

### Part 3 – By the Word of the Lord

In part 2 we learned that the Word of the Lord is right (just) and that all His Works are done in truth. This is because the Lord (YHWH) is the only God of truth, which means that we'll never be disappointed when we study His Word because obeying His Word brings great blessings (such as peace of mind), even eternal life. We also learned this is important to understand because, if we don't believe that God's Word is true, or that God is real, then we won't take the advice contained within it. Many people in the past, and still today, don't believe that God is real. Or, if they do, they don't think He's fair and righteous. This is simply because they don't really know Him and also because they fail to see their own sins. We also learned of a repulsive proverb that Israel (both the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah) had back in the days they were in the Promise Land, which claimed that God punishes people for their parents' sins. However, we also learned how the Lord explained, in several places in His Word, that this is not so. He clearly 'made His case' against Israel that His ways are righteous while theirs are not. And He also made it quite clear that He only punishes children for the sins of their parents *if* they continue to do them. But, if they do *not* follow their parents' sins (or repent for them and change their heart, mind and wicked ways) then they will be blessed by the Lord for their faith and obedience to Him, regardless of what their parents did. And the same is true if their parents were righteous and their children do wickedly. The righteousness of the parents cannot 'save' their children if their children don't do likewise (and vice versa). This timeless truth is still true today. God is not partial in His judgments. He punishes people for their own individual sins. And even though He does punish nations for their sins, He still protects those who love and serve Him, even when the nation is being chastised. Such cases as Daniel, Ezekiel and Jeremiah are excellent examples of this. So, it's important for us to believe that our Heavenly Father is real, and that He is just and fair, and righteous in all his ways and works; because His actions always rest on the truth, and not lies. He thus will always punish wickedness and reward those who do what's right. Therefore, studying His Word is always worth our time and effort because obeying His Word (sincerely, from the heart) always brings blessings. We'll continue on with this thought as we move along studying this great Psalm 33...

#### *Psalm 33*

*5 He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.*

The word '**righteousness**' here is *tsedaqah* (#6666) and means: **rightness** (abstractly), subjectively (**rectitude**), objectively (**justice**), **morally** (**virtue**) or figuratively (**prosperity**) and it comes from the prime root *tsadaq* (#6663), which means **to be** (causatively, **make**) **right** (in a moral or forensic sense). And the word '**judgment**' is *mishpat* (#4941), which means **a verdict** (favorable or unfavorable) **pronounced judicially**, especially **a sentence or formal decree** (human or [participant's] divine law, individual or collective), **including the act, the place, the suit, the crime, and the penalty**; abstractly, **justice**. It comes from the prime root *shaphat* (#8199), which means **to judge**, i.e. **pronounce sentence** (for or against); by implication, to **vindicate or punish**; by extension, **to govern**; passively, **to litigate** (literally or figuratively).

Our Heavenly Father loves righteousness (doing what's right, which is explained in His Word) and judgment (righteous judgement that brings true justice) simply because *He hates evil*. And this is simply because He does not like to see His creation, including His children, harmed. And wickedness (evil) *does* harm His children, both physically and spiritually, as well as His creation, as can be seen by the way our sinful actions negatively impact the earth. In fact, if our Heavenly Father did not intervene, wickedness (wicked people doing evil things, at the behest of Satan) would truly destroy all of His Creation; something He won't stand for, thankfully. We learned about this earlier in the Psalms...

*3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?*

*4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.*

*5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.*

*6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.*

*7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.*

Ps 11:3-7

The word 'foundations' in verse 3 means, figuratively, *political or moral support* (#8356), so it's speaking of the foundation of a righteous government. So, the question is, what can the righteous do when the government becomes corrupt? And the answer is clear: we must look to the Lord (YHVH) for help because He is still in His holy Temple, in heaven, and *He sees all that goes on*. He can even see what's going on *in the hearts and minds* of **all** His children; so, He knows when a government (no matter where it is in the world) becomes corrupt (which truly always ends up happening, no matter how 'good' the intentions of the people when it's first formed). And thus, He is able to punish His children, even those in a powerful government that's oppressing their people. While the institution of a government itself is approved by God, when they stop doing their job - which is to punish evil and reward the righteous - then they lose their legitimacy. So, when the government itself begins to oppress the people, the Lord sees it, and *will* punish those who are abusing their authority. That's why verse 6 says that the Lord rains *snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest* upon the wicked (who He hates because they do evil). He will pour out His 'cup of wrath' upon them, even before Jesus Christ returns.

