From Brother Hayes



Greetings Dear Saints,

I know many of you like myself, are disturbed by what is going on in our nation and around the world.

At the beginning of the year many of our friends were rejoicing that 2020 was gone and welcomed in 2021 with hopes of a better year without the Covid pandemic controlling their lives.

2021 is now almost over and Covid 19 and other forms of it appears to be here to stay with the present governments of the world desiring to control people more and more.

I must also mention the earthquake and preceding hurricane that devastated the southwestern part of Haiti bringing untold more hardship to the people there.

As this was still in the news the southern portion of the United States was hit with one of the most powerful hurricanes on record destroying multiplied thousands of homes and businesses in Louisiana and Mississippi.

On top of this, caring people have been astounded and horrified by the horrible handling of the evacuation of Americans and allies from Afghanistan. The United States has always been known and admired to never leave anyone behind. This was no longer the case as America's weak leaders in Washington left many of it's citizens and allies behind to be killed by the enemy.

As of this writing many are asking, what will happen next? Are we living in the final hours of time that has been prophesied to come? Have we arrived at the very end of the end time?

As I thought on my message to you this month a message I wrote back in the early part of 2000 came to mind. After reading it again I felt the message was just as vital today than when it was first written. I am sharing an edited version with you today.

I have also enclosed two additional articles: "Time of Tribulation" by the famous missionary and Nazi Concentration Camp survivor, *Corrie Ten Boom and* "*What's His Name, Jesus or Jeshua" by Dr. Michael Brown.*

-Brother Hayes

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THE DAYS OF VENGEANCE

By: Phillip Hayes

For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. [Luke 21:22]

Vengeance: *vindication, retribution, punishment.* Strong's Concordance #G1557

Have we now entered the days of vengeance when all the prophesies of the Bible will come to pass? If it is my friend, we are about to see the most horrific time in the history of mankind!

I know many Christians have been told they will not be here during this time, but is this true? When Jesus spoke to His disciples about the end time, He said, "*When ye see these things.*" Obviously, there will be some of God's people that will no doubt, <u>see these things</u>!

I am reminded of several prophetic passages in the New Testament that lets us know there will be a specific time when all of God's Word will be fulfilled. Jesus said that it would happen in <u>one generation</u>! *"Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled"* [Luke 21:32]. In the Book of Acts we find we find this prophecy: *"And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth*

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of all his holy prophets since the world began" [Acts 3:20-21].

We can plainly see by these verses that there is coming a time just before the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ that all things written will be fulfilled. The Bibles calls it a time of restitution; *(a restoration or restoring of all things).*

For years I have preached about such a time. A time when God's people will not only be restored to the faith once delivered to the saints. But, be warned my friends. It will also be a time of great tribulation, persecution and spiritual warfare!

Satan is not going to give up his strong hold easily. Remember, there was war in Heaven and Satan was cast down to the earth where he immediately began to persecute the woman that brought forth the man child and made war with the remnant of her seed. Yes, warfare is on the horizon; warfare like we have never seen before! But, Thank God! Those that know their God will do exploits during this time!

What kind of time will it be? Just what are we going to face in the very near future? I believe the Word of God only gives us hints of the terror that is about to strike planet earth! Why do I say that? Well, if God revealed fully in His Word of the coming terror, I believe that many would suffer heart attacks by just reading about it! The Apostle Paul said, "We know in part, and we prophesy in part". Paul also said, we see through a glass darkly!

I know that throughout history we have seen many natural calamities, wars, and diseases that have killed multitudes of people. In 2001 Americans were horrified as they witnessed the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City come crashing down. In recent times, we have seen Tsunamis, tremendous earthquakes, killer hurricanes and tornadoes, terrorist attacks, strange diseases and pandemics that have killed millions of people and crippled nations world-wide. But, can you imagine reading about or seeing on your TV sets where over two billion men, women, boys and girls have been killed? This is exactly what the Book of Revelation prophesies! "And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths" [Revelation 9:17-18].

"The third part of men, killed"! Presently, it is estimated that there are approximately 7.8 billion people alive on planet earth. A third of those would be over 2.5 billion killed! Killed by Fire, Smoke, and Brimstone! A horrific time!

