BOOKLET N° 16 - Biblical Truths -

REIGN OF CHRIST

END OF THE WORLD

FINAL JUDGMENT

WHAT NEXT?

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THE WALK TIME TO COME

The main stages of the end times are clearly outlined in the Bible. Here are the main lines:

1. JESUS DESCENDS FROM HEAVEN INTO THE AIR

"The Lord himself will descend from heaven at a given time" (1 Thes. 4:16). (1 Thes. 4:16).

2. HIS DISCIPLES ARE TAKEN AWAY TO MEET HIM

"We shall be caught up to meet him in the air. (1 Thes. 4:17)

3. ISRAEL IS ATTACKED BY NATIONS

This is the outbreak of the apocalyptic nuclear conflict, the 'wrath of the Lamb'.

"The great day of his wrath is come and who shall be able to stand" (Rev. 6:15-17).

4. JESUS DESCEND ON EARTH AND ESTABLISHES HIS REIGN OF A THOUSAND YEARS. He will set His feet on the Mount of Olives (Zech. 11:2).

"Every eye will see it. (Rev. 1:7).

5. THE DISAPPEARANCE OF OUR PLANET.

It will take place as a consequence of a revolt against the kingship of Christ at the end of the thousand-year reign (Rev. 20:7-9)

6. GOD CARRIES OUT THE LAST JUDGEMENT THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.

The life story of humanity having ended on earth, it continues without end in the hereafter.

The first three points were developed and explained in Bible Booklet 4 "The Return of Jesus Christ - The Apocalypse for Tomorrow". The other three are the subject of this Bible booklet.

WHAT WILL BECOME OF MAN IN THE 21ST CENTURY?

The Bible reveals what will happen after the year 2000 and well beyond the disappearance of our planet.

This is of interest to all of us because, according to the Bible, our life will never end. Before us is ETERNITY! "God has put the thought of eternity into the heart of man" (Ec. 3:11).

What we will be, what we will do in that afterlife, we can know now.

But man is currently more concerned with discovering his past, the origin of the universe.

Scientists, astronomers and astrophysicists, would like to go back to the starting point of creation. Thanks to their science, they hope to discover, at an unimaginable distance, calculated in billions of light years, the primitive explosion that gave birth to the Universe. If they succeeded, they would still have to solve the question: "WHO caused this explosion? Where did the ball of energy from this Bing Bang, this Great Boom, come from?

In his encyclopaedia "Le Ciel et l'Univers", Philippe de La Cotardière wrote: "No one knows yet where the Universe ends. Perhaps the Universe already existed before, but we will probably never know. He adds: "Some astronomers reject the idea that the Universe can have a beginning. For them, it must be eternal and therefore know neither beginning nor end. Thus man recognises that his great knowledge has limits.

The Bible has the answer to our questions. Does it not say: "God gives life to the dead and calls the things that are not as if they were. (Romans 4:17)

"In the beginning God CREATED the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1).

Space probes can go very far, like "Voyageur II" which, in 9 years, has travelled 3 billion kilometres to get close to the mysterious giant planet "Uranus" and send us hundreds of sensational photographs. It continues its journey to

50,000 km/second to 'Neptune', another planet it will reach in 1989. To get close to stars thousands and thousands of light years away, i.e. billions of kilometres away, it will take an inconceivable amount of time.

Man thinks he is a god with his science, when he is so small in the face of the infinite. It is true that Jesus reminded the Jews of his time of this text from Psalm 82 verse 6: "You are gods, you are all sons of the Most High, yet you will die like men." Man is a mortal "god".

He is so intelligent that he achieves extraordinary feats by basing his science on what exists. He uses the atom to extract energy, light to invent the laser, but HE CANNOT CREATE ANYTHING FROM NOTHING.

Travel in space, through the solar system and into the universe of galaxies is an admirable technological achievement of human intelligence, but it cannot solve the mystery of life beyond the earth. Man tries to open the veil, yet the paradise of the believers and the place of torment of the disbelievers are not accessible to space probes. Looking back through telescopes to discover the origin of creation will not solve the problem of our ETERNAL future.

Our vision of the future is wrongly limited in time. We think mainly of the course of our earthly life, a very short period compared to eternity. The young man thinks about his studies, his exams, then comes the worries of family, work, leisure. When retirement comes, we realise that our time on earth is rightly compared in the Bible to a flower that withers and dies, after having charmed us for a short time with its radiance and its perfume (Isaiah 40:6).

Our destiny extends beyond the death of our body, beyond earthly life and beyond the end of the world.

Our life has a beginning but no end.

God has a plan for mankind that is revealed in the Bible. We can understand how it will be fulfilled in the future. To do this we will look at several prophecies concerning the reign of Christ, the end of the world and the final judgment.

"God has put in the heart of man the thought of ETERNITY, Although man cannot grasp the work that God is doing, from beginning to end.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

CHAPTER 1:

THE REIGN OF CHRIST

"They shall reign with Christ for 1,000 years" (Rev. 20:6)

"They shall reign on the earth. (Rev. 5:10)

"There will come forth from Jesse a Branch that will rise to rule the nations. (Rom. 15:12, Isa. 11:10)

So Christ will return to earth with his body of glory, not like that false Christ who, in Jerusalem, told me that he was Jesus returned to earth and that he was going to reign in Zion, with Magdalene his wife! This was in 1967, after the Six Day War.

Didn't Jesus warn us that there would be false Christs before His return (Matthew 24:5). The truth is that the Bible says that Jesus will come down from heaven and "transform our bodies into the body of his glory" (Philippians 3:21). (Philippians 3:21) He will take us to meet him and with him we will come to reign on earth.

At that time, he will put an end to the nuclear holocaust and save Israel, as the prophets have announced:

"The Lord will appear and fight against these nations...His feet will rest on the Mount of Olives in that day. (Zech. 14:3-4).

God will intervene through Jesus the Messiah.

"All the tribes of the earth will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. (Mat. 24:30)

His reign will last a thousand years. It is called "millennium", from a Latin word meaning a thousand years.

THE STATUE OF DANIEL

The present kingdoms will disappear and be replaced by the kingdom of Christ. This prediction was made by Daniel.

At that time, about 600 years before the birth of Christ, King Nebuchadnezzar ruled the Chaldean Empire in Babylon.

