

The Imminent Return of Yeshua

You have heard it said by many Pastors, Teachers, and Biblical Scholars that *“There is no prophecy or event that must occur before Yeshua can return for his bride, he can come at any time, he could even come before you finish hearing this sentence.”*

I am going to upset a lot of people by declaring *“That statement portrays a false narrative.”* The scriptures are very clear, precise, and definitive: Yeshua does not show up to rapture his bride before the dead are raised. The resurrection of the dead is that imminent prophetic event that MUST take place BEFORE the rapture. The resurrection of the dead is that imminent prophetic event that scripture says we are to be expecting

Let’s examine the scriptures and see just what they do say about the Imminent Return and if it can indeed happen at any time, or if it is an event that occurs at a set time or occasion:

The Imminence

Near At Hand

The Greek words eggus [G1451 ἐγγύς], eggizo [G1448 ἐγγίζω], or tachy [G5035 ταχύ] mean at hand, near, or without delay – in other words: imminent. They are equivalent to the Hebrew word qarowb [H7138 קָרוֹב]. Imminent means impending; hence it could happen immediately, within ten minutes, ten months, or ten years. Imminence is always the meaning of at hand or near when speaking about the return of Yeshua. For example:

- The night is far gone, the day is near (**Romans 13:12**)
- Yeshua is near (**Philippians 4:5**)
- The time is near when all things will end (**1 Peter 4:7**)
- You see the day drawing near (**Hebrews 10:25**)
- Yeshua’s return is near (**James 5:8**)

Times and Seasons

Daniel 2:21 – “Yahweh changes the times and seasons . . .”

Daniel 7:25 – “The antichrist will attempt to alter the seasons and the law; and [the holy ones] will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time.”

Daniel 2:21 tells us that Yahweh is he who changes the times and seasons. Times in this verse is the Hebrew word iddan [H5732 יָדָן] which means a **set time**. Seasons is the Hebrew word zman [H2166 זֶמַן] which means an **appointed occasion**. In **Daniel 7:25** the antichrist is the one who attempts to change the seasons and times. In this verse, the word seasons is zman and the word times is iddan. Iddan and zman can be used interchangeably, as both indicate a **set time or occasion**.

Acts 1:7 – “Yeshua said to them, *‘You don’t need to know the times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority’.*”

1 Thessalonians 5:1 – “You have no need to have anything written to you, brothers, about the times and seasons when this will happen.”

The word times, used by both Yeshua and Paul, is the Greek word kairos [G2540 καιρός] which means a **set time or occasion**. Some translations use the word “dates” in place of the word times, which gives a more accurate sense of the terms being used.

The Moedim Patterns

Leviticus 23:2 – “These are the appointed times of Yahweh that you shall proclaim as holy convocations; they are my divine appointments.”

Another frequently used Hebrew word for seasons is moed [H4150 מוֹעֵד]. Moed has been translated as seasons, festivals, feasts, months, and appointed times. Yahweh established seven Moedim in which he embedded prophecies of coming events. The seven moedim are Pesach, Chag Ha’Matzot, Reishit Katzir, Shavuot, Yom Teruah, Yom Kippurim, and Sukkot (In English: Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, Pentecost,

Trumpets, Atonements, and Booths). There is a pattern to the prophecies that are represented by the Moedim. The pattern is: the death, burial, and resurrection of Yeshua, the giving of the spirit, the resurrection of the dead in Yeshua and the rapture, the judgment, and the millennial reign. The first four prophecies embedded in the Moedim have already been completed, or as some say, fulfilled.

The next Moed, Yom Teruah, prophesies the day of the resurrection of the righteous dead, the taking up of the living righteous, and the day of hiding and concealment before the time of tribulation.

The Anxious Wait

1 Thessalonians 4:13 – *“Now, brothers, we want you to know the truth about those who have died.”*

The question arose asking if those who had died, as well as those who were still living, had already missed the Rapture and were now in the Tribulation Period. The Apostle Paul assured them that the Tribulation Period had not yet begun, and that the dead **MUST** rise first **BEFORE** the living are raptured (**4:16-17**).

