

Doctrine of the Day of the Lord

The Day of the Lord in the New Testament

1. The *Old Testament* expression “*day of the Lord*” is adopted by New Testament writers to refer to the Second Advent of Christ.
 - *1 Corinthians 5:5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.*
 - *2 Corinthians 1:14 As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also are ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.*
 - *1 Thessalonians 5:2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*
 - *2 Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*

2. At the Second Advent of Christ specific events will occur.
 - Individuals will be saved in their totality and that means that bodies will be re-united with their immortal spirits. *1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 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.*
 - There will be great rejoicing among the believers for one another. *2 Corinthians 1:14 As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also are ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.*
 - The Second Coming of Christ will come in an unexpected time which might indicate that the fascination with end time prophecy will cease and the Church will be careless on this matter or it could mean that the Lord will come suddenly and with great power whether or not there is anyone “home”. *1 Thessalonians 5:2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*
 - When Jesus comes there will be a renovation of heaven and earth. *2 Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*
 - On that “*day of the Lord Jesus*”, which is the day of His Second Advent, the saints will rise to greet the Lord in the air in order to escort the coming King to the place where He has promised to return in the same manner in which He went away (Acts 1:11; 1 Thess. 4:16ff).

3. When the Old Testament prophets are quoted in the New Testament the message is that of practical application or that of prophecy being fulfilled. For example, Amos is quoted in Matthew, Acts, and Romans.

- *Amos 4:11 I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.*

Application.

Romans 9:29 And as Esaias said before, Except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha.

- *Amos 5:25-27 Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel? 26 But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves. 27 Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, saith the LORD, whose name is The God of hosts.*

Application

Acts 7:42-43 Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets, O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness? 43 Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.

- *Amos 8:9 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord GOD, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:*

Application

Matthew 24:29 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:

- *Amos 9:11 In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old: 12 That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name, saith the LORD that doeth this.*

Interpretation

Acts 15:13 And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me: 14 Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name. 15 And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is

written, 16 After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: 17 That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things. 18 Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.

4. Historically the Old Testament prophecies find fulfillment in the generations to which they applied. When the New Testament takes the Old Testament prophecies and provides an interpretation and/or an application then that is legitimate for the writers of the New Testament were under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
5. What believers cannot do is to take Old Testament passages and thrust them into the future apart from their historical fulfillment as if those today who make the application and/or interpretation are under divine influence. In other words, there is no right to go beyond what the Scriptures teach. That this freedom to find application/interpretation of Old Testament passages takes place is unfortunate.