Examples of this are many. For all governments that have become corrupted in the past have fallen. And even when God's 'chosen' people became corrupted, He chastised them to. First when the northern kingdom of Israel was invaded and taken captive by the Assyrians (with most of the southern kingdom of Judah too). And then again when the rest of the southern kingdom (which was pretty much only Jerusalem by that time) was invaded and taken captive by the Babylonians. So, when we look around our world today - and see how all nation's governments are becoming ever increasingly corrupted (and evil) - we shouldn't fret. As Psalms 37 so clearly advises us, we should not worry when we see the wicked 'getting ahead' because 'their day is coming'. And most importantly, we shouldn't participate in evil ourselves. Truly, those who do wickedly are only 'digging their own grave'. While God doesn't always punish the wicked

*quickly*, He does punish them and ‘with a vengeance’. Oftentimes, His judgment is slow because He’s trying to get the wicked to repent. After all, as He said in Ezekiel 18, 33 and 2 Pt 3:9, He really does not want the wicked to have to die (especially spiritually). So, He sends His servants to warn the wicked to repent, and change from their wicked ways, *before* He executes judgment. Truly, that’s only fair right? People *have* to be warned to stop what they are doing, *to make sure they know what they are doing is wrong* and what the consequences of *continuing* to do so are (Ezek 3:17-21, 22:1-9). But, as 2 Pt 3 also explains, there comes a time when His patience runs out and indeed the wicked get what they deserve. Again, examples of this are many. For all powerful nations have fallen. The Egyptians fell; the Assyrians fell; the Babylonians fell; the Persians fell; the Greeks fell; the Romans fell; and now, even the Christian nations (who are *true* Israel) are falling to a ‘new world order’, which itself will fall when Jesus Christ returns. This is why the latter part of Ps 33:5 goes on to say that *the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD*. The word ‘goodness’ here is *cheched* (#2617), which means **kindness**; by implication (towards God) **piety**; rarely (by opposition) **reproof**, or (subject.) **beauty**. God is kind to His creation (including those who do what’s right because they believe in Him) in that He does not allow wickedness to continue to the point that it totally destroys the earth, or His children.

He does, however, allow wickedness to continue as a way to chastise His children in hopes of saving their soul from being ‘blotted’ out of existence, as will happen after the Millennium, as Rev 20 tells us. As such, that’s what we are now experiencing. Though the world was extremely blessed during the Christian Era - when the world saw great improvements in standards of living because the Christian nations were doing a pretty good job obeying His Laws, even if it was not with the perfection Jesus Christ will rule with – we (the world) are now being overrun with evil, simply because we’ve (the majority of people in the world) have turned away from the Lord (YHVH) in our hearts and minds and began to do evil ourselves. So, we’ve got to be chastised and chastised we will be. As Jesus warned in Matt 24:21, there is soon coming a tribulation that is so ‘great’, that there’s never been such a great tribulation since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be again. This ‘great tribulation’, of course, is when the most wicked entity (Satan, the Devil) will be cast to earth, with his fallen angels, and govern the world. And the tribulation will be so ‘great’ because it is so deceptive (a worldwide deception). And this is because Satan and his fallen angels will fool the world into giving them authority by telling them they are ‘God and his angels’ who have come to ‘save’ the world from all our troubles. Rev 13 tells us there will be a deadly ‘wound’ to the ‘new world order’ that will cause the entire world to freak out; and that’s what’ll make it so easy for Satan (and his fallen angels) to be accepted when they return. Because no one else on earth will know what to do at that point. Learn more about this in the special study **The Wound** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/438>].

