Psalms 132nd chapter.

**The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne. If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I**

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**shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore. For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation. This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it. (Psalms 132: 11-14)**

Note what's being stated above, "If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore. This should sound familiar to us now. Remember in revelation the third chapter where it states, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne." Over come what? Sin! And what is sin? **Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. (I John 3:4)**. The above set of scripture also states, "The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David, of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne. This should bring to mind Luke the first chapter, where it states, "the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David." And where is David's throne? In Jerusalem, on the earth. Note the last part of the above set of scriptures where it states, "the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation. This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it." This statement makes firm what we have learned thus far. Let's return to Revelation, this time we will look at the 20th chapter. Take note!

**And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. (Revelation 20: 4-6)**

Note what the first part of this set of verse states, "I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them." This should bring to mind the 132nd Psalm along with Revelation the 3rd chapter. In those two chapters it was mention thrones would be given to those that overcome. Over come what? Sin! In other words, "For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified. (Romans 2: 13)" Now that we see those that overcome will reign with Christ for a thousand years in Jerusalem.

Let's take a look at the time of the fulfillment of the promise. Let's see when the Lord will reward those that overcame. Let's go to Revelation the 22nd chapter and read the 12th verse.

**And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. (Revelation 22: 12)**

Note what the verse states, "I come quickly; and my reward is with me." The verses did not say, "I will come and get you." It states, "I come." Note the end of the verse, "to give every man

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according as his work shall be." In other words, **"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."** (James 2: 17) Plain and simple: **no works, no reward!** So, when will the people that overcome receive the promise? When the Lord comes! Let's continue. Take note what Paul says in the book of II Timothy the 4th chapter.

**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; (II Timothy 4: 1)**

When shall the Lord judge those that are alive and dead? "At his appearing and his kingdom." Remember above in Revelation the 22nd chapter where it states, "my reward is with me." So, once the Lord returns to sit upon the throne of David, those of us that have kept His covenant will receive our rewards. What will that be? "Reigned with Christ a thousand years." In other words we will be co-rulers in Christ kingdom. Let's continue in II Timothy the 4th chapter at the 6th verse.

**For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. (II Timothy 4: 6-8)**

Once again we see that Paul is letting us know that the Promise will not be given to us until appearing of the Lord's Kingdom. Paul states, "There is laid up for me a crown of righteousness." What is righteousness? Our work in keeping the Lord's covenant and commandments. Once again we see that the fulfillment of the Promise will be when the Lord Jesus returns. Let's take another look at the time the Promise will be fulfilled. Will look at II Corinthians the 15th chapter and start at the 20th verse.

**But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. (I Corinthians 15: 20-23)**

As we can see once again at His coming those that follow Him will be raised from the grave. Remember the verse in Revelation the 22nd chapter where it states, "My reward is with me." So, those that are Christ's will receive their reward at His coming. That's pretty clear don't you think? Let's take a look at St. John chapter 14, take note to what Christ says to His Apostles.

**Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. (St. John 14: 1-3)**

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Note what this set of verses state, "I go to prepare a place for you; I will come again, and receive you unto myself." The verses did not state, "I will bring you where I'm now." Because of the simple fact is this, **"And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven."** (St. John 3:13) No man has ascended into the Father kingdom but the son of man, which is Jesus, the Christ. Note something else within the verses above, "In my Father's house are many mansions, I go to prepare a place for you." Let's pursue this for a moment. Let's take a look at Hebrews the 11th chapter.

**Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.** (Hebrews 11: 1-3)

Note the verses above state, "The elders obtained a good report." But have they received the promise already? Let's see.

**These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.** (Hebrews 11: 13-14)

As we can see they have **not** received the "PROMISE". Why? Once again the Lord reward will be with Him when he returns and not a second before the time. But, note where the verses state, "They seek a country." And what country is that? Take note!

**But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.** (Hebrews 11: 16)

Remember what the Lord told His apostles in St. John the 14th chapter where it states, "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again." This city abides in the Father's house at this time. But, note Jesus says He will come again. Let's take a look at this city that was prepared for those that keep the Lord's laws and covenants.

**And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell.** (Revelation 21:1-3)

This will take place after the Lord Jesus has ruled on the earth for a thousand years with His saints. Note the above verses state, "I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from

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God out of heaven, prepared." Note also, "the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell." As you can see even the Father will dwell on the earth. In this brief study we have seen that the Lord's kingdom will be on the earth, which is called the first heaven. We have seen the Lord desires to make His habitation in mount Zion, which is Jerusalem. Those that love His appearing will dwell with Him, being His kings and priest. **There is only one person in the entire Bible that wants to dwell in the third Heaven.** So, whom are you following if you desire to live in the third heaven? Take note to the only person in the entire Bible that desires to live there!

**How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. (Isaiah 14:12-15)**

In conclusion brothers and sisters, if you desire to leave this earth and fly off to the third heaven, you are yearning to dwell with your master, Satan the devil, that old serpent that has deceived the whole world.

May the Lord bless those that fear Him and keep His commandments. In Jesus' name, Amen.