On a missionary journey to India to meet the Gypsies of the Asian countries, I stopped with my fellow travellers at Babylon, south of Baghdad, Iraq. This sumptuous city is now only ruins... Near the red brick walls of the base of the magnificent hanging gardens, there was the lion's den in which the prophet Daniel was thrown. Of this sumptuous capital, the Bible says:

"Babylon, the ornament of kingdoms, the proud ornament of the Chaldeans...it shall never be inhabited again, nor shall it be populated. (Isaiah 13:19-20)

It was there that the king took the Jews, after having invested Jerusalem. Among the deportees who were enslaved by the king was a young man named Daniel, a clever and pious man.

One night the king had a frightening dream. He thought that this dream must have had an important meaning. So he called his most renowned astrologers, magicians, sages and diviners to ask them to explain the dream. None of them succeeded. Because of this, they were threatened with death by the king.

Daniel, being one of the wise men, that is to say, one of the king's advisers, implored God's mercy with his companions and the secret was revealed to him. He addressed the king in these words:

"What the king asks is a secret which the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians and the soothsayers are not able to discover for the king. But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets and who has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in the future..."

"O king, you looked and saw a great statue; this statue was immense and of extraordinary splendour; it stood before you, and its appearance was terrible. The head of this statue was of pure gold, its chest and arms were of silver, its belly and thighs were of brass, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

You were watching, when a stone came loose without the help of any hand and struck the iron and clay feet of the statue and tore them to pieces... and no trace of it was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. (Dan. 2:27-35).

Daniel explained this to the king and said to him:

"It is you who are the golden head. Then he revealed to her that there would be other great kingdoms after him, which would succeed and disappear, kingdoms symbolised by the statue.

Indeed, his empire was followed by the Persian Empire represented by silver, that of Alexander the Great - it is the brass -; then the Roman Empire which was the greatest military power in the world at the time - it is the iron legs -.

A careful study of Daniel's prophecy reveals that the feet of iron and clay refer to our time, characterised by the revival of the Roman Empire, in a new form called Europe.

There is a world situation today that is both strong and fragile. Great powers, strong as iron, with a horrific capacity for destruction, are yet fragile as clay because of the balance of terror they have established.

A paradox exists among the nations today that are preparing for both war and the golden age. Is this not a situation corresponding to the mismatch of iron and clay in the feet of Daniel's statue?

On the one hand, ever more deadly war machines are being invented. The list is frightening, since they are capable of destroying the earth ten times over. Billions and billions are being invested in advanced research into ultra-sophisticated land, sea and space-based weapons.

On the other hand, the great powers are talking about nuclear missile reduction, disarmament and peaceful coexistence. More and more surprising inventions are appearing to make life more pleasant in the coming century. Theologians and politicians are constantly talking about the search for social justice and peace among people.

All these end-time alliances of iron and clay will end in failure, according to the prophecy of Daniel.

The realisation of the earthly paradise by the hand of man is a utopia. Only Jesus the Messiah can establish it.

The stone that strikes and sets up a new kingdom on all the earth is the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

Daniel states in his revelation:

"The God of heaven will raise up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall it pass into the dominion of any other people; he will break in pieces and destroy all such kingdoms, and he himself shall stand forever. (Daniel 2:44).

THE SURVIVORS OF ISRAEL AND THE NATIONS

Some of humanity will survive the cataclysm. Einstein predicted the destruction of two thirds of humanity in the event of an atomic conflict. If the number of inhabitants in the year 2000 is estimated at 6 billion, there will be two billion survivors.

But these are human calculations. No one knows how many will stay.

At the time of the flood, only 8 people were saved: Noah and his family (1 Peter 3:20). And they gave birth to a multitude of nations from which we are descended.

When Christ returns to the earth to reign, there will be a remnant in Israel (Zech. 13:8)

"Two thirds will be exterminated, will perish. And the other will remain." and a remnant among the nations who will see him coming in all his glory with his angels to establish his kingdom (Mat. 24:30)

[&]quot;All nations will serve him" (Psalm 72:11).

[&]quot;He will be the arbiter of powerful nations far away" (Micah 4:3).

[&]quot;A scion will arise to rule the nations" (Romans 15:12).

THE RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS

The apostle Peter had announced to the Jews of his time the restoration of all things. He said to them:

"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the one destined for you, Jesus Christ, **whom heaven** must receive **until the restoration of all things**, of which God spoke of old by the mouth of his holy prophets. (Acts 3:19-21).

During the millennial reign of Jesus Christ, there will be a complete transformation of life on earth, the future image of which is projected to us in great detail by the prophetic texts.

. Transformation of nature

"The wilderness and the desert shall rejoice; the solitude shall be glad and blossom like a narcissus; it shall be covered with flowers and rejoice...waters shall spring up in the desert, and streams in the solitude; the gloom shall be turned into a pool and the parched land into springs of water" (Isaiah 35:1-2 and 6:7, Isaiah 41:18-19)

"Instead of thorns, the cypress tree shall rise, and instead of briers, the myrtle shall grow" (Isaiah 55:13)

Not only will there be no more desert, but also no more thorns and brambles!

Today, in Israel, water is brought from the Jordan River to the Negev desert by means of large pipelines and a pumping system to green the desert.

But in the messianic time, during the millennium, it will be different. It has been discovered that in the desert, at a certain depth, there is a huge sheet of water. When the Millennium comes, this water will gush out to fertilise the barren land.

[&]quot;All nations will bow down to you" (Rev. 15:4)

[&]quot;Nations will walk in HIS light" (Revelation 21:24).

. Changes in animal behaviour

"The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion and the fattened cattle shall be together, and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall have the same pasture, their young ones the same lodging, and the lion and the ox shall eat straw.

The infant shall play upon the den of the viper, and the weaned child shall put his hand into the cave of the asp. (Isaiah 11:6-8 and 55:25)

There will be no more ferocious and carnivorous animals. No more caged lions.

The whole earth will be a natural park, a circus of peaceful animals in complete freedom, without the need to tame them.

. Social change

"War shall be learned no more" (Isaiah 2:4).

"With their swords they will forge pickaxes and with their spears they will forge pruning hooks. One nation will no longer draw the sword against another. (Micah 4:3).

"Behold, your King is coming to you. He will bring peace to the nations. (Zechariah 9:9-10).

Pacifists" will no longer need to organise parades for peace or the abolition of nuclear weapons. The United Nations Office, which has never prevented wars and revolts, will no longer be needed.

