

The Beginning of Christ's Reign

Psalm 97:1-5

- I.** Exhortation to be glad (Ps. 97:1-3).
 - 1. To those who have just come through the Great Tribulation (Mt. 24:21).
 - 2. They have just witnessed judgment upon all of mankind (Mt. 25:32-33).
 - 1) Those on the right of the judgment Throne, the sheep, Throne stay on earth and go into the Millennial Rule (*cf.* Rev. 3:21).
 - 2) Those on the left, the goats, go to eternal punishment (Mt. 25:41, 46).
 - 3. In order to rejoice, those remaining focus on the fact all the judgment was perfectly righteous and all judgment in the future will be righteous.
- II.** Christ will come with a dramatic display of His majesty and power (Ps. 97:4; Mt. 24:27-31).
 - 1. He will come as rapid as lightning (v. 27).
 - 2. It will be a "light-show" both spectacular and overwhelming.
 - 3. When He comes there will be carnage which is the result of the final battles at the close of the Tribulation (v. 28).
 - 4. He comes right after the Tribulation (v. 29).
 - 5. A sign appears just prior to His coming (v. 30).
 - 6. Christ comes out of the City/sign (v. 30 *cf.* Heb. 12:22-24).
 - 7. The elect are rescued, gather up (v. 31).
- III.** Great topographical changes will take place at His coming (Ps. 97:5).
 - 1. As prophesied by Isaiah at Jehovah's coming to rule (Is. 40:3-5; Mt. 3:1-3).
 - 2. As prophesied by Jesus (Lu. 3:4-6 *cf.* Mt. 17:20).