

"THIS SAME JESUS"

"Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven ". Acts 1:11

Is Jesus really coming again? Do you believe it? If so, then how should you live? These are burning present questions, yet the world hurtles by in lifestyle, conduct and preoccupation as if Jesus was never going to return. It is in this context that "Go Ye into all the World" to preach the gospel becomes the transforming theme of Christian behavior and conduct in these end times. It is not enough to go to church and be involved in great activity, for then the church is wont to become a social club. It behooves us to do something about the fact that Jesus is coming again, and avoid the activity trap of the business of religion, by our actions and preoccupation that focus on process rather than product.

The history of Biblical Israel demonstrates the same Jesus theme in remnant theology. Jesus is coming to save a true remnant, the true remainder, the gist and the grist of the mill. There is a historical and traditional remnant represented by modern Israel, that is both sacred and secular. Then there is a faithful remnant, that part of God's true church who have existed through time immemorial, through persecution and through tribulation, who have looked sincerely for His coming and have acted accordingly. Then, there is the developmental remnant, a remnant that continues to grow and develop and is located in the many churches around of people who are searching for the truth. Then, there is the institutional remnant of the church today of customs, codes, policies, procedures and business of managing the church. Lastly, we have the eschatological or last day remnant, who comprise the faithful remnant alive, and whose conduct and actions points to the belief that Jesus is coming who are acting with fervent urgency to preach the gospel everywhere by all means because this same Jesus is returning soon, the Jesus of the promise of John 14:1-3. There is then no need to "gaze into the skies" forlornly. We can look forward to His return with keen anticipation and great expectations, and order our lives accordingly to a focus that is not merely self-centered, but vision and mission-driven to gather the developmental and faithful remnant from everywhere by telling others daily through every means possible, by word of mouth, by technology and by living example. Fill the airwaves, knock on doors, get out into the community and tell others. Might we not be focused on the business management of the church, the institutional remnant, rather than the eschatological remnant whose conduct, behavior, lifestyle and proclamations herald a soon-coming King? This same eschatological Jesus comes again in blazing splendor. How shall we then live? Ask the Talley family.

<https://youtu.be/MQi4iv35bZ4>