There will be a world government under the authority of Christ called "Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:5), "Prince of the kings of the earth" (Rev. 1:5)

"He will set free from oppression and violence" (Psalm 72:14)

"He will proclaim justice to the nations.

He will not be discouraged or slacken until he has established justice in the earth" (Isaiah 42:1-4).

Jerusalem will be the spiritual capital of the world, for "many peoples and nations will come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem and to pray to the Lord" (Zech. 8:22)

There will be no more churches of different denominations or mosques in the city.

"It shall come to pass in the latter days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be founded on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and the people shall flow unto it" (Micah 4:1 and Isaiah 2:2).

The mountain will therefore be higher than it is now. It is not surprising that there will be a change in nature in the future, since, according to the prophet Zechariah, "the mountain of Olives will be split in the middle from the east to the west, and a very large valley will be formed, and half the mountain will retreat to the north and half to the south" (Zech. 14:4).

In Jerusalem I met a devout Jew who had been studying the prophetic texts of Daniel for years. He had predicted the capture of Jerusalem in 1967 two years before the event. About the location of the temple, he referred to this text from Micah 4:1 and said:

"The mountain will be raised 400 metres. Everything that exists now will disappear, because according to Jewish law you cannot rebuild where there have been deaths. The temple will not be rebuilt until the Messiah comes.

In the Jerusalem City Hall, the Jewish mayor Teddy Kolek once told us that the temple can only be built with stones from the country and, with a smile, he added: "you know, you Christians, that the temple will come down from heaven...".

The temple of God cannot be rebuilt as long as the mosque of Omar stands on the site of the one destroyed by the Romans in the year 70. Islam is trampling on the esplanade of the temple. This time of abomination for the Jews will end when Jesus Christ himself comes a second time to the new Jerusalem, no longer as the suffering Messiah, but as the Messiah-King.

God made this promise to Israel:

"I will place my sanctuary among them forever. My dwelling place will be among them." (Eze. 37:26-28)

Under his reign, there will be prosperity for all:

"He will pour rain on the seed that you sow, and the bread that the earth produces will be tasty and nutritious" (Isaiah 30:23). (Isaiah 30:23) "The seed shall flourish, the vine shall yield its fruit, the earth shall yield its produce, and the heavens shall send their dew. (Zech. 8:12) The food will be healthy, free of chemicals and pollution.

When I went to Israel, on the Israeli liner

"In Jerusalem I had the privilege of talking with Prime Minister Ben Gurion. We conversed on the subject of Messianism with great interest. Although an avid reader of the Bible, he conceived of future messianism only in terms of human power and intelligence.

Certainly, what the Jews are achieving today in Israel is extraordinary and a prelude to what will exist in a thousandfold when the Messiah-Jesus reigns in Jerusalem.

There can be no true messianism without Jesus the Messiah.

SPIRITUAL MISSION OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

At the Ministry of Worship in Jerusalem, I met Dr. Malachy, who was in charge of religious affairs in Israel. He thought that one day the whole world would be won over to Judaism. He did not know that the teaching of Jesus the Messiah will, according to the Bible, be spread throughout the world. Doesn't it say:

"He will strike the earth with His word" (Isaiah 11:4).

"The offspring of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples" (Isaiah 11:10).

"From Zion shall go forth the law, and from Jerusalem the word of the Lord" (Isaiah 2:3).

The people of Israel will fulfil the spiritual mission for which God has destined them, to spread the message of Jesus the Messiah.

The restoration of all things also includes the spiritual restoration of Israel:

"You shall be called priests of the Lord. You shall be called servants of our God. (Isaiah 61:6).

"I will send the survivors to the nations... and they shall declare my glory among the nations" (Isaiah 66:19)

When Christ returns to the Mount of Olives, "all Israel will be saved" says the apostle Paul in Romans 11:26.

"They will turn their eyes to **him** who was pierced and weep over as one weeps for an only son. (Zac. 12:10)

"In all the land, says the Lord, two thirds shall be cut off, shall perish, and the other third shall remain...they shall call upon my name and I will hear them. I will say, 'These are my people. And he shall say, The Lord is my God. (Zech. 13:8-9).

When they have accepted Jesus as truly their Messiah and the Messiah of the whole world, they will be employed by God - as a set apart people - to proclaim the Word of God to the nations. This will be a new beginning of Jewish apostles to the ends of the earth. 144,000 of the twelve tribes of Israel (not Jehovah's Witnesses) will be consecrated to fulfil this spiritual mission:

"And I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000, from all the tribes of the children of Israel. And I heard the number of those who had been sealed: 144,000, from all the tribes of the children of Israel. (Rev. 7:3-8)

"The Lamb (Jesus the Messiah) stood on Mount Zion (Jerusalem), and with him 144,000 people who had his name and the Father's name written on their foreheads. (Rev. 14:1)

Through Israel all nations will be blessed, according to God's promise to Abraham:

"Abraham will certainly become a great and powerful nation, and in him the nations of the earth will be blessed. (Jeremiah 18:18)

"Thus says the Lord of hosts: In those days ten men from all the languages of the nations shall take hold of a Jew by the skirt of his garment and say: We will go with you, for we have heard that God is with you. (Zech. 8:23)

After Peter had healed an impotent man by faith in the name of Jesus, all the Jewish people of Jerusalem came to the portico of Solomon. Peter gave them a speech in which these words are noted:

"You Israelites are the children of the prophets and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'In your seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed' (Acts 3:25).

During Christ's reign on earth, the Jews will have, as the "chosen people of God", a spiritual mission, and the Christians who have been caught up to meet the Lord in the air will reign with Christ.

THE REIGN OF CHRISTIANS WITH CHRIST

Indeed, Jesus will descend:

- 1. with THE ANGELS of his power (2 Thes. 1:7)
- 2. with HIS SAINTS (1 Thes. 3:13)

(This is how the apostle Paul distinguishes Christians - for more details see Bible Booklet 7: Sanctification).

The book of Revelation reveals that Jesus will return on a white horse and a name will be written on his white robe: "KING OF KINGS, LORD OF LORDS". He will be accompanied by an army dressed in white to reign with him (Rev. 19:11-16).

He will return with the Church that belongs to him, that is, all the "He adds to his church only those who are "saved" (Acts 2:47)

All together, the dead in Christ raised and the living transformed at the rapture (1 Thess. 4:16, 1 Cor. 15:52), they will be dressed in white garments of fine linen (Rev. 7:13 and 19:7-8).

