## $E = MC^2$

This is a response to just our fellowship group in reference to an email sent to all of you by "decapitejo." While I do not take offense to his opinion, I will fulfill my role as a shepherd when a wolf comes near God's flock. When someone addresses "To everyone" I tend to redirect the Hubble Telescope toward the information and comments, buckle down and ask God for His Word on the matter. I titled this  $E=MC^2$  and hopefully it will succinctly illustrate thoughts on the matter.

 $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{mc}^2$ , an equation in German-born physicist Albert Einstein's theory of special relativity that expresses the fact that mass and energy are the same physical entity and can be changed into each other. In the equation, the increased relativistic mass (*m*) of a body times the speed of light squared ( $c^2$ ) is equal to the kinetic energy (*E*) of that body. One of the most famous applications of this formula was used in the development of the Atomic Bomb.

Based on the information we just read, does it make anyone of us an expert on nuclear fusion or fission? Would anyone care to take a crack at explaining the space-time postulates associated with E=MC<sup>2</sup>? Me either. We'll let it go with the above paragraph and dispense with all of the associative quantum field theories and examples to avoid giving anyone an aneurysm. While having a rudimentary amount of knowledge from working with physicists, I know just about enough to

be clever and apparently knowledgeable. To the uninformed on the subject, it may appear that I have a grasp on physics more than the average person. If I throw in a dose of pride and bloviate, I could really twist some heads with mis-information. However, I wouldn't consider sharing an opinion without doing a heap more RESEARCH and gaining the knowledge and understanding needed to explain such things to anyone who may be stuck in a physics class without earplugs. Though I'm not a physicist, I did stay at a Holiday Inn once. Have your brain loaded with fact before you shoot your mouth off. Point made; I hope.

This is what we've discussed numerous times and this emphasizes the importance of knowing God's Word, to know Him in that personal relationship and grow in wisdom, grace and knowledge.

Making an absolute statement at the onset of the email, "there is no Pentecost resurrection" threw a red flag immediately. While a couple of sentences were true, the overall message was opinionated. Incomplete information based on not knowing God's Word can definitely pollute the truth. How sad. An applicable quote from former President Ronald Reagan is most fitting for such individuals. "It's not that liberals aren't smart, it's just that so much of what they know isn't so." Now I'm not accusing the sender of being a liberal but we go back to the topic of "having your brain loaded." We cannot discount any of God's Word. We must live by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of God (**Deut. 8;3, Matthew 4:4, Luke 4:4**). Negating any part of the Bible, omitting one sentence will lead to misunderstanding. **Isaiah 28:9-10-** "Whom shall He teach knowledge? And whom shall He make to understand doctrine? *Those* who are weaned from the milk and drawn from the breasts, <u>For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line,</u> <u>line upon line; here a little, there a little;</u>" We are tasked to <u>dissect</u> God's Word, line by line and precept by precept. Both Old and New Testaments, Genesis to Revelation. Missing a single word can cause one to become fixated on a concept that isn't the complete truth and down the wrong trail they go.

**Proverbs 8:7-9-** "For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth *are* in righteousness; there is nothing twisted or perverse in them. They *are* all plain to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge." **Proverbs 1:7-** "The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge, *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Missing the association in the scriptures relating to harvest, first fruits and resurrection will definitely limit one's understanding. Focused totally on "Resurrection" and failing to comprehend the big harvest plan of God will yield such misguided thoughts. With all we've covered in the past several weeks regarding the harvest of the firstfruits, it isn't necessary to go through all of those scriptures again.

We've been beating the drum on "Cut and Paste Christianity" for over a year now.
The Lord Himself told of us to be aware of false teachers and false prophets.
Matthew 7:15-16- "But beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, for within *they* are ravening wolves. You shall know them by their fruits.

They do not gather grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles, do they?"

Matthew 24:11- "And many false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive many;"

**Matthew 24:24-25-** "For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and they shall present great signs and wonders, in order to deceive, if possible, even the elect. Behold, I have foretold *it* to you."

**Mark 13:22-23**- "For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and they shall give signs and wonders, in order to deceive, if possible, even the elect. But you, watch out for them! Behold, I have foretold all these things to you."

Matthew 10:16- "Behold, I am sending you forth as sheep in *the* midst of wolves. Therefore, be wise as serpents and harmless as doves." Luke 10:2-3- "And so He said to them, "The harvest is indeed great, but the workmen are few. Therefore, beseech the Lord of the harvest that He may send out workmen into His harvest. Go forth! Behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves."

**1** John 4:1-6- "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this *test* you *can* know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in *the* flesh is from God. And every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not from God. And this is the *spirit* of antichrist, which you heard *was* to come, and even now it is already in the world. You are of God, little children, and have overcome them because greater *is* He Who *is* in you than the one who *is* in the world. They are of the world; because of this, they speak of the world, and the world listens to them. We are of God; the one who knows God listens to us; the one who is not of God does not listen to us. By this *means* we know the Spirit of the truth and the spirit of the deception."

From our studies and Bible readings we know that Pentecost is also called the "Feast of Weeks." We can find references to it in God's plan in **Leviticus 23:15-16-** "And you shall count to you beginning with the next day after the Sabbath,

beginning with the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Sabbaths shall be complete. Even unto the day after the seventh Sabbath you shall number fifty days. And you shall offer a new grain offering to the LORD."

