MARANATHA GLOBAL BIBLE STUDY THE RETURN OF JESUS // JOEL RICHARDSON

SESSION 39 WHERE DOES JESUS RETURN?

I. JERUSALEM

- A. Most Christians today would say Jerusalem because of two proof texts
 - 1. Zechariah 12-14
 - 2. Acts 1
- B. The armies of the Antichrist are ravaging the land, Jesus comes back to fight him, standing on the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:3-4)
 - 1. However, the passage does not say explicitly that Jesus will land here
 - 2. "In that day" is a general statement, in the time period of His return
- C. The events in Zechariah 14 are not necessarily chronological, rather it is laying out a series of statements
 - 1. The inhabitants fleeing after Jesus' return doesn't make sense
- D. When He returns, the citizens of Jerusalem will look upon the one they have pierced; they will go into their houses and repent, not flee (Zechariah 12)
- E. He is marching from the South, destroying the Antichrist's armies (Zechariah 9)
- F. It makes more sense to say that Jesus will be seen, perhaps in the clouds, over Jerusalem when He returns before He actually makes His arrival in Jerusalem from the South
- G. Jesus ascended to heaven on the clouds, so He will return on the clouds but not necessarily in the exact same place (Acts 1:9-11)
 - 1. The disciples were actually about 2.5 miles from the Temple Mount itself
- H. Jesus returns with myriads of angels, it wouldn't really make sense for him to land and then bounce somewhere else

II. PETRA/BOSRA

- A. This is modern day Jordan
- B. Some of the primary texts mention Jesus marching through that area (Isaiah 34, Isaiah 63, Habakuk 3:3, Micah 2)
- C. However, these texts do not say that this is where Jesus starts His march

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III. MT. SINAI

- A. Further south from Jordan
- B. There are clear scriptures that state that Jesus will come from Sinai, but again, He does not likely originate there

IV. EGYPT

- A. It seems likely that Jesus, as the greater Moses, Joshua, Gideon, will retrace the entire Exodus, originating in Egypt
- B. Jesus will rescue those who have been taken captive in Egypt as He makes His way through Saudi Arabia, through Jordan, to Jerusalem, saving His people along the way
- C. However, He does not call us to get caught up in the details of this journey
 - 1. He calls us, rather, to know the signs of the times and be prepared
- D. The Lord will bring you back to Egypt (Deuteronomy 28:68)
- E. The Lord is riding on a swift cloud, coming to Egypt (Isaiah 19:1)
- F. God brings Him out of Egypt (Numbers 24:7-8)
 - 1. The ultimate fulfillment of this prophecy is when Jesus returns
- G. Just like when He destroyed the Midianites in the first Exodus, He will do this again in His return (Isaiah 10:24-26)
 - 1. In the context of the Lord destroying the Antichrist, His staff will be lifted up over the sea, like in the first Exodus (splitting the sea)
- H. The Lord will gather His people and destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt (Isaiah 11: 11, 15)
 - 1. Just like in the first Exodus when His people crossed the Red Sea
- I. The sea itself will surrender (Habakuk 3:8-10, Revelation 19)
- J. The strongest Biblical case for the point of origin of His return is Egypt

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