They will reign with Christ on earth for 1,000 years, according to the revelation that Jesus Christ made to the apostle John:

"You have redeemed men for God by your blood from every tribe and language and people and nation, and have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth. (Rev. 5:9-10)
"And they shall reign with him for 1,000 years" (Rev. 20:6)

This 1000 year period is repeated 6 times in the book of Revelation.

How shall the raptured Christians reign, having received a new body, a heavenly, immortal body like that of the angels? (1 Cor. 15:48-54)

They will have the ability to appear and disappear as they will be like angels. The Bible does not give any details on this subject. We can only imagine the situation, except for this text:

"Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? By "saints" the apostle Paul means the children of God.

The main thing is to know that we will reign with him, as the apostle Paul writes:

"If we persevere, we will also reign with him" (2 Tim. 2:12). (2 Tim. 2:12).

HEALTH AND LONGEVITY IN THE MILLENNIUM

HEALTH and LONGEVITY will be the portion of those who live on earth when Jesus reigns:

"Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, the ears of the deaf will be opened. Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will burst with joy...pain and groaning will flee." (Isaiah 35:5-10 and 51:11)

There will be no more sick people, no more disabled people, therefore no more doctors, no more clinics, hospitals, pharmacies.

"There will be no more children or old men who do not fulfil their days, for he who dies at a hundred years old will be young...the days of my people will be like the days of trees. (Isaiah 65:20-23).

It will be longevity, without serum, as in the time of Adam who lived 930 years.

It will be heaven on earth again.

Unfortunately there will still be sinners despite the absence of the devil and the permanent presence of Christ in Jerusalem.

"The sinner who is a hundred years old will be cursed. (Isaiah 65:20)

THE DEVIL BINDS FOR 1000 YEARS

During this time, the devil and the demons will no longer be there to tempt and induce evil since he will be bound during these thousand years of Christ's reign.

"I saw an angel come down from heaven with the key to the abyss and a great chain in his hand. He seized the devil and bound him for a thousand years. He threw him into the abyss and closed and sealed the entrance over him so that he would not deceive the nations any more. (Rev. 20:1-3).

The nations reconstituted with the survivors of the "wrath of the Lamb" will therefore be on earth for these 1,000 years and the devil will be no more.

Augustine taught that Satan had been bound during Jesus' earthly ministry and victory on the cross and that therefore the millennium should correspond to the duration of the Church, hence the Roman Catholic theology which claimed that the Catholic Church was the kingdom of God on earth.

But it is very important to base one's faith on the clear, precise statements of the Word of God and not on purely human deductions.

The Millennium will begin with the coming of Christ to earth. His Kingdom of righteousness and peace will be by divine power and not by the politics and science of men.

To create a world of peace and perfect justice, we need more than science, more than technology, more than ideologies. We need people without selfishness, without malice, without love of money, without hatred, without pride, pure in conscience and heart.

The only hope for the realisation of this new world is for Jesus the Messiah to return and for Satan to be incapacitated.

THE IMPOSSIBLE GOLDEN AGE WITHOUT JESUS

We do not know if this return of Christ will take place before or after the year 2000, but we are already wondering what will be the fate of the 6 billion inhabitants who will populate the earth on that date and we are studying the solutions that could allow us to establish a better world.

Man aspires to a golden age where everything would be ideal. He dreams of a heavenly world, without war, without misery, without pollution, without injustice, peaceful.

He is trying to do this without God, he is trying to do it by implementing his technology and political ideologies.

Despite this, inequalities are still glaring. Famine has not been overcome. Diseases such as cancer and AIDS continue to claim victims. There are still rich countries and poor countries, and unemployment is creating new poverty in countries of plenty.

The leaders of nations shake hands and smile at each other during their summit meetings, offering to reduce their nuclear weapons; but in reality they are secretly perfecting ever more sophisticated weapons of death.

"Men say, 'Peace, peace,' but there is no peace for the wicked. but there is no peace for the wicked" says the Bible in Jeremiah 6:14.

True peace will exist on this earth only when Jesus reigns.

As the year 2000 approaches, predictions are being made about the conditions of human life in the third millennium.

Knowledge and invention have increased at a staggering, accelerating rate over the past 150 years.

Stagecoaches and horse-drawn carriages have given way to automobiles, buses, trains, subways and aeroplanes. Communications are rapidly taking place by telephone, radio, television and satellite.

All we talk about now is computers, artificial intelligence supercomputers, thinking microcomputers, minitels, robots that will work instead of humans who will only have to rest for the rest of their lives.

The man believes that one day there will be a world super-government that will replace the UN and prevent conflict.

Thanks to nuclear energy, it hopes to transform the living conditions of humanity. Already there are plans to heat the earth's crust at the poles and extract gold and uranium using the heat produced by this energy. This energy will, it is said, be able to produce variable heat at man's discretion, to incubate eggs as well as to heat up metal, and to accelerate the growth of plants as necessary to eliminate famine.

Every farmer will be able to have his own little power station and, by turning knobs, it will be easy for him to plough and harrow his fields, to plant and harvest his potatoes, to make the rain and the sun shine as he wishes.

Scientists are continuing their search for a longevity serum while studying the "genes" that could give rise to more intelligent supermen. Haven't we already started to produce 'test tube' babies?

The man plans to abolish banknotes and cheques and replace them with electronic cards with the thought that one day everything will be free and there will be no more poor or rich.

The golden age is not for tomorrow by the power of man. It is a utopia because man will never be able to find the serum to change hearts.

Only Jesus Christ can bring about this change, and the golden age can only be a reality for humanity to the extent that people practice brotherly love and love God with all their hearts.

This will only be possible with Christ and without the devil on earth. It will be a paradise of peace and love among men who obey and serve Christ.

AT THE END OF THESE 1,000 YEARS OF PEACE?

What will happen?

The Bible tells us that at the end of the thousand years, "the devil will be released from his prison" (Rev. 20:7). He will come to tempt mankind as he once tempted the first man Adam. He will lead humanity into rebellion against Christ.

This is predicted in Revelation (20:7-9):

"When the thousand years are fulfilled, Satan will be released from his prison and he will go out to **deceive** the nations that are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them **for war...** and they will take over the camp of the saints and the beloved city.