But, what we cannot forget during the troubling times ahead, is that the Lord (YHVH) is in charge of all things and that He *loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD*. Therefore, He won’t allow this world to be totally annihilated. The word *order*, including all of Satan’s abilities to deceive His children (even Satan’s interdimensional internet and all other means of his propaganda) will be destroyed, as outlined clearly in Isa 24, 34; 2 Pt 3, Rev 18 and more. Our job, as faithful followers of Jesus Christ (the true King of

kings) is to *remain on earth*, faithfully serving Jesus Christ *no matter how hard times get*. As Jesus said in John 17:15, He doesn't want us to be taken out of the world (so we know there will be no rapture - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/457>) but that we should be kept from the evil. And this is because He wants to use His faithful servants – *on earth* - to warn the world to repent from their wickedness before He returns (Mth 10:18-22, Mk 13:9-13, Lk 21:12-19). And we won't be alone; God will also send two special people (the two witnesses of Rev 11) to help us in this endeavor. Therefore, we should be preparing for that day by learning to obey, and serve, Jesus Christ **now**. Because, if we are not useful and faithful servants to Jesus Christ **now**, there's no way He can trust us to be used to witness for Him during the 'great tribulation' when peer pressures and satanic deception are at its height.

### *Psalm 33*

*6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.*

*7 He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses.*

So, after this Psalm tells us to rejoice in the Lord (with the harp and stringed instruments) and sing a 'new song' to Him - and then tells us the Word of the Lord is right and all His works are done in truth – and then tells us that the Lord (YHVH) loves righteousness and (righteous) judgment – now we are told how the Lord made the heavens and all the 'host' of them simply by the 'breath' of His mouth. So, while verses 4-5 told us *why* we should praise (and serve) the Lord (YHVH), now we're also told why we should fear (revere) Him. Not only is He totally righteous, truthful and loves righteous judgment, but this verse now tells us He is in control of all things because He's created all things. But it does so in a special way because He's specifically speaking now of the heavens and the 'host' of them and goes on to speak of how He 'gathered' the waters of the sea into a 'heap' and laid up the 'depth' in storehouses... why? And what does this really mean? Well, we can find a very good explanation of what's being said here if we go to the New Testament where Peter quotes from this verse. Let's look at a portion of it...

*1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:*

*2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:*

*3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,*

*4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.*

*5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:*

*6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:*

*7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.*

*8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. [quoted from Ps 90]*

*9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

2 Peter 3:1-9

So, what Peter is saying (when referencing Ps 33 here) is that he wanted to remind us what happened after the fall of Satan in the first earth age because many people claim Jesus Christ won't be returning because nothing has changed since the beginning of the creation of this world. What they are 'willingly ignorant' of (vs 5) is *exactly* what this Psalms is speaking of, which is why Peter quotes (in vs 5-6) from Ps 33:6-7 that we're studying. And that is simply that the earth as we know it has not 'always been' this way. Most people are 'willingly ignorant' that there was a first earth age before this one, which God destroyed because of Satan's rebellion. And they are 'willingly ignorant' of this fact because they simply do not study God's Word very hard. For, if you 'rightly divide' God's Word, as 2 Tim 2:15 tells us to do, you cannot help but learning that the Bible does speak of Satan's overthrow. Many people ignorantly (because that's what their pastors teach them and they believe it without checking out the Word of God itself) think this earth is only 6,000 years old because they don't realize that Genesis 1:1 speaks of how God created the heaven and earth but Genesis 1:2 speaks of how it was *destroyed*...

*And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*

Gen 1:2

The first thing we need to understand is the word "was" has been incorrectly translated from the Hebrew language. The word "was" should have been translated "became," just as it has been translated many other times in Scripture. The word "was" (#1961) implies God created the earth "without form, and void," and full of "darkness." We know that is not true, for it would create a contradiction with Isaiah 45:18; and we know *there are no contradictions in God's Word*. God did not create the earth "without form, and void," and full of "darkness." However, it did *become* (#1961) "without form, and void," and full of "darkness" due to the fall of Satan in first 'earth age', which Peter calls 'the world that then was'. The *Companion Bible* even has an appendix (#146) devoted to explaining this. And the fall of Satan (and the subsequent destruction of that first 'earth age') occurred "*before* the heavens and earth which are now," which was established during the Seven Days of Genesis. To truly grasp the appearance of the earth at its destruction in the first earth age, which Genesis 1:2 describes, we need to understand the meaning of the words "without form, and void."