No, we are NOT PREPARED for such a time that is coming! We have slumbered and slept. We are spiritually asleep. Our ears are dull of hearing and our eyes are heavy with sleep. Our minds are numb, and our hearts are overcharged with over indulgence and the cares of this world. Most are desiring more of the world: more money; better, and bigger things. Most are anticipating the "good life" in the natural and a mystical escape called the "rapture" when times do get tough. We have become escapists, instead of soldiers ready to fight the "good fight of faith". No, most are not ready for what is coming!

Some might think that I do not believe in the "rapture of the church". Let me be crystal clear here. I do believe in the rapture of the church if the term "rapture" identifies the glorious event that is the first resurrection as taught by the apostles! I believe in the clear teachings of Jesus and the Apostles. The Apostle Paul was very clear concerning what would happen at the second coming of our Lord: "*But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no* hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words" [1Thessalonians 4: 13-18].

thousand times, Yes, I believe Yes, a in the resurrection of those that have died in Christ and for those of us that will be alive when Jesus returns! It is plain by these scriptures that some of God's children will be alive at the second coming of the Lord! If Jesus comes back after the tribulation He spoke of in Matthew chapter twenty-four, then there will be Christians that survive this great tribulation and are faithfully awaiting the Lord's return. Jesus said: "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." [Matthew 24: 29-31]

In Paul's First Epistle to the Thessalonians, he was very clear that the dead in Christ, and those that were alive and remained, would be <u>caught up</u> (this is where they get the word rapture) together when Jesus returns to this earth.

Notice, Matthew twenty-four clearly states that Jesus returns in the clouds *after the tribulation*, <u>not before</u> the tribulation. After the tribulation Jesus returns to the earth, and then the blessed event described as the resurrection happens. My friend, please understand that no one leaves this earth until the dead are resurrected first and the resurrection does not happen until Jesus returns!

Again, the Apostle Paul is very clear concerning this teaching. Remember now, Paul said that Jesus would return with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ would rise first. In First Corinthians the Apostle speaks of this mystery that will happen at the last trump! "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." [1Corinthians 15: 50-53] There it is, we will be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, and it will be at the <u>last trump</u>.

I know there have been some in time past that have taught a *secret rapture* where only a select few will be caught away to heaven to wait out the great tribulation of the end time. There have been others that have taught there were as many as *seven* different raptures for various classes of Christians.

Perhaps you have another theory and think that I am wrong in what I have stated concerning the timing of the resurrection *or rapture*, and perhaps the proponents of a secret rapture are wrong! Maybe, you think Paul was wrong! But does it really matter what your theology is concerning the timing of such an event that will certainly come to pass?

Children of God we have come to the time when all of God's children need to be sober minded concerning the end times. As for our differences concerning the timing of the resurrection *(rapture);* I have stated many times that there is no reason for this issue to divide the body of Christ for all God's children will soon believe the same thing concerning this event for we are living in the end of times when the scriptures are being fulfilled before our very eyes. For more on the rapture ask for our article, "The Doctrine of The Rapture".

The questions all Christians should be asking is "Am I ready for the coming of the Lord?" "Am I prepared to suffer for His Name sake?" "Am I willing to die for our Lord?" "Is the life I live acceptable to the Lord?" "If Jesus returned today, would I be raised in the first resurrection?"

If these are the *Days of Vengeance* that Jesus spoke of, are you ready for it? If you have believed that you would not face any tribulation or persecution, would you be able to stand in such times? Is your faith sufficient for whatever lies before us?

You see dear ones my desire, my commitment, my dedication, is to prepare a people for the coming of the Lord! I have no desire to be recognized before men. I have no ambitions for position or power. My whole intent is to do the will of the Father and to finish His work. My ambition is to minister Christ to a lost and dying world, and to see God's people happy, prosperous and prepared. I want you to make it no matter what lies before us and the only way I can know for sure that you will make it is for you to be one hundred percent committed to Christ.

Do you remember the story of the three Hebrew children? They did not know if God would deliver them from the fiery furnace or not! They only knew that they would not bow to other gods. Thank God, they were kept <u>in the fire</u>! Cannot you understand that <u>the same God</u> can keep us in the

fires of tribulation and persecution?! But whether He does or not, our commitment must be the same! Simply, we will not bow to false gods, or the traditions and teachings of men!

Very soon my friends, I believe we shall all be tried as by fire. Already the governments of the world (including the US and Canada) are implementing laws contrary to the scriptures; and they are imposing very harsh penalties if these laws are broken. You will have to make a choice! Stand for God's Word or compromise! There is no doubt that many (maybe even most) will compromise and give in to the governments demands. However, there will be those like the three Hebrew children that will not compromise the Truth. They will be tried, convicted, and imprisoned for their stand for God!