These few lines from Revelation sum up the last revolt of men against the government of Christ and the people of Israel.

It is almost unimaginable that after a period of peace, prosperity and happiness under the reign of Christ, men would reject Christ. They will say like those who had Jesus arrested when he first came to earth:

"We do not want him to rule over us. (Luke 19:14)

This revolt will bring about the end of the world and consequently the end of human history on earth.

The devil will be thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone where he will be "He will be "tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Rev. 20:10)

What about the inhabitants of the earth?

For them, there will be:

THE LAST JUDGMENT!

"God has set
a day
Where he will judge the
world according to
justice,
By man
Which he appointed,
What he gave
To all a sure proof
In the resurrecting from the dead.

Acts 17:31

CHAPTER II:

THE END OF THE WORLD

THE
DISAPPEARANC
E OF
OUR PLANET

Jesus Christ said:

"Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away. (Mat. 24:35)

This is an unambiguous statement. The current global system will not last forever.

When this is mentioned, some people shrug their shoulders and smile wryly.

However, scientific evidence confirms that the revelations and claims of the Bible are plausible.

Thanks to his science, man has been able to weigh, measure and calculate the speed of stars and their distance. To evaluate distances, astronomers have adopted as a measure the distance that light travels in one year at a speed of 300,000 km per second (exactly 299,792 km). They call it a 'light year' and it is about 9,460 billion kilometres. "Proxima, the closest star to the sun, is 4.22 light years away, or more than 40,000 billion kilometres.

Scientists have means of investigation that were unknown until a short time ago. They can now capture and analyse waves and radiation that they did not know existed before. Their observation instruments and scientific methods enable them to understand the essential mechanisms that drive the vast universe. It is a dive into the depths of space that reveals the countless galaxies that populate the immensity of the infinite universe. Stars are "dust of worlds". No star is stationary. Their speed defies imagination.

On a photographic plate of the gigantic Palomar telescope, 10,000 galaxies, or ten thousand billion suns, were captured.

Our Milky Way, which represents 'our' universe, has at least 100 billion stars, all of which are in motion, including our sun, which is also a star.

Where are they taking us?

Scientifically, the disappearance of our planet is very possible. Several hypotheses have been considered.

END OF THE WORLD BY "COLLISION WITH THE SUN

Our earth is a planet. A planet is a celestial body cooled and circulating around a central star or starlet to which its fate is linked.

Our planet's path depends on the sun, which is a star moving at a rate of 20 kilometres per second and dragging along its entire entourage of planets. If it were to be suddenly stopped in its course, it would immediately undergo considerable changes and all the planets that accompany it would be instantly destroyed, according to astronomers.

It is also recognised that the sun in perpetual motion is heading for another star, another furnace. If they should meet, it would be a dreadful collision and the end of its journey and that of the earth.

Without the sun, we could not exist, nor could plants and animals. Without its warmth, the earth would be an icy world, plunged into night. Astronomers have studied this in detail.

It is a ball of burning gases. Its main constituent is hydrogen. Its diameter is 1,391,000 km, or 100 times that of the Earth. The heat generated at the centre is up to 15 million degrees centigrade.

The sun is alive. It beats like a heart with beats that follow each other every two and a half hours. It turns on itself. Sometimes it releases quantities of energy equivalent to those of millions of atomic bombs.

It is a fantastic nuclear reactor with a mass of two billion billion tons of hydrogen, of which 500 million tons change into helium every second. According to astronomers' calculations, it will take 5 billion years for its reserves to be exhausted and for it to transform into a gigantic red star 100 times larger. At that point, the temperature will rise to over 2,000 degrees on our earth where all life will be destroyed.

The Creator of such an amazing sun may not wait 5 billion years. He can produce this phenomenon in an instant. Astronomers have seen stars suddenly light up with fire. They called them "Novaes" because they were once thought to be new stars, but that was their end.

It is also accepted that the earth may one day be thrown out of its orbit against the sun. This would be like a match thrown into a large burning fire. In 1885 a bright star appeared in the Andromeda Nebula, increased in brightness and then disappeared. This phenomenon was due to the encounter of two stars thrown out of their orbits. They collided and burst into flames. So it is with our little globe.

The explosion of the sun and the consequent volatisation of the earth is also a probability envisaged in the future.

END OF THE WORLD BY "ATOMIC EXPLOSION".

The start of an "atomic chain" can blow up the whole earth, say "nuclear" scientists; and once the chain is started, there is no way to stop it. Jean Thibaud, director of the Institute of Atomic Physics, wrote in his book "Atomic Energy and the Universe": "Beyond the atomic bomb, man grasps the unity of the structure of the cosmos and having understood and admired it, he still possesses in his hands, now for the first time, the secret that will allow him to destroy, if he wants to, the satellite that carries him... Superiority of the being over the Universe or even deeper burial of the being in the Universe?

END OF THE WORLD BY THE "EARTHLY FIRE".

In his article "La terre craque!...s'écroulera-t-elle?", Pierre Devaux wrote: "We have been witnessing a series of

Violent and scattered earthquakes, which go beyond the importance of a simple local accident. It seems as if our old Earth is shaking and starting to collapse for the final catastrophe. In the case of the Kefalonia earthquakes, for example, the automatic recorders showed that the epicentre was 100 km away, lying on a FIRE OCEAN.

One fact remains certain: the continents - as well as the seabed, of course - rest on a gigantic sphere of molten lava that forms the core of the globe and is called the Pyrosphere. A thin 'shell' indeed, since it measures barely a hundred kilometres, whereas the earth's diameter exceeds 12,000 kilometres.

The Earth, a gigantic wobbly vase, is tending to fragment. To use an expressive image, the globe threatens to open up *like a jelly pie being* shaken on a plate! These are the 'spontaneous' dangers that threaten our home planet. Nature may well remind us abruptly, without waiting for our atomic imprudence, that she has the last word.

BIBLICAL REVELATIONS

The end of the world is affirmed by several biblical texts:

"You, Lord, in the beginning **founded the earth,** and the heavens are **the work of your hands. They shall perish, they shall all grow old** like a garment; you shall roll them up like a robe, they shall be changed. (Hebrews 1:10-12).

It is clear from our prophecy that our planet is destined to disappear along with the entire planetary system, for the heavens spoken of cannot include the billions of suns in the universe.