"**Without form**" is #8414 and means: *to lie waste; a desolation* (of surface), that is, *desert*; figuratively a worthless thing; adverbially *in vain*. It's been translated as: confusion, empty place, without form, nothing, (thing of) nought, vain, vanity, waste, wilderness.

And the word "**void**" is #922 which means: *to be empty; a vacuity*, that is, (superficially) an

***undistinguishable ruin.*** It's been translated as: emptiness and void.

So, God did not create the earth “a desolation,” “a worthless thing,” or “an undistinguishable ruin” and later fix His error. Just as a carpenter would not create a home as “an indistinguishable ruin,” and then make it right the second time around. Further, in Genesis 1:2 the earth was completely submerged in water “and darkness was upon the face of the deep.” We were never told about the creation of water, as it had already taken place in Genesis 1:1 with the rest of the earth. Notice, there was no land or mountains above the water, not until “the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters” and brought forward “dry land” on the Third Day of Genesis, (Genesis 1:9). This proves, the first ‘earth age’ - or as Peter calls it ‘the world that then was’ - ended in a great global flood, as the Scriptures make absolutely clear if we simply ‘rightly divide’ them as we study God’s Word. Next, consider the following...

*For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.*

Isaiah 45:18

Our Heavenly Father “formed” the earth to be inhabited. *He formed the earth for people*, animals, insects, and plants *to thrive*. God did not form the earth “without form, and void,” full of “darkness” and covered in water. Nor could life emerge from the earth if it was “an indistinguishable ruin.” So again, God did not create the earth “in vain” (as He said in Isa 45:18), which is *the same Hebrew word we find in Genesis 1:2 (#8414)*, being “without form”. YHVH, our Heavenly Father is telling us plainly: He did not create the earth “vain,” He did not create the earth “without form.” Instead, God created the earth *with* “form” (‘formed’ in Isa 45:18 above), which means, ***“to mould into a form; especially as a potter”*** (#3335). Our Father is the Potter who molded the earth into form, He “established” the earth which means He “perfected” it, (Isaiah 64:8).

Scripture makes it abundantly clear, God “is not the author of confusion”. He is not the Creator of “a desolation” - “but of peace” and ‘perfection,’ (1 Corinthians 14:33, Psalms 18:30). So, Isaiah 45:18 perfectly aligns with Genesis 1:2, *when* we understand “was” in Genesis 1:2 should have been translated “became”. **These facts bring harmony to the Scriptures.** God formed the earth in perfection, but it “became without form, void,” and full of “darkness” due to the fall of Satan. That took place in ‘the world that then was’ (the first earth age), which was “before the heavens and earth which are now.” God is gracious enough to provide us with multiple witnesses to the facts we have covered so far. As such, let’s look at another Psalm which perfectly overlays with Genesis 1:1-31, as well as this Psalm 33:6-7...

*Who laid the foundations of the earth that it should not be removed for ever.*

Psalms 104:5

God laid the foundations of the earth “in the beginning” as Genesis 1:1 documents. Scripture makes it clear: the earth will never be removed (Genesis 8:22, Ps 96:10). When this took place is unknown to mankind, it could have been millions, or even billions, of years ago. It’s likely that, one day, God will provide those who ‘overcome’ with these details.

*Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: the waters stood above the mountains.*

Psalms 104:6

While Psalms 104:5 explains our Father “laid the foundations of the earth” in the beginning, verse 6 explains He then covered the earth with water. Meaning, it was not covered with water before, but “*became*” covered in water. Or, as Gen 1:2 explains, it “became without form, and void,” and full of “darkness”. This Scripture provides us with even more clarity, and detail, by explaining there was *so much water*, it “stood above the mountains.” Simply meaning, there was no “dry land.” That completely aligns with the state of the earth as outlined in Genesis 1:2 and 9, as there was no ‘dry land’ *until* “the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters,” during the seven days of Genesis when He reformed the earth into something habitual.

