Like a "Thief"!

How can I avoid the Satanic traps that have been set for me?

oes the book of Revelation have anything that God wants me to know? How can I be ready for that wonderful time when there will be no more pain, aging, suffering, or death? The book of Revelation is the key for our generation.

Christ in Matthew 24 compares the days of Noah's generation, when the world was destroyed by a flood, to the last generation before Christ returns the second time. The world's fate was decided before the flood. Noah and his family were safe inside the ark for seven days before the flood came. God had shut the doors, and they could not be opened again until after the flood. The people did not know their fate was sealed, that their judgment had been decided seven days before there was any evidence of a flood.

Lucifer, alias the devil, does not want you and me to know certain Bible truths. He does not want you to know that God is in the work of judgment at this very moment! He has been successful in hiding this truth from most people so far. Keep an open mind and look at the evidence for this shocking truth.

The second coming of Christ is spoken of as being like a "thief in the night," meaning that He will come the second time when least expected. Not only is His second coming unexpected, like a thief in the night, but the judgment is also a shocking surprise. Before He comes, Christ begins and ends His work of judging those who have identified themselves as His followers. When He comes, He says, "my reward is with Me." Revelation 22:12. The sentencing, or rewarding, part of the judgment, in a courtroom, always occurs after the investigative part of the judgment.

When Christ comes, He sentences some to death and rewards others with life. Just as in an earthly courtroom, the investigative part of the judgment is over before the sentencing part of the judgment. Christ's coming is the sentencing part of the judgment. The investigative judgment is taking place right now. The decision as to who will be saved is made before He comes. The people in Noah's day did not know that when they chose not to get into the ark that, at that moment, it was too late. They did not know that for another seven days. The sun continued to shine, and life went on as usual. The separation of the saved and lost was made seven days before the actual flood. Their fate was sealed seven days before the first raindrops fell.

The thief comes when least expected. The vast majority of Christians have been taught that the judgment begins after death, which is true for most generations. It is, however, not true for the last generation before Jesus Christ returns. The judgment has begun for all who died claiming Christianity and will soon begin for all the living who claim to be Christians.

"I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. He said in a loud voice, 'fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come.'" Revelation 14:6, 7.

The book of the century is the book of Revelation. The book of Revelation says that a warning message of the presence of God's judgment would be carried worldwide, just before Jesus Christ returns to Planet Earth the second time.

Revelation has a special warning to those people living just before Jesus Christ comes the second time. A special warning message prepares them for His return to Planet Earth. The fourteenth chapter of Revelation tells us of three warning messages. They are so important that the Bible pictures them as three angels shouting these three messages to each person in the world.

When Will God Judge Me?

"Then I saw another angel flying in midair and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. He said in a loud voice, 'Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come." Revelation 14:6, 7. In other words, he shouts to the people of the world that "the hour of His judgment is here now!" The words "loud voice" and "to every nation, tribe, language and people" suggest that God will use people to carry this message worldwide quickly! God is using this very book—both in print and on the Internet—as part of that "loud voice" to be carried to "every nation, tribe, language and people."

Will we see these three angels shouting these messages in the streets of our large cities, as Jonah did in the city of Nineveh? No! The Bible uses this wording to let the reader know that to be ready for Christ's second coming, there are three things he or she must understand. In the first message of love, Christ says, "God is judging you and me now." The judgment that is going on right now and the second coming of Christ are both unexpected. They are both part of "the thief in the night" experience the Bible warns us about. This is an unexpected truth, just as a thief slipping into your house at night would be an unexpected truth.

It is sad, but most Christians are spiritually "asleep." Matthew 25:5. They do not understand these three warning messages from Revelation. The first message is that the judgment, our day in court, is going on right now in heaven. We can be there, by faith. People can and must understand these three messages. Our future depends on it. God further explains these three messages in other parts of His Word, as well. It all fits together like a jigsaw puzzle.

Let us pray and ask God for help in understanding these three messages right now: "Father in heaven, help me understand how to be ready to meet Jesus Christ when He returns to take me home with Him. Help me to understand the book of Revelation, especially the three warning messages of the fourteenth chapter of Revelation. Please make them easy for me to understand. Use me to also help others understand, so that they also might be ready to meet Jesus Christ when He comes again. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Have you ever felt a need for greater spiritual growth? Have you ever felt that the churches may have lost something somewhere and need revival?