The prophet Isaiah also predicted this:

"The heavens and the earth will vanish like smoke, and the earth will fall in tatters like a garment, and those who dwell therein will perish like flies. (Isaiah 51:6)

The fading of the skies like smoke and the earth falling to pieces, that is the end of our planet in a few lines. "Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Yet a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth. (Haggai 2:6)

This earth, which was to endure forever (Psalms 78:69), will be shaken because of sin at the "wrath of the Lamb", for there will be a "great earthquake such as has never been since man was on the earth" (Rev. 16:18). But at the end of the

The "millennium" will not only be a shaken earth since the Lord Jesus said:

"heaven and earth will pass away

and not "will be shaken".

This is confirmed by the revelation of Jesus Christ to the apostle John in the vision he gave him of the end of the world:

"Then I saw a great white throne, and he who sat on it, and *the earth* and the sky fled from before his face, and no place was found for them. (Rev. 20:11)

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for *the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more*. (Rev. 21:1).

This is a clear statement of the end of our globe and our entire planetary system, our 'sky'.

Some people do not want to admit this end. They object that God cannot destroy what he has created. Yet astronomers have seen with their instruments that stars are disappearing in the universe.

God has the right to change the sin-stained creation, just as we change our worn and soiled garment into a more beautiful one. This is what the Bible says in Psalm 102:

"My God...in the beginning you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They shall perish, but you shall stand. They will all wear out like a garment, and you will change them like a garment, and they will be changed, but you will remain the same" (Ps 102:25-28).

It will be, as the apostle Peter says:

"the end of all things." (1 Peter 4:7)

No doubt about it! The end of the world is considered by science as perfectly possible and announced by the Bible as having to take place in a certain way.

But then what? Is it nothingness? Is this the end of human history, the end of our destiny?

Of course not! The history of the inhabitants of the earth will continue into eternity.

ETERNITY

This word 'eternity' evokes for us a notion of limitless time. We have our watches and clocks whose hands turn endlessly to tell us what time it is, night and day. But in the afterlife and even in the satellites that revolve around the earth, this notion of 24-hour days does not exist.

It is very difficult to understand what time is in this invisible universe where the notion of time disappears beyond the speed of light. That is why God is called "I am he who is" (Exodus 3:14). He is eternally present.

Let us not be led astray by sterile reasoning, for the words "eternity" and "infinity" are incomprehensible to our limited intelligence. Let us be humble enough to bow down before our Creator who essentially appeals to our hearts to come to him.

Let us not lightly consider His goodness in leading us to repentance and faith in His Son Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. Our eternal future depends on it.

"God's love for us was manifested in that God sent his only Son into the world, that we might live through him. And this love is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his son to be the atonement for our sins. (1 John 4:9-10).

WHAT IS INVISIBLE

Those who claim that visible things, no matter how beautiful, will last forever are mistaken and disagree with the Bible, which states

"Visible things are transient.

(2 Cor. 4:18)

There is no need to delude ourselves when the Word of God is clear.

Our body, our planet, our sun are only for a time determined by God.

What we call matter is not the only thing created by God. There is a world invisible to our eyes and yet real and eternal, as the Bible states:

"INVISIBLE THINGS ARE ETERNAL".

(2 Cor. 4:18)

And, "By faith we know that the world was formed by the Word of God, so that what is seen was not made of things that are visible" (Heb. 11:3). (Heb. 11:3).

In Jesus all things were created, the Bible tells us, "The **visible and the invisible**, all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things. (Col. 1:16-17)

When we leave this earth, it is before Him, the Master of the Universe, that we will appear to be judged if we refuse to believe in Him now. Indeed, "God has appointed a day when he will judge the world in righteousness by the man he has appointed, of which he has given sure proof to all by raising him from the dead. (Acts 17:31)

Since our life will continue after our body dies and the world ends, let us ask the Bible what it tells us about our destiny in the afterlife.

CHAPTER III:

THE LAST JUDGEMENT, WHAT NEXT?

THE JUDGMENT AND THE SENTENCE

Immediately after the disappearance of our planet, all its inhabitants, from Adam onwards, poor and rich, tramps and heads of state, ignorant and learned, young and old, will appear before Jesus Christ for the final judgment. This is how the apostle John presents this judgment in his book, Revelation:

"Then I saw a white throne and the one who sat on it. The earth and the sky fled before the face of the Lord and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne. Books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their deeds, as it is written in these books. (Revelation 20:11-12)

This prophetic vision highlights:

- the white throne
- the end of the world
- the judge
- the dead
- the judgment.

The Judge is Jesus because it is written:

"The Father has given all judgment to the Son" (Jn 5:22).

"Jesus Christ must **judge** the living and the dead" (2 Tim. 4:1)

Since "it is appointed for men to die **once** (hence no reincarnation), after which comes the **judgment**" (Heb. 9:27), we are concerned if we do not believe in Jesus Christ.

Indeed, "he who does not believe is **already** condemned", says Jesus (John 3:18). If he dies in unbelief, the judgement will confirm this fact, because once you die, there is no possibility of changing your state in the afterlife. Jesus revealed this to us in his account of the rich man and Lazarus after their death. He told us that in Paradise, Abraham said to the rich man who was in torment: "There is a great chasm between us and you, so that those who would go from here to you or from there to us cannot do so" (Luke 16:26). (Luke 16:26).

The sentence, at the Court of the Last Judgement, falls like a knife. It is a life sentence without remission:

"Whoever was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:15)

It is horrible. It is hard to imagine this awful drama and the suffering of all those tormented souls and to believe that it is possible.

Yet the biblical text is clear. He who is not written in the book is thrown into the lake of fire.

Some object that the Bible says that "GOD IS LOVE" (1 John 4:8) and therefore there will be no punishment. These people forget the justice of God.

It is true that God is love:

"He so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16)

He therefore "manifested his love by sending his Son into the world as an atoning victim" (1 John 4:9-10)

[&]quot;It is he - Jesus - who has been appointed by God to **judge** the living and the dead" (Acts 10:42). (Acts 10:42).

[&]quot;God will judge the secret deeds of men **through Jesus Christ**. (Romans 2:16).

"The chastisement that gives us peace has fallen on Jesus" (Isaiah 53:5). To satisfy his justice, God has "laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6).

"All men have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Ephesians 3:23).

All are therefore guilty of transgressing God's law of love (1 John 3:4). Every guilty person is condemnable according to justice. "Condemnation has thus reached all men" (Rom. 5:18).

