

# The Floral Heights Informer

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# Imagine

Imagine you are at work some Monday or Tuesday morning. The day is no different than any other day of the week. You are doing your work and going about your normal business. Suddenly you hear the sound of a mighty trumpet sounding throughout the skies. People throughout the city and world have heard the thunderous noise. Everyone looks to the sky and sees Jesus descending with an innumerable army of angels (I Thess. 4:16a). You watch as the angels flood the whole world and pull a great number of wicked men and women from the earth. The Day of Judgment has come. This is the time that *“the Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that cause stumbling, and them that do iniquity, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth”* (Matt. 13:41-42). You watch as God pronounces judgment upon each man and woman that has ever lived upon the face of the earth. *“And the sea gave up the dead that were in it; and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, even the lake of fire. And if any was not found written in the book of life, he was cast into the lake of fire”* (cf. Rev. 20:13-15).

After the wicked, unlawful, and those who never repented of their sinful deeds have been plucked from the earth and out of the graves to be thrown into the eternal pits of hell for burning and eternal punishment you see the *“righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father”* (Matt. 13:43). At this time, *“the dead in Christ*

## Local News:

### Welcome to all our visitors.

We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please come back at your every opportunity.

Many are **traveling** throughout this holiday season. Our prayer is that they would reach their destinations safely and that they will return to us safe and sound.

Be sure to peruse our **web page** from time to time. There are articles, sermon outlines, books of the Bible studies, audio sermons, archives of past gospel meetings, and a private members only page. The URL is [www.floralheightschurchofchrist.org](http://www.floralheightschurchofchrist.org)

### Continue to pray for our shut-ins:

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*shall rise first; then we that are alive, that are left, shall together with them be caught up in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord*" (I Thess. 4:16b-17).

The earth now is void of human existence. God's power is now poured out upon the earth. *"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall be dissolved with fervent heat, and the earth and the works that are therein shall be burned up"* (II Pet. 3:10). Judgment is now complete and every soul throughout time is in their proper eternal home. Where will you be on this great day?

Thoughts of the coming of the Lord and judgment prompted Peter to write, *"Seeing that these things are thus all to be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy living and godliness, looking for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God, by reason of which the heavens being on fire shall melt with fervent heat? But, according to his promise, we look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness"* (II Pet. 3:11-13). The new home for the saints will be a place of *"no tears; and death shall be no more; neither shall there be sorrow, nor crying, nor pain, any more: the first things are passed away"* (Rev. 21:4). Those who were thrown into the lake of fire suffer *"torment day and night for ever and ever"* (Rev. 20:10).

When will this historical event take place? Matthew records, *"But of that day and hour knows no one, not even the angels of heaven, neither the Son, but the Father only... watch therefore: for ye know not on what day the Lord comes"* (Matt. 24:36ff). Let us all keep our guard up and stand upon the watch towers of life looking for and anticipating the coming of Jesus. Thoughts of eternity ought to be enough to motivate us all to live godly in Christ Jesus while spending our numbered days upon this earth.

**John C. Robertson**

# The Bible

## Introduction:

The Word of God reveals God and His eternal love for His created beings. Time and creation are revealed in the Bible (cf. Gen. 1:1; Ex. 20:9). Man has a historical record of his beginnings and his end (Heb. 9:27). The Bible tells a simple story that has eternal implications. Let us examine the Bible as a whole today and hopefully gain a greater incite into God's love, just nature, and mercy.

## I. The Bible; God's Inspired Word:

- A. Holy Spirit moved men to write (II Pet. 1:21).
- B. God breathed (II Tim. 3:16; Gal. 1:11-12).

## II. God

- A. Does God exist? (An eternal principle that proves the existence of God cf. Mk. 16:20 / Rom. 1:18-20).
- B. The Bible Reveals the Nature of God:
  - 1. God is omniscient, omnipresent, and omnipotent (Jer. 23:23-24; 32:17).
  - 2. God is love (I Jn. 4:10; II Pet. 3:9).
  - 3. God is just and holy (Jer. 9:23-24; I Jn. 1:5).
  - 4. All flesh is subject to God's laws (Jer. 32:26).

## III. Covenants / Law

- A. The Bible reveals two primary covenant laws (Law of Moses and Law of Christ) (cf. Jer. 31:31ff; Heb. 8:8ff).
- B. New Covenant Law of Christ replaced the weak and unprofitable Mosaic Law (cf. Heb. 7:18-19; Col. 2:13-15).

## IV. The Bible reveals sin / Satan (Devil):

- A. The Devil is the father all all lies (Jn. 8:44).
- B. God has always demanded obedience from His people (cf. Gen. 2:15; Deut. 11:26-28).
- C. The NT reveals God's desire for man's obedience as well (cf. Rom. 6:16; Heb. 3:16-4:1, 11).
- D. To sin is to separate one's self from the Lord (Isa. 59:1-2; I Jn. 1:5ff).
- E. The apostle John defines sin by a violation of God's laws (I Jn. 3:4) and said state is due the death penalty (Rom. 6:23).

## V. Jesus (The Remedy for Man's Sin):

- A. God knew from the beginning that man would disappoint Him (Eph. 1:3-8).
- B. Man's problem was sin (Rom. 3:23).
- C. The Lord delivered law so that man would see their need to be forgiven (Gal. 3:23-24).
- D. Forgiveness was not to be found in the OT Law (Heb. 7:18-19).
- E. God's remedy was His Son (Rom. 5:8-11).

## VI. The Lord's Church:

- A. Jesus would be the king of God's spiritual kingdom (cf. Isa. 9:6-7; Jn. 18:37).
- B. The OT foretold of this spiritual organization (cf. II Sam. 7:12-14; Dan. 2:28, 44).
- C. The NT explained the kingdom of God:
  - 1. The kingdom was to come during the lifetime of those in Jesus' day (Mk. 9:1).
  - 2. The apostle Paul reveals the establishment of the kingdom by speaking of its existence at Col. 1:13 and I Thess. 2:12.
  - 3. The kingdom of God was established on Pentecost as the Lord had promised (Acts 2).
- D. The primary function of the church is spiritual in nature (Jn. 18:36); i.e., evangelizing the lost and edifying the saints of God (Eph. 4:11-14).

## VII. Eternity:

- A. The Bible reveals an eternal existence for mankind.
- B. Heaven / Hell

## Conclusion:

The Bible tells us that only a fool would say there is not God (cf. Ps. 14:1). Sense God is, so must His promises of salvation and eternal punishment be. Let us obey God's message today!