Not long ago I saw a vision of a horrible black storm cloud that filled the sky as far as the eye could see. In my mind's eye it seemed that this cloud was filled with fire and brimstone. I cannot accurately describe what I saw! All I know is that I only had time to turn around and scream to those that were with me, "This is it"! And then it consumed us all. I don't know why I said, "This is it". I can only imagine. However, I believe what I saw was the end of life as we know it. Sudden destruction is going to come. The scriptures have declared it, and it will come to pass. It will come in a time as we think not. A time when we are eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage. In other words destruction will come upon the world in a time when seemingly life is going on as usual.

I must ask, <u>are you ready to meet God</u>? If not, I humbly plead with you to repent of your sins now before it is too late. Obey the Apostles teaching. Repent *(which means to turn from your sins)*, and be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission *(the forgiveness)* of your sins. (See Acts 2:38-39)

TIME of TRIBULATION

By: Corrie Ten Boom

The following article was written in 1974 by Corrie Ten Boom, a Nazi Concentration Camp survivor, and very famous lifelong missionary.

The world is deathly ill. It is dying. The Great Physician has already signed the death certificate. Yet there is still a great work for Christians to do. They are to be streams of living water, channels of mercy to those who are still in the world. It is possible for them to do this because they are overcomers.

Christians are ambassadors for Christ. They are representatives from Heaven to this dying world. And because of our presence here, things will change.

My sister, Betsy, and I were in the Nazi concentration camp at Ravensbruck because we committed the crime of loving Jews. Seven hundred of us from Holland, France, Russia, Poland and Belgium were herded into a room built for two hundred. As far as I knew, Betsy and I were the only two representatives of Heaven in that room.

We may have been the Lord's only representatives in that place of hatred, yet because of our presence there, things changed. Jesus said, "In the world you shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." We too, are to be over-comers – bringing the light of Jesus into a world filled with darkness and hate.

Sometimes I get frightened as I read the Bible, and as I look in this world and see all of the tribulation and persecution promised by the Bible coming true. Now I can tell you, though, if you too are afraid, that I have just read the last pages. I can now come to shouting "Hallelujah! Hallelujah!" for I have found where it is written that Jesus said, *"He that overcometh shall inherit all things: and I will be His God, and he shall be My son."* This is the future and hope of this world. Not that the world will survive – but that we shall be overcomers in the midst of a dying world.

Betsy and I, in the concentration camp, prayed that God would heal Betsy who was so weak and sick. "Yes, the Lord will heal me," Betsy said with confidence. She died the next day and I could not understand it. They laid her thin body on the concrete floor along with all the other corpses of the women who died that day.

It was hard for me to understand, to believe that God had a purpose for all that. Yet because of Betsy's death, today I am traveling all over the world telling people about Jesus.

There are some among us teaching there will be no tribulation, that the Christians will be able to escape all this. These are the false teachers that Jesus was warning us to expect in the latter days. Most of them have little knowledge of what is already going on across the world. I have been in countries where the saints are already suffering terrible persecution. In China, the Christians were told, "Don't worry, before the tribulation comes you will be translated – raptured." Then came a terrible persecution. Millions of Christians were tortured to death. Later I heard a Bishop from China say, sadly, "We have failed. We should have made the people strong for persecution rather than telling them Jesus would come first. Tell the people how to be strong in times of persecution, how to stand when the tribulation comes – to stand and not faint."

I feel I have a divine mandate to go and tell the people of this world that it is possible to be strong in the Lord Jesus Christ. We are in training for the tribulation, but more than sixty percent of the Body of Christ across the world has already entered into the tribulation. There is no way to escape it. We are next.

Since I have already gone through prison for Jesus' sake, and since I met the Bishop in China, now every time I read a good Bible text I think, "Hey, I can use that in the time of tribulation." Then I write it down and learn it by heart.

When I was in the concentration camp, a camp where only twenty percent of the women came out alive, we tried to cheer each other up by saying, "Nothing could be any worse than today." But we would find the next day was even worse. During this time a Bible verse that I had committed to memory gave me great hope and joy. *"If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you; on their part evil is spoken of, but on your part He is glorified" (I Peter 3:14). I found myself saying, "Hallelujah! Because I am suffering, Jesus is glorified!"*

In America, the churches sing, "Let the congregation escape tribulation", but in China and Africa the tribulation has already arrived. This last year alone more than two hundred thousand Christians were martyred in Africa. Now things like that never get into the newspapers because they cause bad political relations. But I know. I have been there. We need to think about that when we sit down in our nice houses with our nice clothes to eat our steak dinners. Many, many members of the Body of Christ are being tortured to death at this very moment, yet we continue right on as though we are all going to escape the tribulation.

