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The Orthodox Remnant Testimony

Gospel Tract No. 1.

*FLEE FROM THE
WRATH TO COME!*

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R.T.I.

Other Intended publications include:—

1. The Orthodox Remnant Testimony Bible Magazine.
2. Christian Unity — Some thoughts from Scripture. R.S.B.
3. Christ's Second Coming — A Brief Manifesto. R.S.B.
4. Three Prophetic Actors — Anti-Christ, the Beast and the King of the North. R.S.B.

NO one of good sense can doubt that we are living in days of crisis. We seem to stagger from one crisis to the next. But we are living in wonderful days, exciting days but dangerous days. If we understand the nature of the time and act with due regard to it, we will, I am sure, be glad we were privileged to live at this time.

The early Christians believed Jesus was coming again to set up His Kingdom on earth. If the Bible is true, then they were right to look for His Coming again. It is quite plain from the Bible and from history that the Hope of Christ's Second Coming was the constant hope of the early Christian Church. For over a century and a quarter, a growing number of believers have been living in the ancient Christian hope, and in that time wonderful things have happened to confirm that they were right to revive this hope, and we in our day have the strongest reasons for believing that the Second Coming must shortly take place.

We will consider some of the reasons. First, let us look at the Church. Never before were Roman Catholic Christians so devout as at the present time; never have they read their Bibles as now; never has the Roman Catholic Church been engaged in so much good work in the Name of Christ. The spiritual revival of Roman Catholic Christianity is a great sign of the times, and God will give Roman Catholic Christians to share in the Hope of Christ's Second Coming. At the same time the evil political power-seeking aspect of Romanism is in renewed evidence and this is a meaningful and ominous sign.

On the other hand the general body of Protestants are not zealous Bible-readers, many evil doctrines old and new are being taught in their Churches, and the Hope of the Second Coming is ridiculed. Modernist teachers have turned out a version of the Christian religion which seems to be little more than a mixture of good works and politics. Many new sects teaching all kinds of anti-Christian doctrines have appeared, Spiritualists, Christadelphians, Mormons, Christian Scientists and Jehovah's Witnesses to mention but a few. These religious developments are a good reason for thinking that the Second Coming is very near.

Then there is the state of Israel. Jewry all over the world is turning in increasing numbers to Zionist ideas; and the political State of Israel has been in existence now (1961) for 11 years, and Jews in substantial numbers are resident there, are returning there, and have turned and are turning a barren wilderness into a prosperous fertile country. It seems possible that in fulfilment of Bible prophecy certain changes in natural conditions are favouring this development already, but the main point is that Israel is there, Jewry is returning to its ancient land, but in general in unbelief. This is a most potent sign that we are on the brink of the Great Crisis of Jesus' Coming Again.

Thirdly, there is the development of groupings of world powers which students of prophecy have long expected, Russia dominating the north, China the east, African nations rapidly acquiring independence and thinking in terms of a United Africa, and most important of all the gradual development of a United Europe. The great political event of the prophetic future which will be on men in flesh when the time is ripe will be the revival of the Roman Empire. The movement towards European unity is



a most remarkable setting of the stage. An interesting sign in this connection is the manner in which British conceptions of democracy and freedom are being abused to recreate conditions of mob-rule and mob-popularity as a device to bring in dictatorship and tyranny. This is most reminiscent of the political developments in the Roman Empire at the time of Christ.

Fourthly, there is a growth of economic conspiracies, combines, chain stores, monopolies, amalgamated and monster trade unions, closed-shop policies, restrictive practices, price rings, compulsory union membership not only for workers but for employers. What are these preparing for? The state of things in which the great Beast-Emperor of the Revived Roman Empire will require subservience and divine worship, and no one will be allowed to buy or sell or engage in any commercial activity without accepting the mark of the Beast.