Now, for God to create the earth in ‘perfection,’ and then destroy ‘the world that then was’ by covering the earth in water, logically means *something happened*. There *had* to be *a reason* for Him to take such action. And, of course, this reason was due to Satan’s rebellion in the first earth age, or as Peter called it, ‘the world that then was’. And this takes us back to 2 Pt 3. Let’s recall what we read...

*And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.*

2 Peter 3:4

What is the subject? ‘The beginning of creation,’ - the events we read of in Genesis 1:1 and Psalms 104:5. The scoffers of the ‘last days’ say, “*all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation*” (2 Peter 3:3). This is known as “uniformitarianism” and many people believe in it still yet today. How wise God is to know they would say such a thing in the ‘last days’. However, we are quickly learning from the Scriptures, ***things have not always been the same since the beginning of creation***. As we just learned, while the earth was created in perfection, it then “became an indistinguishable ruin” due to the destruction of the first earth age (‘the world that then was’) by a *global flood* [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/413>]. But, let’s continue to look deeper into 2 Pt 3...

*For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water.*

## 2 Peter 3:5

Who is willingly ignorant? Those who believe things have always been the same since “the beginning of the creation”. They were (and still are) willingly ignorant of the fact that, ‘the heavens and the earth were of old’, meaning that these scoffers do not understand there was an ‘era’ of time (the first earth age; a.k.a. ‘the world that then was’) *before* “the heavens and the earth which are now” even though God makes it clear that ‘the world that then was’ stood out of and in the water, at “the beginning of the creation” – meaning, in the first earth age (‘the world that then was’) some of the land was *above* the surface of the water, and some of the land was *below* the surface of the water, much like we have now. There were mountains and life, the earth was a habitable place. Unfortunately, due to the Fall of Satan, that did not last.

*Whereby the world that then was, **being overflowed with water**, perished.*

## 2 Peter 3:6

God’s Word makes it clear: ‘the world that then was’ (again, to coin Peter) became ‘overflowed with water and perished’... which perfectly aligns with the state of the world as described in Genesis 1:2 and in Psalms 104:6 and in Psalms 33:7 when it says that: *He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses*. Now, this is not talking about Noah’s flood. The subject in Genesis 1:2, Ps 104:6, 33:6 and in 2 Peter is “the beginning of the creation”, which was millions (or perhaps even billions) of years *before Noah’s time*. Further, Noah could not have inhabited a world that “perished” (2 Pt 3:6), which means *to destroy fully* (#622). So, we know that, as the Scriptures harmoniously state, the earth “became without form, void,” and full of “darkness” when God “coveredst” it with the “deep” and that was *after* “the waters stood above the mountains,” in the ‘world that then was’ (as Peter explains the first earth age). This is why, in Heb 11:3, Paul states that, *through faith* (believing God’s Word) *we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear*. This earth age was made by God Himself (YHVH), who we cannot see simply because He’s in the other dimension. What’s more, Peter goes on to explain...

*But the heavens and the earth, which are now, **by the same word** are kept in store, **reserved unto fire** against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.*

## 2 Peter 3:7

While ‘the world that then was’ ended in a global flood, “the heavens and the earth which are now” (which is referring to this current ‘second heaven and earth age’ which the Genesis creation account explains from Gen 1:3 onward) will end in fire at the end of the Millennium, after the great White Throne Judgement (Rev 20:11-13) - which ushers in the Eternity, the third and final world age, which are (as Peter puts it) “the new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness,” (2 Peter 3:13). **And this is exactly the same point that Psalms 33 is making in verse 7 and on a few verses too.** Peter goes on to give us more details of this in 2 Peter 3:10-13. And, as Jude also points out, in verse 7, there have been yet other examples of

God's vengeance - such as the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah – and they are *set forth for an example* of what God's *vengeance of eternal fire* is like. In other words, while people think things have always been as they are now, they truly have not. God destroyed the first earth age due to rebellion and wickedness, just as He also destroyed such evil cities such as Sodom and Gomorrah (in this earth age). He even punished His chosen people, Israel, due to their grievous sins they refused to repent for. So, no, things haven't always 'been this way' and they won't always be 'this way' either. There will come a time when God destroys this earth age too; and *the examples of past destructions testify to this fact*. Now, we could go on further explaining the destruction of the first earth age ('the world that then was') but we've covered enough Scriptures to document the point we need to understand for our study here in Psalms 33. If you want further documentation, and explanation, then check out the following studies...

