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## Peace and Harmony Throughout Creation

Close your eyes for a moment to the scenes of misery and woe, degradation and sorrow that yet prevail on account of sin, and picture before your mental vision the glory of the perfect earth. Not a stain of sin mars the harmony and peace of a perfect society; not a bitter thought, not an unkind look or word; love, welling up from every heart, meets a kindred response in every other heart, and benevolence marks every act.

There sickness shall be no more; not an ache nor a pain, nor any evidence of decay—not even the fear of such things. Think of all the pictures of comparative health and beauty of human form and feature that you have ever seen, and know that perfect humanity will be of still surpassing loveliness. The inward purity and mental and moral perfection will stamp and glorify every radiant countenance. Such will earth's society be; and weeping bereaved ones will have their tears all wiped away, when thus they realize the resurrection work complete. (Based on Revelation 21:4)

Is this prospect just a fanciful dream? No, this expectation is based upon a thread of hope woven throughout the Bible. God's Kingdom shall come, and His will shall be done on earth, as it is in heaven. (Matthew 6:10) But to truly believe this hope, we must understand God's plan and especially his times and seasons.

Paul states that Christ "gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." (1 Tim. 2:6) For the past 2000 years God has been "calling out a people for his name." (Acts 15:14) Those who believe now, during



this difficult, evil time will be rewarded for their faith by receiving life in heaven. "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him..." (II Timothy 2:12)

But, what will happen to the millions throughout the ages who never learned of Christ? Not all people have ears to hear today, and not all have their "due time" at the same time. Jesus gave his life so that all would receive a resurrection and a reasonable opportunity to know him and gain everlasting life. "As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (1 Corinthians 15:22)

This is the glorious purpose for the reign of Christ with his Church. Those who prove faithful as Christians now will have the privilege of bringing all up from the grave to learn of Christ in that wonderful day. The Scriptures guarantee this promise: "...for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice... they that have done good [in this evil age], unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil [those not justified by faith now], unto the resurrection of judgment." (John 5:28, 29 NAS) Note what Isaiah says about this judgment: "when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." (Isaiah 26:9) Christ and his Church will teach righteousness to these millions during this kingdom when learning will be more favorable for them. (Revelation 20:2-4 & Isaiah 35)

There will indeed be "times of restitution of all things... spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began." (Acts 3:21) God's will shall be done on earth as in heaven! "For the vision is yet for an appointed time... though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come." (Habakkuk 2:3)

For those who learn to "rightly divide the word of truth," there is a beautiful harmony found in the scriptures. (II Timothy 2:15) *How to Study the Bible and Have it Make Sense* is a study booklet designed to help you understand God's plans. It illustrates how to study by context, time sequence, and topic. To receive a **FREE COPY** of this excellent resource, simply call, or fill out and mail the attached postcard (please add a postcard stamp). May the Lord bless your efforts to understand His loving plans.