God, who is love, but also holy and just, sent his only Son to our earth to forgive us, to erase our sins, to save us. Jesus accepted to be condemned in our place and t h a t i s why:

"THERE IS NOW NO CONDEMNATION FOR THOSE WHO ARE IN CHRIST" (Romans 8:1)

Because of the atoning work of Jesus His Son, God is gracious to us and regards us as His sons, as soon as we believe in His LOVE manifested in Jesus (Romans 8:14).

If we reject this love, we remain under condemnation, as Jesus confirmed when he said:

"HE WHO DOES NOT BELIEVE WILL BE CONDEMNED". (Mark 16:16)

"God wants all men to be saved" (1 Tim. 2:4), but not all men want to be saved and, because of their unbelief, they will be kept out of God's presence in that place of torment called "the lake of fire" which will not be as some imagine in the centre of the earth, since planet earth will no longer be.

What is this lake of fire?

The answer is given by the Bible itself:

"Their portion will be in the lake of fire and brimstone, which is **the second death**. (Rev. 21:8, 20:14).

THE SECOND DEATH

Since we only die once, what does this "second death" consist of? In order to understand this condemnation, called the second death, it is necessary to examine the meaning of the word "death" in the light of other biblical texts.

Jesus told the story of a prodigal son who left his father's house to live his life as he pleased in pleasure and debauchery. After spending all his money and finding himself in difficulty and misery, this son returned to his father repentant, begging his forgiveness. When his father saw him dressed in rags, emaciated, hungry and miserable, he was moved with compassion and welcomed him with open arms, saying, "This son of mine was **dead** and has come to **life**. (Luke 15:24).

Similarly, in relation to God, when we transgress his law of love, when we sin, we separate ourselves from him, and this situation is the death of our soul.

Is it not written:

"The consummation of sin produces death" (Jas. 1:15).

"The soul that sins is the one that will die. (Ezekiel 18:4 and 20).

This death is not an annihilation, an end, for "he who brings a sinner back from the way he went astray will save a soul from death. (James 5:20)

Like the prodigal son, the lost soul can pass from death to life, experience a spiritual 'resurrection', as Jesus says:

"He who believes in me has eternal life and does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. (John 5:24)

This is why the apostle Paul can say:

"We who were dead through our trespasses, God has made alive with Christ" (Eph. 2:1-5).

And when he writes to his young companion Timothy about widows who are not pleasing to God, he says:

"The widow who lives in pleasures is **dead** (spiritually), that is easily understood) though alive (physically, of course). (1 Tim. 5:6).

When Martha tells Jesus about the death of her brother Lazarus, Jesus makes this astonishing statement:

"He who believes in me **shall live**, though he were dead. And he who believes in me shall never see death. (John 11:25-26).

Jesus spoke of the life of the soul beyond physical death and certified that there would be no "second death" for the one who believes in him. Never to see Death means never to be separated from the presence of God again.

TO BE THROWN OUT, AWAY FROM GOD

In Scripture, therefore, there are two kinds of death:

- the death of the body
- the death of the soul.

The death of the soul or second death is the separation from God, the deprivation of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). It is the wages of sin (Romans 6:23).

Knowing this, we must come to Jesus **now**, believe in him **now**, to be saved and escape the **second death** in the afterlife.

It is written: "whoever was not found in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:15).

The word "anyone" means that there are no exceptions!

Jesus used the phrase "cast into hell" several times, "(Matthew 18:9, John 15:6).

It means: "to be cut off, separated, driven away from God, deprived of the glory of God, of the divine light".

Speaking of the end of the world, Jesus, who knew what the last judgment would be, said:

"At the end of the world (the Greek word means: the end of mankind, therefore of our planet), those who commit iniquity, they will throw into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Mat. 13:41-42 and 50, Mat. 22:13) "...There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, and you will see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God, and you will be THROWN OUT" (Luke 13:24-28).

This "casting out" at the Last Judgment will be the sentence reserved for those who, having heard the call of Jesus Christ while on earth, did not want to come to Him. They will bear the consequences of their hardness, their unbelief, their pride.

To those on earth who answer his call: "Come to **me**", he says:

"I WILL NOT PUT OUT THE ONE WHO COMES TO ME.

(John 6:37)

Being thrown out will be the punishment at the last judgement for those who refuse to be his disciples. He meant it in these words:

"The king will say to those on his left, "Depart from me, you cursed; go into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels. These," he added, speaking of the cursed, "shall go into **everlasting punishment**, but the righteous into **everlasting life**. (Mat. 25:41-46)

The word "punishment" comes from the Greek word "kolasis" which means to prune, to cut away, to cut what is useless, and consequently, punishment, correction.

The punishment will be to be cut off from God, to have the devil and his demons for company, since Revelation reveals that "the devil was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone" (20:10). This punishment The word "far from God" is indicated, without discussion, by the text of 2 Thessalonians 1:9.

"Their punishment will be eternal destruction, far from the face of the Lord and the glory of his power. The word "ruin" translates the Greek word "olethros" which means loss, death, but not destruction in the sense of annihilation. The expression translated as "far from" has the meaning of "far away", "away from", or even

The word "out" is used with the idea of separation.

After his disobedience, **Adam** hid himself "**from the face of the Lord**" (Gen. 3:8). After his crime, Cain said to God, "I will be hidden from your face" (Gen. 4:14)

HOW TO AVOID BEING THROWN OUT

Until sin is **removed, it will not be** possible to see the face of God, for it is written:

"Your sins hide my face from you" (Isaiah 59:2).

Only the sacrifice of Jesus can take away our sins. Faith in Him enables us to have our hearts cleansed by His blood, as it is written in the Bible:

"The blood of Jesus the Son of God cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:7).

"In Christ we have the forgiveness of sins" (Ephesians 1:7).

The Last Judgement does not concern those on earth who have believed in Jesus. He made this clear with these words:

"He who hears my word and believes in him who sent me has eternal life and does not come into judgment. (John 5:24).

Therefore, "those who are written in the book of life will enter the holy city" (Revelation 21:27). They will be in the presence of God.

Similarly, the apostle Paul spoke of some of his companions, saying: "Clement and my other fellow workers whose names are in the book of life..." (Phil. 4:3). (Phil. 4:3). And Jesus once said to his

Rejoice that your names are written in heaven. (Luke 10:20).