**Genesis 1** - [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks\\_Genesis/21](https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Genesis/21)

**2 Peter 3** - [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks\\_Peter/277](https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Peter/277)

**3 Word Ages** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/489>

**Already There** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/191?single>

**Exalted, The Inside Scoop** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/192?single>

**Spiritual and Material Dimensions** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/263>

**What Were We Like In the Beginning** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/322>

**I Saw Satan Fall Like Lightning From Heaven** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/327>

**Where Are All of the People That Have Died** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/323>

**Where Did the People Go** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/340>

### *Psalms 33*

*8 Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.*

So, after pointing out that God not only created the heavens and earth 'in the beginning' (Gen 1:1) but that He also destroyed that first earth age ('the world that then was'), David goes on to say that, *because* God did these things, we (all the inhabitants of the world) should 'stand in awe' of Him, which means *to turn aside from the road* (for a lodging or any other purpose), i.e. *sojourn* (as a guest); also *to shrink, fear* (as in a strange place); also *to gather for hostility* (as afraid) (#1481). In other words, we who live on the earth now should fear the Lord in that we fear to do evil (Prov 16:6) and give our Heavenly Father the due reverence and honor He deserves because this flesh body is only temporal and we won't sojourn in it for very long. As Heb 11:13 points out, all those great men and women 'of faith' (in the Lord, YHVH) who have lived before us '*confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth*' which caused them to embrace the promises God has given us that He will clean all evil out of the earth and let us live forever peacefully in this world, in an everlasting body that will never get sick or die (Rev 21:3-8). So, we should 'stand in awe' of Him by taking the opportunity for salvation through Jesus Christ. This not only gives us 'rest' (peace of mind) now but it also ensures that our efforts in doing what's right, and helping others to come to God (through faith in Jesus Christ), are not a 'waste of time'. It's worth the effort to put up with ungodly and wicked people *now* because they

won't last forever. But we can live peacefully forever **if** we accept God's clemency (salvation) through Jesus Christ.

*Psalm 33*

*9 For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.*

*10 The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect.*

This is referencing the fact spoken of in verses 6-7, which explain how God 'spake' and 'it was done' when destroyed the first earth age (the world that then was, as Peter it in 2 Pt 3). The words '**stood fast**' mean '**to stand**' and are the same Hebrew word in Ps 104:6, when it says that *Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: the waters **stood** above the mountains*. That's why verse 10 goes on to say that the Lord (YHVH) knows now to bring the 'counsel' (Ps 2) of the heathen to 'nought' (to nothingness). He knows how to make the evil devices of the people on earth (and in heaven) to 'none effect'. In other words, while Satan and his followers (both in heaven and on earth) are conspiring to overthrow the earth, even trying to remove God from being able to govern over it (Ezek 28:14-19; Isa 14:13-15; Ps 2; Mth 13:24-50, 21:33-46, 2 Thess 3:4, Rev 13, etc.), our Heavenly Father knows how to utterly destroy their plans all the while working to save the souls of as many of His children as possible (2 Pt 3:9). As the 2 Pt 3:10-13 goes on to explain, as well as Isa 23, 34 and Rev 18, Jesus Christ will return to the earth to totally destroy their plans. He'll put Satan in a pit (Rev 20:1-3), the other rebels in prison (Isa 24:22) and all of Satan's means of deceiving will be forever destroyed (dissolved) so the rest of the people can be taught truth without any satanic interference for a thousand years. After that, all the incorrigible rebels will be totally 'blotted out' of existence so the rest of us can live forever peacefully. This 'inconvenient' fact is something else that many people are also 'willingly' ignorant of, although there have been many past examples of how God does not forever tolerate wickedness (2 Pt 3, Jude, 1 Cor 10, etc.).