Several years ago I was in Africa in a nation where a new government had come into power. The first night I was there some of the Christians were commanded to come to the police station to register. When they arrived they were arrested and that same night they were executed. The next day the same thing happened with other Christians. The third day it was the same. All the Christians in the district were being systematically murdered.

The fourth day I was to speak in a little church. The people came, but they were filled with fear and tension. All during the service they were looking at each other, their eyes asking, "Will this one I am sitting beside be the next one killed? Will I be the next one?"

The room was hot and stuffy with insects that came through the screenless windows and swirled around the naked bulbs over the bare wooden benches. I told them a story out of my childhood.

"When I was a little girl, " I said, "I went to my father and said, "Daddy, I am afraid that I will never be strong enough to be a martyr for Jesus Christ." "Tell me," said Father, "When you take a train trip to Amsterdam, when do I give you the money for the ticket? Three weeks before?" "No, Daddy, you give me the money for the ticket just before we get on the train." "That is right," my father said, "and so it is with God's strength. Our Father in Heaven knows when you will need the strength to be a martyr for Jesus Christ. He will supply all you need – just in time..."

My African friends were nodding and smiling. Suddenly a spirit of joy descended upon that church and the people began singing, "In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore." Later that week, half the congregation of that church was executed. I heard later that the other half was killed some months ago.

But I must tell you something. I was so happy that the Lord used me to encourage these people, for unlike many of their leaders, I had the word of God. I had been to the Bible and discovered that Jesus said He had not only overcome the world, but to all those who remained faithful to the end, He would give a crown of life.

How can we get ready for the persecution? First we need to feed on the word of God, digest it, make it a part of our being. This will mean disciplined Bible study each day as we not only memorize long passages of scripture, but put the principles to work in our lives.

Next we need to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Not just the Jesus of yesterday, the Jesus of History, but the life-changing Jesus of today who is still alive and sitting at the right hand of God.

We must be filled with the Holy Spirit. This is no optional command of the Bible, it is absolutely necessary. Those earthly disciples could never have stood up under the persecution of the Jews and Romans had they not waited for Pentecost. Each of us needs our own personal Pentecost, the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We will never be able to stand in the tribulation without it. In the coming persecution we must be ready to help each other and encourage each other. But we must not wait until the tribulation comes before starting. The fruit of the Spirit should be the dominant force of every Christian's life.

Many are fearful of the coming tribulation, they want to run. I, too, and a little bit afraid when I think that after all my eighty years, including the horrible Nazi concentration camp that I might have to go through the tribulation also. But then I read the Bible and I am glad.

When I am weak, then I shall be strong, the Bible says. Betsy and I were prisoners for the Lord, we were so weak, but we got power because the Holy Spirit was on us. That mighty inner strengthening of the Holy Spirit helped us through. No, you will not be strong in yourself when the tribulation comes. Rather, you will be strong in the power of Him who will not forsake you. For seventy-six years I have known the Lord Jesus and not once has He ever left me, or let me down. Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him, for I know that to all who overcome, He shall give the crown of life. Hallelujah!

-Corrie Ten Boom, 1974.

"..... let the weak say, I am strong." [Joel 3:10]

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JESUS or YESHUA or YAHSHUA?

What is the original Hebrew name for Jesus, and is it true that the name Jesus (Greek Isssous) is really a pagan-corruption of the name Zeus?

By: Dr. Michael L. Brown

I am continually amazed by how many people write to our ministry and ask us questions like this one, which came in last week: "Some Christians say we have to use the Hebrew name, Yashua. They say calling on the name of Jesus is calling on Zeus. That Jesus is a disguise name for Satan. What answers do you have for this? Where can we prove the name of Jesus is correct to use in its English translation and pronunciation?"

As bizarre as these questions are, the fact that they keep coming up means that they need to be addressed, so here are some simple responses (for more details, see What Do Jewish People Think About Jesus, question #38).