1 Thessalonians 5:1 – *“You have no need to have anything written to you . . .when this will happen.”*

The Apostle Paul continued and reminded them that he had already taught them about the prophecies embedded in the Moedim (**1 Thessalonians 5:1**), that the first four had been completed, and assured them that the coming moed of Yom Teruah represents the day of the resurrection of the righteous dead, the taking up of the living righteous, and the day of hiding and concealment before the time of tribulation. He taught that the next moed to be completed, Yom Teruah, was still a future, imminent event. Did you catch that? A future, imminent event! An event that they were to watch for and anticipate experiencing. We **do not know which** Yom Teruah will be **THE** Yom Teruah to make completion: it could be five years, next year, or even this year on the Biblical Calendar, hence an imminent event!

A Third Witness

Deuteronomy 19:15 – *“A fact must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.”*

2 Corinthians 13:1 – *“Every fact must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.”*

Matthew 27:52-53 – *“Upon the death of Yeshua, the graves were opened and the bodies of many holy ones arose, came out of the graves and went into Yerushalayim, where many people saw them.”*

We have two witnesses so far that indicate that the resurrection must take place first. Is there a third? Indeed there is. Upon the death of Yeshua, the graves were opened and the dead were resurrected (**Matthew 27:52**). These holy ones were living breathing human beings, not zombies! No doubt about it, while in Yerushalayim, they witnessed to the many who saw them.

Scripture does not tell us how long they remained alive. I believe that these people were carried up into the clouds at the same time Yeshua was carried up, becoming a firstfruits offering of the resurrected to Yahweh his father, for scripture tells us that, *“When he ascended on high he led a host of captives”* (**Ephesians 4:8**). Again, **FIRST** the resurrection, **THEN** the rapture.

Interlude One

Yahweh is not a god of chaos, confusion, or disorder. Yahweh is a god of peace and order. Yahweh is the God who has determined the end from the beginning. Yahweh established seven Moedim in which he embedded prophecies of coming events. The pattern to the prophecies is: the death, burial, and resurrection of Yeshua, the giving of the spirit, the judgment, and the millennial reign.

The next event to be completed in the sequence of Moedim on Yahweh's calendar is Yom Teruah – the resurrection of the dead in Yeshua and the rapture. Paul succinctly confirms this order of events. The resurrection of the dead is that prophetic event that **MUST** take place **BEFORE** the Rapture. The resurrection of the dead on Yom Teruah is that imminent event that Yeshua commands us to be looking forward to witnessing and experiencing! The Bride of Yeshua isn't going anywhere until Yom Teruah begins!

The Advance Notices

We have examined the assertion that “*There is no prophecy or event that must occur before Yeshua can return for his bride,*” and found it to be a **false narrative**. We will now look at the rest of the assertion that “*Yeshua can come at any time, he could even come before you finish hearing this sentence,*” and once again “*That statement also portrays a false narrative.*”

Nobody Knows

Everybody thinks that nobody knows the day or hour. Yeshua, said clearly that neither he nor the angels in Heaven know the date, only his father. So where do I get this idea that somebody gets to know ahead of time? From the Prophets, of course.

The Three Prophet's Advance Notice

Prophet 1: Elijah

2 Kings 2:3, 2:5 – “*Do you know that Yahweh is taking your master away from you today? ‘Yes, I know,’ Elisha answered; ‘say no more’.*”

Twice, scripture tells us that the day of Elijah's departure, or rapture, was known to the Sons Of The Prophets, sometimes called the Guild Prophets. Elijah and Elisha also knew, so the total number of people who were in the know is at least 102. Scripture does not indicate where this prophecy about his rapture is recorded, but this definitely sounds like ‘Advance Notice’.