*Psalm 33*

*11 The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever; the thoughts of his heart to all generations.*

And David continues with the thought of how the Lord doesn't tolerate evil forever by now stating that, while the counsel of the heathen will be brought 'to nought' (vs 10), His Word (counsel) will stand forever. And not only that, but He tells us about what His plans for the future are through His written Word. As Jesus Christ said in Matt 24:35, this current heaven and earth age will pass away, but His Words will *not* pass away. 1 John 2:17 states this as well (when John wrote warning us not to 'love' this satanic world governing system, nor the flesh things in the world) when he wrote: *the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever*. Peter explained this too...

*24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:*

*25 But **the word of the Lord endureth for ever**. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.*

1 Peter 1:24-25

Peter's point is that our flesh bodies, as well as everything else in this flesh realm, will pass away (as Rev 18 also explains as well as 1 Cor 15). As Peter explained...

*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**.*

*11 Seeing then that all these things shall be **dissolved**, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,*

*12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be **dissolved**, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?*

*13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.*

2 Peter 3:10-13

It's all temporary. Your flesh life and all the 'things' you have here will be 'dissolved' (#3089 which means 'loosened'). The word 'elements' above in verse 10 means: *something orderly in arrangement* (#4747). So, heaven and earth itself won't be destroyed but this earth age (i.e. the orderly arrangement of it, which includes Satan's governing system) will be melted and burnt up with fervent heat, meaning, *to set it on fire* (#2741). That's why, after Job lost all his cattle, his servants (except for one) and all his children he said: *Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD* (Job 1:21). And the book of Ecclesiastes also tells 'hammers home' this point that we cannot take anything in this fleshly realm with us when we die...

*13 There is a sore evil [Rev 16:2] which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt.*

*14 But those riches perish by evil travail: and he begetteth a son, and there is nothing in his hand.*

*15 As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand.*

Ecc1 5:13-15

The only 'thing' we can take with us when we depart from this flesh body (when we die or when Jesus Christ returns) are our 'works', *for we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad* (2 Cor 5:10). This is why Jesus tells us...

*19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:*

*20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:*

*21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

Matt 6:19-21

We ‘lay’ up ‘treasures’ in heaven by working to put off the ‘old man’ *which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts* (Eph 2:22), and not serve sin any longer (Rom 6:6) by renewing the spirit of our mind (Eph 4:23) when we sincerely study His Word (Col 3:10) so we can put on the ‘new man’, which is created after His image of *righteousness and true holiness* (Eph 4:24). And thus, it is the ‘new man’ we can take with us when we die... or we can be stuck with the ‘old man’ who is still liable to die spiritually. This is why Jesus goes on to say....

*33 But **seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness**; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

*34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.*

Matt 6:33-34

Jesus told us to keep our priorities straight in life. While we must think about things of this world, because we live here now, we are not to worry about them or to obsess over them. *This flesh life is not to be the most important thing to us* because, as Ps 33:11 tells us, the Lord has given us the ‘thoughts of His heart’ to us (via His Written Word) so we know what not only has been (the first earth age) but also what will be (eternity). And so, ***things of this world are not that important in comparison to what will be when Jesus Christ returns.*** What is most important is that we strive to put off the ‘old man’ and put on the ‘new man’ and help others come to God, through faith in Jesus Christ, so they can do the same. As Col 3:1-2 tells us, we are to ***seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*** We have to keep that firmly in our mind so we don’t get distracted by *the lusts of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life* (1 John 2:16) because that’s what pulls us into rebelling against God. And, as James 4:4 reminds us, *whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God*. And you know what happens to God’s enemy’s, right?

*18 The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever.*

*19 They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.*

*20 **But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the LORD shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away.***

Ps 37:18-20

Of a truth, the Lord (YHVH) has not hidden His ‘plan’ (Deut 30:11-20, Rom 10:6-11). He *clearly* lays out His plan of saving His children from spiritual death (Satan, Heb 2:14) in His Written Word, as well as what will happen to the wicked who do not repent for their sins and cleanse their heart and mind through learning (and obeying) God’s Word. As Jesus clearly stated

in John 5:24: *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.* The only question is, where do you stand? What side have you chosen?

*12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.*

*13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*

*14 For we are made partakers of Christ, **if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;***

Heb 3:12-14

*16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,*

*17 Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.*

2 Thess 2:15-17

We'll pick this up in part 4...

AMEN.