The Second Coming of Christ has two aspects; one the way in which it affects the world, the second the way it concerns those who believe. God is not going to allow the Beast-Emperor more than a few years of domination, and Christ is then coming to establish His Kingdom and put down all rebellion against God and introduce a time of peace and prosperity with justice and true freedom which will last for 1,000 years—The Millennium. While the Beast-Emperor reigns there will be unparalleled suffering and tribulation in the whole habitable world. It will be a time of unrestrained wickedness and God's judgments will be in the earth. But it is not God's desire that any who love Him should undergo the judgments, sorrows and sufferings of that time, and in the Gospel of His grace, He now offers forgiveness and peace to all who come to Him in repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus promises to all who believe a full salvation which includes not only the assured hope of eternal glory but the Hope of His Coming Again to deliver us from the great Time of Trouble and the Wrath to Come. All true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ will before the Time of Trouble be caught up to heaven so as to be with Christ when He comes to reign over the world.

If, therefore, you would flee from the Wrath to Come turn to God in repentance for your sin, ask the Lord Jesus to come into your heart as Lord and Saviour and cleanse you from all your sins. He died on the Cross to save you 1900 years ago, but if you believe on Him from your heart, you can then say with the writer: He bore my sins in His own body on the Tree (the Cross) and you may know that they are all forgiven for His Name's Sake.

Forty days after Jesus rose from the dead He ascended bodily into heaven and if you read I Thessalonians, chapter 4, verse 13, to the end, you will see that Jesus is coming again into the air to summon all His own to be with Him and they like Him at the Ascension will be caught up bodily to heaven. So Christ will initiate the greatest journey into space by withdrawing His followers from the earth which is growing more and more corrupt. While millions starve and suffer sickness, millions of pounds which could be better spent are being used to endeavour to put man into space by science, though there was never a time when man showed more sadly his inability to walk properly on the face of the earth. What a favoured position to be the first astronaut! How grand to survey the

greatness of God's design and workmanship in the heavens! Yet the writer is compelled to wonder whether this privilege is not intended by God to be first enjoyed by the true Church of God as it journeys to its heavenly home. Certainly it will be a wonderful thing to be here upon earth at one moment and then in the twinkling of an eye to be caught up to meet the Lord Jesus! Are you ready?

Now my friend you have an opportunity to seek after God and find Him. If you seek Him now with all your heart you will find Him, because now is the day of grace and God is waiting to bless you. But if you turn your back on God, or if you attempt to put off the day of decision—what then? Be warned. Boast not thyself of tomorrow for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth! None of us knows he has even 24 hours to live. And even if you live you may be too late. If Christ comes while you are yet in your sins, you will have had your last opportunity, you will be left behind to face the judgment of God, and the tyranny of the Godless evil men of the time. Can we not see even now what hatred and malice can possess men who give themselves to the powers of evil? Are you going to ignore what may be your last opportunity to secure God's blessing? Alas, there will, we know from Scripture, be many who will miss their last chance and then run frantically to and fro trying to find a man of God who will teach them the way of salvation. They will seek AND NOT FIND!

God has been so patient. He has been patient with you. He cannot wait indefinitely. The time approaches when HE MUST step in. If He were to hold His hand any further the earth would be destroyed. The Bible tells us that in sending Christ as Judge of the Living and the Dead He comes to destroy them that destroy the earth. Can any one doubt now that we are now in that constant danger? The leaders of the great powers even admit it themselves. If then God is as patient as He can possibly be, how can any puny creature complain when He steps in to judge? Yet how dreadful to be in that awful position! When you stand before God as Judge of all, He will remind you of your opportunities. HE WILL REMIND YOU THAT YOU HAD THIS TRACT. Will He have to point out to you that you wilfully chose to incur His Wrath instead of fleeing from it and accepting His mercy and forgiveness? Why rebel any longer? Why be at war with your Maker when He wants to be at peace with you. The Lord Jesus is sending out His servants with a message urging and even imploring you to be reconciled to God. God is as it were going down on bended knee to His creature to beseech you to return to the fold of His love. Will you, DARE YOU refuse? I trust not.

But remember: NOW is the accepted time; NOW is the day of salvation!

Come to the Saviour now, He ready stands to bless!
In true repentance bow, To Him thy guilt confess!
He waits to heal and grant His blessings rich and free,
Peace, pardon, joy in time and through eternity.

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