Prophet 2: Yeshua

Luke 9:30-31 – “*Suddenly there were two men talking with Yeshua; Moses and Elijah. They appeared in glorious splendor and spoke of his exodus.*”

Yeshua received information regarding his exodus from Moses and Elijah well before he was carried into Heaven. Note very carefully that scripture does not say “his crucifixion”, nor “his resurrection”, just his “exodus”, or in other words, his rapture! And there were at least 3 witnesses to this information who Yeshua commanded to keep to themselves - Peter, James, and John (**Matthew 17:1-9, Mark 9:2-10, Luke 9:28-36**). This also definitely sounds like ‘Advance Notice’.

Prophet 3: Enoch

Enoch 81:6 – “*One year you will have with your son, Methuselah, until you give your last commands, teach and testify them to your children, and record these commands for them. In the second year, you will be taken from amidst their presence.*”

Jasher 3:31-34 – “*And all the sons of men assembled and came to Enoch*” and on the sixth day those remaining with Enoch declared “*only death shall separate us.*”

According to the scroll of **Enoch 81:6**, Enoch had one full year of advance notice advance before his departure, and likely so did his entire family, friends, and the King's men who were also present when he was taken (**Jasher 3:34**). His rapture set the pattern for all bodily raptures thereafter. Total number who knew is undetermined, but again this definitely sounds like ‘Advance Notice’.

The Three Days Advance Notice

At Mount Sinai, according to Exodus, the people are commanded to cleanse themselves and prepare for the coming of Yahweh. According to Joshua, prior to the people being brought into the promised land, (a picture of The Rapture when the Bride of Yeshua is taken in their promised land, Heaven), the people must first prepare for three days. These three day warnings definitely sound like ‘Advance Notice’.

The Apostle Paul's Indication of Advance Notice

Paul, after discussing the resurrection of the dead and subsequent rapture of the living states very clearly: “*You, brothers, are not in the dark, so that the Day should take you by surprise . . .*” This also definitely sounds like ‘Advance Notice’ will be given.

Yahweh's Promise of Advance Notice

Amos 3:7 – “Yahweh Elohim does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.”

Yahweh firmly states that he gives advance notice. I believe an advance notice will be the first sequence of events that leads up to the resurrection and rapture. I do not know what form this advance notice may take, but believe that Yahweh's promise to do so is still valid today.

Interlude Two

Advance notice is the scriptural norm. In every case the person being raptured knows he will be:

- Enoch had a full year of advance notice (**Enoch 81:5-6**).
- Elijah and two schools of prophets knew the day of his departure (**2 Kings 2:3-5**).
- Yeshua knew about his departure prior to his going to Yerushalayim (Jerusalem) to be crucified (**Luke 9:30-31**).

Yahweh always informs his prophets in advance and Paul states that we will not be caught off guard by the coming of Yeshua to rapture his bride. Yeshua arriving without advance notice does not correspond to the many instances in scripture that state very clearly, precisely, and definitively that advance notice is given. Yeshua showing up without advance notice being given would violate Yahweh's promise as set forth in **Amos 3:7**.

The statement that “*Yeshua can come at any time, he could even come before you finish hearing this sentence*” “*portrays a false narrative*”. Paul reminds us – “Do not be deceived, Yahweh will not be made a fool” (**Galatians 6:7**). Yahweh commands us – “Listen to Yeshua” (**Matthew 17:5, Mark 9:7, Luke 9:35**), and Yeshua commands us – “*Listen to me*” (**Mark 7:14**) and states that “*Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to me*” (**John 18:37**). Listen to Yeshua, not false narratives.

Random Events

We examined the assertion that “*There is no prophecy or event that must occur before Yeshua can return for his bride*,” and found it to be a false narrative because the dead must be raised first. We examined the rest of the assertion “*Yeshua can come at any time, he could even come before you finish hearing this sentence*,” and also found it to be a false narrative because the scriptures show a definite pattern of advance notices. Now we will look to see if random events meet scriptural standards.

