

Unexpected By Most

IT WILL BE UNEXPECTED BY THE GREAT MAJORITY

“Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth” (Rev. 16: 15). “If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief” (Rev. 3:3). “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night” (2 Pet. 3:10).

“For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.” “For when they shall say, Peace and safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them... and they shall not escape” (1 Thess. 5: 2, 3).

“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man” (Luke 21: 34-36).

“But as the days of Noe were, so shall the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be” (Matt. 24: 37-39).

This is very plain. The coming of Christ is a great and solemn event pending, for which the church is to look and watch and be ready. The day and hour of his coming the Father only knoweth.

When the rending heavens shall reveal his presence, this world will be in a Sodom state, and as the antediluvian world before the flood. The millions of earth will be sleeping in carnal security, thousands dreaming of millennial glory.

Oh, the surprize and disappointment of the masses in that great day! Never since the foundation of the world has there been a day like this, in the surprize and terror with which it will break upon the thoughtless millions of the population.

Business and pleasure will occupy the minds of men, as usual, up to the close of the preceding day. The sun will rise and set with the same placid majesty, and as he sinks beneath the western horizon, he will fling his smiling radiance, in the same bountiful profusion, upon an admiring world.

Myriads will go to rest dreaming of future years of wealth and happiness; but the loud blast of the "trump of God" will awake them to sleep no more, and looking up, they will see the heavens on fire.

(Christ' Second Coming and What Will Follow, Kingdom Series, Vol. 2 by H. M. Riggle, Anderson, Indiana: Gospel Trumpet Company, 1918, 17-19, Paragraph Structure Modified)