Jesus is the 'Good Shepherd'. He knows his sheep and gives them eternal life (John 10:28). There is therefore no condemnation at the Last Judgment for those who belong to Jesus.

THE REWARDS OF REDEMPTION

Is it not written that "judgment will begin at the house of God" (1 Peter 4:17).

This judgement will not consist of condemnation, since there is now "**no** condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 8:1).

The judgment of the House of God will be an award of rewards, as stated in the Bible:

"The time has come to judge the dead, to reward the servants, the prophets, the holy ones and those who fear your Name" (Rev. 11:18). "We must all appear before **the judgment seat of Christ**, so that **each one may receive** according to the good or evil that he has done in his body" (2 Cor. 5:10).

We do not know what the rewards will be, because the Bible does not preach it. What we do know is that if we have not done the good we should have done, we will lose our reward, as these biblical texts make clear:

"Each one will receive his reward according to his own work...If the work is consumed, he will lose his reward...and be saved as through iron" (1 Cor. 3:1-15).

"Take heed to yourselves, so that you do not lose the fruit of your labour, but **receive a full reward**" (2 John 8).

Jesus himself said that in the afterlife there will be rewards:

"Whoever receives a prophet as a prophet will receive **a prophet's reward**, and whoever receives a righteous person as a righteous person will receive **a righteous person's reward**. And whoever gives a cup of cold water to one of the least of these because he is my disciple, truly I say to you, **he will not lose his reward**" (Matthew 10:41-42).

If we are Christians, we need not fear being condemned at the judgment seat of Christ, since Christ is **our advocate and not a judge** for us who have believed in Him.

"We have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. (1 John 2:1).

What we have to fear is losing our reward.

The children of God are saved by grace and rewarded according to the works they have done in being saved, not for the sake of being saved.

The Bible says:

"It is by grace you have been saved through faith...not by works, so that no one may boast" (Eph. 2:8-9).

THE HOPE OF CHRISTIANS

Bliss will be the share of the redeemed:

"The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him and see his face" (Rev. 22:3).

The apostles are explicit about this hope. They wrote:

"Today we see with a mirror...but then **we shall see face to face**" (1 Cor. 13:12)

"We, beloved, **are children of God**, and what we shall be has not yet been made manifest, but we know that when it is made manifest, we shall be like him, **for we shall see him as he is**" (1 John 3:2). (1 John 3:2).

It is difficult to imagine this afterlife, but one thing is certain: where Jesus is, that is heaven, and we will be with him.

Abraham had faith in a better world. This faith is given to us as an example:

"He came and dwelt in the promised land, as in a strange land, dwelling in tents...for he was waiting for THE CITY that has solid foundations, whose architect and builder is God" (Heb. 11:9-10).

The apostle Paul, reminding the Christians in Philippi of their hope, wrote to them:

"Our CITY is in heaven, from whence we also look for the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour" (Phil. 3:20). (Phil. 3:20)

This is a statement that removes all doubt as to where the saved, the redeemed of the Lord, will be in the hereafter.

This city Jesus called "The Father's House".

He told his apostles shortly before his death:

"There are many mansions in my Father's House. If it were not so, I would have told you. I will prepare a place for you there. When I have gone and prepared a place for you, I will come back and take you with me, so that where I am, there you may be also" (Jn 14:2-3).

All the redeemed will have their place in the city in heaven, in the Father's House, in the holy city. Their names are written there.

DO YOU BELONG IN HEAVEN ?

The Bible describes the bliss of all those who will be there:

"There will be no more anathema. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city; his servants will serve him and see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night; and they will have no more need of

And they shall reign for ever and ever. And they shall reign for ever and ever. (Rev. 22:3-5).

If you refuse to believe in Jesus Christ as your Saviour, you will be **thrown OUT**, where Jesus is not, away from his face, into the lake of fire, into the darkness - perhaps into one of those huge black holes in the Universe, between the galaxies, which astronomers have seen in their telescopes - and you will be thrown back in.

There is an invisible and real world in the afterlife. To experience eternal happiness there, let us welcome Jesus into our lives as our Saviour, and he will receive us into his Heavenly City.

He stands at the door of your heart, let Him enter and He will live with you, in you, as a friend. He said: "If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him. (Rev. 3:20).

A question arises for all of us:

WHERE WILL WE SPEND ETERNITY?

There are only two possible answers:

- **WITH CHRIST**, in Glory, in Bliss, and reign WITH HIM for ever and ever (Rev. 22:3).

If we accept Jesus Christ as Saviour.

- **WITH THE DEVIL**, away from Christ and God.

If we reject Jesus Christ.

"Whoever was not found in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:5)

It is in this lake of fire that the devil will also be thrown to be "tormented for ever and ever" (Rev. 22:10).

When the Apostle Paul spoke to Governor Felix about the **coming** judgment, Felix was frightened and said:

"For the time being, withdraw; when I find an opportunity, I will call you back" (Acts 24:25).

Nowadays, because they are also very afraid, some try to deny the existence of "punishment". Others, in order to steer the ship of their lives in unbelief as they please, do not like to know in advance what the sentence of Christ - the Sovereign Judge - will be and they cover their ears.

Your attitude to Christ today is therefore of the utmost importance. Do not be seduced by doctrines based on pernicious human philosophies that destroy the faith.

Understand how great was the love of Christ to save you from the second death, from spiritual death. For our sake, he suffered the pain of separation from God, crying out on the cross at Golgotha:

"My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mat. 27:46) For,

"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree" (1 Peter 2:24).

He bore the consequence of our sins and suffered the penalty of separation from God so that through Him we might be "reconciled to God" (2 Cor. 5:18-21).

Is it not written that "Jesus stripped himself"? (Phil. 2:7. The Greek word translated "stripped" means "emptied". He deprived himself for a time of "the glory he had with God before the world was" (John 17:5) because of our sin and to atone for it.

The Bible says about men:

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23).

But by his atoning death, Jesus Christ put an end to this "deprivation of the glory of God", having having left this promise:

"IF YOU BELIEVE, YOU WILL SEE THE GLORY OF GOD.

(John 11:40)

and this certainty:

"HE WHO BELIEVES.....
DOES NOT COME TO TRIAL.

(John 5:24)

This is why:

"BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND YOU WILL SAVE." BE

(Acts 16:31)

Because...

"HE WHO DOES NOT BELIEVE WILL BE CONDEMNED.

(Mark 16:16)

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