Yahweh is a God of Order

1 Corinthians 14:33 - “Yahweh is not a God of confusion but of shalom.”

1 Corinthians 14:40 - “Let all things be done decently and in order.”

Scripture declares that Yahweh is not a god of chaos, confusion, or disorder. He is a god of peace, order, and organization. In other words, Yahweh don't do random! He establishes a pattern and in him “*there is no change*” (**Psalms 55:19**). He is the God who has determined the end from the beginning.

The Seventy Years

Jeremiah 29:10 – “Here is what Yahweh says: ‘After Babylon's seventy years are over, I will remember you and fulfill my good promise to you by bringing you back to this place’.”

Seventy years after the Jews were exiled to Babylon, during the first year of the reign of Cyrus (**Ezra 1:1**), Daniel understood that those years were ended. Cyrus issued a proclamation that very year allowing the Jews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple (**Ezra 5:13**).

The First Coming of Yeshua

Daniel 9:26 – “Then, after the sixty-two weeks, Mashiach will be cut off and have nothing.”

Gabriel gave Daniel a mathematical prophecy detailing the number of days between a decree to rebuild the walls and the declaration Messiah as Prince. The number of days declared was 173,880. According to **Nehemiah 2:1**, it was “in the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king” that the authorization to rebuild Jerusalem was issued. Thus we have the key date from which this incredible prophecy

was to be calculated: Nisan 1, 445 B.C, or March 14, 445 B.C. At the end of 69 of these weeks Messiah the Prince would be made known to Israel and then be cut off, but not for himself (**Daniel 9:25-26**). Counting 483 years ($7 \times 69 = 483$) of 360 days each gives us a total of 173,880 days and brings us to Sunday, April 6, A.D. 32, or Nisan 10 on the Hebrew calendar. On that very day Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a young donkey, on the colt of a donkey, and was hailed as Messiah the Prince (**Zechariah 9:9**). *Thanks to Dr. Chuck Missler for these calculations and insights[Hidden Treasures in the Biblical Text, ©2000, pgs.41-47].*

The Recapture of Jerusalem

Zechariah 1:16 – “*I will return to Yerushalayim with merciful deeds. My house will be rebuilt there.*”

In **Daniel Chapter 5**, we read the account of the writing on the wall. The inscription read: Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin. The direct prophecy was that Belshazzar was to be immediately deposed, and he was that very evening. **Now that is not random timing – Yahweh doesn’t do random!**

But wait, there’s more! The Hebrew verbs, weighed, numbered, and divided, can also be translated as nouns, which then become units of measurement or money [A mene is 1000 garahs, a tekell is 20 garahs, and a peres, or upharsin, is 500 garahs]. When this is done, mene mene then translates two-thousand garahs. Tekel translates as twenty garahs, and upharsin translates as five-hundred garahs. These words have been interpreted to mean: there will be 2520 Biblical years between the decree of Darius (**Zechariah 1:7-16**, and **Ezra chapters 5 & 6**) granting the Jews control of the Temple Mount and a future control of the Mount. The decree is believed to have been made in August of 518 B.C. Adding 2520 Biblical years brings us to June of 1967 A.D., the month and year that Jerusalem was recaptured! **Again, that is not random timing – Yahweh doesn’t do random!**

The Return Of Israel To The Land

Ezekiel 4:5-6 – “*You are to bear the guilt of the house of Israel for 390 days. Then . . . you are to bear the guilt of the house of Judah for forty days, each day corresponding to a year.*”