The original Hebrew-Aramaic name of Jesus is yeshu'a, which is short for yehoshu'a (Joshua), just as Mike is short for Michael. The name yeshu'a occurs 27 times in the Hebrew Scriptures, primarily referring to the high priest after the Babylonian exile, called both yehoshu'a (see, e.g., Zechariah 3:3) and, more frequently, yeshu'a (see, e.g., Ezra 3:2). So, Yeshua's name was not unusual; in fact, as many as five different men had that name in the Old Testament. And this is how that name came to be "Jesus" in English: Simply stated, this is the etymological history of the name Jesus: Hebrew/Aramaic yeshu'a became Greek Iesous, then Latin Iesus, passing into German and then, ultimately, into English, as Jesus.

Why then do some people refer to Jesus as Yahshua? There is absolutely no support for this pronunciation—none at all—and I say this as someone holding a Ph.D. in Semitic languages. My educated guess is that some zealous but linguistically ignorant people thought that Yahweh's name must have been a more overt part of our Savior's name, hence YAHshua rather than Yeshua— but again, there is no support of any kind for this theory.

The Hebrew Bible has yeshu'a; when the Septuagint authors rendered this name in Greek, they rendered it as "iesous" (Iesous, with no hint of yah at the beginning of the name); and the same can be said of the Peshitta translators when they rendered Yeshua's name into Syriac (part of the Aramaic language family). All this is consistent and clear: The original form of the name Jesus is yeshu'a, and there is no such name as yahshu'a (or, yahushua or the like).

What about the alleged connection between the name Jesus (Greek Iesous) and Zeus? This is one of the most ridiculous claims that has ever been made, but it has received more circulation in recent years (the Internet is an amazing tool of misinformation), and there are some believers who feel that it is not only preferable to use the original Hebrew/Aramaic name, Yeshua, but that it is wrong to use the name Jesus. Because of this, we will briefly examine this claim and expose the fallacies that underlie it.

According to the late A. B. Traina in his Holy Name Bible, "The name of the Son, Yahshua, has been substituted by Jesus, Iesus, and Ea-Zeus (Healing Zeus)."

In this one short sentence, two complete myths are stated as fact: First, there is no such name as Yahshua (as we have just explained), and second, there is no connection of any kind between the Greek name Iesous (or the English name Jesus) and the name Zeus. Absolutely none! You might as well argue that Tiger Woods is the name of a tiger-infested jungle in India as try to connect the name Jesus to the pagan god Zeus. It is that absurd, and it is based on serious linguistic ignorance.

Here is another, equally absurd statement: "... according to the ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA, the name Ieusus (Jesus) is a combination of 2 mythical deities, IEU and SUS (ZEUS, a Greek god)."

The response to this statement (which has as much support as the latest Elvis sightings) is quite simple: We know where the name Iesous came from: the Jewish Septuagint! In other words, this was not some later, pagan corruption of the Savior's name; rather, it was the natural Greek way of rendering the Hebrew/Aramaic name Yeshua at least two centuries before His birth, and it is the form of the name found in more than 5,000 Greek manuscripts of the New Testament. This is saying something! The name Iesous is also found in Greek writings outside the New Testament and dating to that same general time frame.

Although it is claimed that the Encyclopedia Britannica says that "the name Ieusus (Jesus) is a combination of 2 mythical deities, IEU and SUS (ZEUS, a Greek god)" it actually says no such thing. <u>This is a complete fabrication</u>, intentional or not. In short, as one Jewish believer once stated, "Jesus is as much related to Zeus as Moses is to mice."

Unfortunately, some popular teachers continue to espouse the Jesus-Zeus connection, and many believers follow the pseudo- scholarship in these fringe, "new revelation" teachings. Not only are these teachings and practices filled with error, but they do not profit in the least. So, to every English-speaking believer I say: Do not be ashamed to use the name JESUS! That is the proper way to say his name in English—just as Michael is the correct English way to say the Hebrew name mi-kha-el and Moses is the correct English way to say the Hebrew name mo-sheh. Pray in Jesus' name, worship in Jesus' name, and witness in Jesus' name. And for those who want to relate to our Messiah's Jewishness, then refer to him by His original name Yeshua—not Yahshua and not Yahushua—remembering that the power of the name is not in its pronunciation but in the person to whom it refers, our Lord and Redeemer and King.

NOTE: Dr. Michael Brown has a Ph.D in Semitic languages – which of course include Hebrew and Aramaic - the original languages of Jesus and His people. He is a recognized authority on this topic.

I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE NAME OF JESUS!

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" [Philippians 2:9-11].