Woe, Woe, Woe!!!

And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe. Ezekiel 2:10

According to Webster's Dictionary (1828), the word 'woe' means grief, sorrow, misery, or a heavy calamity. It also means 'a curse'. The Random House Dictionary also describes the word 'woe' as grievous distress, affliction, trouble, wretchedness, trial or tribulation. The word 'woe', when used in the Bible, also meant ominous, or catastrophic judgment, whether it was applied to a nation or an individual. If it was used in reference to a person, such as Judas Iscariot, look out! You know that person was dead meat! At the last supper, Jesus said, in referring to Judas, "The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born" (Matthew 26:24). And we all know what happened to him after he betrayed the Lord... Matthew 27:4-5.

The first time the word 'woe' was used in the Bible was in Numbers 21:29, and it was used in reference to the land of Moab, because they were worshipping the god Chemosh, and it was prophesied that they were undone and that their sons and daughters were going to go into captivity because of their idolatry.

The word 'woe' is used over 100 times in the Bible, and every time it is used, from the Book of Numbers to the Book of Revelation, it always resulted, or will result, in ominous and catastrophic consequences. As you can see from the following verses, the word 'woe', every time applied, resulted in nothing good for that person or country. We implore you, don't ever let this word be applied to you!

To all the people who are alone when they fall!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but <u>woe</u> to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

To all the gays who are openly flaunting their sin!

Isaiah 3:9 The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. <u>Woe</u> unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves.

To all those who are greedy and covetous!

Isaiah 5:8 Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!

Micah 2:2 And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away: so they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.

To all the unsound of mind and heart (reprobate)!

Isaiah 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

To all those who think they know it all!

Isaiah 5:21 Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

To all the drunkards!

Isaiah 5:22 Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:

To all those who don't obey the Bible, but trust in men!

Isaiah 30:1 Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin:

To all those who rebel against, and deny the existence of God!

Isaiah 45:9 Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker!

To all the phony pastors who are deceiving the body of Christ!

Jeremiah 23:1 Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD.

To all those who don't think the second coming of the Lord is near!

Ezekiel 30:2-3 Son of man, prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Howl ye, <u>Woe</u> worth the day! For the day is near, even the day of the LORD is near, a cloudy day; it shall be the time of the heathen.

To all those who plan and practice evil and sin!

Micah 2:1 Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practise it, because it is in the power of their hand.

To all those who desire the day of the Lord, but aren't ready!

Amos 5:18-20 Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light. As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him. Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?

To all those who worship man and idols!

Habakkuk 2:19 Woe unto him that saith to the wood, Awake; to the dumb stone, Arise, it shall teach! Behold, it is laid over with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all in the midst of it.

To all those who tempt people to sin!

Matthew 18:7 Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!

To all the religious hypocrites!

Matthew 23:13-16, 23, 25, 27, 29 But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves. Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor! Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous,

To all those who have a great life down here but without Christ!

Luke 6:24-26 But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation. Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep. Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

To all the filthy dreamers, who hate authority and speak evil of their leaders!

Jude 1:8, 10, 11 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities. But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves. <u>Woe</u> unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

There is even a Woe to all the Christians who refuse to do any work for the Lord!

1 Corinthians 9:16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!

The worst of all the woes are coming! And, they will come during the time called "The Great Tribulation", a seven year period of death, doom, and destruction, unparalleled in human history. "A time never seen before or will ever be seen again," Jesus said (Matthew 24:21). And unless the Lord shortens those days, no one will be left alive

on this planet. It will be such a <u>woeful</u> time that the Father will have to send His Son from Heaven, to remove His Church from off the earth before it even starts, thus sparing us from the wrath of God (1 Thessalonians 1:10, Revelation 3:10), which is coming upon this Christ rejecting world. This merciful event is known as the "Rapture" (I Thessalonians 4:16-18) or the "Blessed Hope" (Titus 2:13). And we know this to be true because the church is mentioned 19 times in Chapters 1 through 3 in the Book of Revelation. In Chapter 4, verse 1, a door opens, the Church goes home to be with the Lord (John 14:1-3) and does not return again until Jesus comes back with all of His angels and all of His saints as the battle of Armageddon is raging (Revelation 19:14-21). What a glorious event this will be!

Almost 2,000 years ago, God almighty gave the world a most precious gift. He loved us so much that he sent His only begotten Son (John 3:16) to redeem us from the bondage of sin that humanity had been under ever since Adam and Eve fell. God the Son (Jesus) came to this world and was rejected by both Jew and Gentile alike (John 1:10-11). After preaching for 3 years, He was betrayed by one of His own (Psalm 41:9), and arrested. He then suffered, died, was buried, and three days later, rose from the dead, according to the scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). Forty days after that, He ascended back up to heaven (Acts 1:3) and took His rightful place sitting down at the right hand of the Father (Psalm 110:1) awaiting the day that He would return to the earth in power and glory (Matthew 24:30). The free gift of salvation was now offered – bought and paid for with the holy blood of Jesus Christ at the cross Ephesians 1:7). Now it's up to us to take that free gift, and take it today (2 Corinthians 6:2) while there is still time, and receive Jesus into our hearts, and make Him Lord and Saviour of our lives (John 1:12). By doing this, we become Born Again (John 3:3), thus sparing us from God's wrath (I Thessalonians 1:10).

In ending this Bible Study, there is one final <u>woe</u> we want to declare unto you, and it goes out to all those who refuse to give their heart to Jesus, and as a result, miss the Rapture of the church which could happen any day now. "Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. <u>Woe</u> to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time" (Revelation 12:12). This is what you have to look forward to if you reject Jesus Christ!

AMEN