Ezekiel prophesied that the Jews would finally return to the land forever, after two dispersals. This prophecy stated that the period of captivity was to be for a total of 430 Biblical Years. The seventy year period ended when a small portion of the Jews returned to Palestine and Jerusalem from Babylon, in the Spring of 536 B.C., which left a remaining period of 360 years of punishment. This period was multiplied seven times ($360 \times 7 = 2520$), for a total of 2520 Biblical years for their failure to repent of their disobedience (**Leviticus 26:18, 21, 24, and 28**). 2520 Biblical years from Spring of 536 B.C. brings us to Spring of 1948 A.D. In the afternoon of May 14, 1948, the Jews proclaimed the independence of the reborn state of Israel. Again, **that is not random timing – Yahweh doesn’t do random!** *Thanks to Grant Jeffrey for his calculations and discovery of this important information.*

The Moedim

The moed of Pesach always takes place on the 14th of Nissan. Chag Ha’Matzoh always takes place the next day, and Reishit Katzir always takes place on the following Sabbath. Shavuot follows exactly 50 days after Chag Ha’Matzoh. The moed of Yom Teruah always takes place on the 1st Day of 7th Month, Yom Kippurim always takes place on the 10th Day of 7th Month, and Sukkot always starts on the 15th Day of 7th Month. Some may imply that Yom Teruah is random, since it can only be declared when two witnesses see the edge of the moon, hence, the expression Yeshua used: “*You do not know the day or the hour*” (**Matthew 24:36**). But this two day period does not indicate a random event – not in the least. **Again, Yahweh doesn’t do random!**

The Gap

Isaiah 61:1-2 – “*Yahweh has anointed me to announce good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted; to proclaim freedom to the captives, to let out into light those bound in the dark; to proclaim the year of the favor of Yahweh and the day of vengeance.*”

Just as there has been a 2000 year pause between the first and second parts of **Isaiah 61:1-2**, perhaps there will be another “pregnant pause” between the resurrection of those in Yeshua and the rapture of both those people and the people who are still alive at that time! (**1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**).

Interlude Three

Random events are not the scriptural norm:

- Yahweh is a God of order, not chaos (**1 Corinthians 14:33**).
- The Jews were returned from Babylon as prophesied after seventy years (**Jeremiah 29:10**).
- Yeshua entered Yerushalayim (Jerusalem) to be crucified as prophesied (**Daniel 9:26**).
- Yeshua was crucified, buried, and rose just as prophesied by the Pesach, Chag Ha'Matzot, and Reishit Katzir Moedim.
- The Ruach Ha'Kodesh was given just as prophesied by the Shavuot Moed.
- Yerushalayim (Jerusalem) was recaptured as prophesied (**Zechariah 1:16**).
- The Jews came back to Israel in 1948 as prophesied (**Ezekiel 4:5-6**).

It is highly likely, therefore, that the resurrection of the dead, the rapture of the living, and the hiding away will also take place exactly as prophesied by the Yom Teruah Moed. This will not be a random event that takes place just any old time.

Conclusions

Yahweh is not a god of chaos, confusion, or disorder. He is a god of peace, order, and organization. The coming of Yeshua for his bride is not a random event. **Yahweh doesn't do random!** It was planned before the foundations of the earth were laid. The imminent return we should be looking for is the Resurrection of the Dead in Yeshua. It is very likely, that just as Elijah, Yeshua, and Enoch received advance notice, so shall the bride.

There is an old saying that goes something like this: *"If you tell a lie long enough, it becomes the truth."* The **false narrative** spoken by many that *"There is no prophecy or event that must occur before Yeshua can return for his bride, he can come at any time, he could even come before you finish hearing this sentence"* has been stated so often that it is readily accepted as truth. However, scripture tells a different story, so once again, **I am going to upset a lot of people by declaring** *"That statement portrays a false narrative"* – it is complete hogwash, gibberish, codswallop, baloney, fiction. And once again, I say *"Listen to Yeshua, not false narratives."*

Final Thought

Prophecy as foretold by the Hebrew prophets continues to unfold in an escalating pattern. The stage is nearly completely set. The great and terrible Day of Yahweh, Joseph's Trouble, hastens forth and will not delay. Time is short – Yeshua Ha'Mashiach is coming soon – get busy reaching the lost.