## (Deuteronomy 16:16).

Some of the comments in the email are partially correct, Christ is to return on the Feast of Trumpets. The Feast of Trumpets brings with it a confident hope and a sense of expectation. It predicts the return of Jesus Christ as King of kings, our resurrection from the dead, and the establishment of the His Kingdom on the Earth. While scripture supports His second coming on The Feast of Trumpets, no verse specifically and plainly states this. The Feast of Trumpets *pictures* His return, but we cannot automatically assume that He will in fact come on that day. We have a 1 in 365 of being on target. True, no man knows the hour or time of His return. **Matthew 24:36-** "But concerning that day, and the hour, no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only."

The scripture that supports our returning with Him is well listed in God's Word. **1 Thessalonians 4:13-17-** "But I do not wish you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, that you be not grieved, even as others, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, in exactly the same way also, those who have fallen asleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. For this we say to you by *the* Word of *the* Lord, that we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall in no wise precede those who have fallen asleep. Because the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with *a* shout of command, with *the* voice of an archangel and with *the* trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first; Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in *the* clouds for *the* meeting with the Lord in *the* air; and so shall we always be with *the* Lord."

Malachi 4:1-3- "For behold, the day is coming, burning like a consuming oven; and all the proud, and every doer of wickedness, shall be stubble. And the day that comes shall burn them up," says the LORD of hosts, "and will leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you who fear My name, the Sun of Righteousness shall arise, and healing will be in His wings. And you shall go out and grow up like calves of the stall. And you shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I *am* preparing," says the LORD of hosts." This is another indication that we will be part of His army that returns with Him. But before that, with the coming of, or the rising of the Son of Righteousness, we will be healed. This will be the healing we are all are looking forward too, our resurrection into our spiritual bodies to be like our Savior Jesus Christ! **1 John 3:1-2**- "Behold! What *glorious* love the Father has given to us, that we should be called the children of God! For this very reason, the world does not know us because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are the children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be; but we know that when He is manifested, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him exactly as He is."

We know we will meet Christ on the Sea of Glass for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. **Revelation 19:9-** "And he said to me, "Write: Blessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God." (**Revelation 15:2**). These scriptures support the First Resurrection taking place prior to Christ's return on the Feast of Trumpets. We need to be *busy* in repenting, overcoming, praying and fasting so that when that glorious event takes place, *we will be ready*.

For all of us who are called, *being ready* for His return is far more important than *when* He returns. He has given us His Word that He will return and we have our instructions in God's Word and the *example* Jesus Christ gave us to *follow*.

**Philippians 3:17-** "Brethren, be imitators together of me, and bear in mind those who walk in this way, as you have us *for* an example."

**1 Thessalonians 1:6-7**- "And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, having accepted the Word in much persecution with *the* joy of *the* Holy Spirit, So that you became examples to all those in Macedonia and Achaia who are believers."

Accusations of "religious deception" when speaking from false assumptions and lack of knowledge is covered in God's Word too.

**Proverbs 14:6-8-** "A scorner seeks wisdom and does not *find it*, but knowledge *is* easy to him who understands. Depart from the presence of a foolish man when you do not perceive *in him* the lips of knowledge. The wisdom of the prudent *is* to understand his way, but the folly of fools *is* deceit."

Ecclesiastes 7:5- "*It is* better to hear the rebuke of the wise than for a man to hear the song of fools."

Making a bold statement of "not following any man or his teachings" is probably correct based on the sender's lack of Biblical knowledge. Jesus said numerous times throughout the Gospels "follow Me." (Matthew 4:19, 8:22, 9:9, 16:24, 19:21, 28, Mark 2:14, 8:34, 10:21, Luke 5:27, 9:23, 9:59, 18:22, John1:43, 10:27, 12:26, 13:36, 21:19, 21:22).

**John 14:6-** "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me." If someone says "I go by what the scripture says" perhaps it would be beneficial to <u>know</u> what the scripture says.

I do not want to judge the sender of the email as I do not know him and he is correct in some of the comments. My only concern is for our small flock and sharing God's Word, worshipping our Heavenly Father in spirit and in truth. When someone "blasts" an inclusive rebuke of what we share without scriptural backup, we need to make sure we clearly understand what the Bible says.

Ecclesiastes 7:5- "*It is* better to hear the rebuke of the wise than for a man to hear the song of fools."

**2 Timothy 4:2-5-** "Preach the Word! Be urgent in season and out of season; convict, rebuke, encourage, with all patience and doctrine. For there shall come a time when they will not tolerate sound doctrine; but according to their own lusts they shall accumulate to themselves a *great number of* teachers, having ears itching *to hear what satisfies their cravings;* And they shall turn away their own ears from the truth; and they shall be turned aside unto myths. But *as for* you, be vigilant in all things, endure hardships, do *the* work of an evangelist; fully carry out your ministry." This is mission number one. We will pray for the misinformed while guarding our own.

God's plan for mankind is far greater than we can imagine. We have the privilege of being called by His grace to understand and live by His Word. But we must remain vigilant and do not succumb to any untruths or misconceptions from unlearned "believers." We won't be teaching physics on an Einstein level anytime soon but we will share God's complete truth, word for word.

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