

The Word For The Weak
 — Weekly Newsletter —
 By R. C. Theophilus
“For when I am weak, then I am strong.”
2 Corinthians 12:7-10

NL-07-2023 (PDF link)

THE WEEK OF: 3-9 December — In The Acceptable Year of **Christ Jesus Our King** 2023 A.D.

THE WORD IS: “SOON”

SAYING THESE THINGS:

This morning, the Lord revealed that this week’s Word is “SOON”.

No sooner than I heard His Word, that I was reminded of a movie I really like called “Birdmen: The Original Dream of Flight”. This movie is an historical documentary of winged flight suits which are worn by parachutists. The suits have a wing-surface large enough to allow for a gradual descending flight pattern.

One of the para-flyers in the movie is quoted as saying that one must get their wing-suits flying “soon” when jumping from a ledge that is at a certain height from the ground below.

Of course, my next train of thought led me to the doctrine of “The Soon Coming of Christ Jesus” that I have heard preached innumerable times from Church pulpits, and sung in many hymns.

But now, let’s see how Scripture handles the word “SOON”**.

The New King James Version has “SOON” listed as occurring 73 times. The ESV has it listed as 137 times. Young’s Literal Translation has it at only 2 times.

Psalms 37:1-2 (NKJV)

1 Do not fret because of evildoers,
 Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity.
2 For they shall **soon** be cut down like the grass,
 And wither as the green herb.

Psalms 58:3 (NKJV)

3 The wicked are estranged from the womb;
 They go astray as **soon** as they are born, speaking lies.

Psalms 81:13-14 (NKJV)

13 “Oh, that My people would listen to Me,
 That Israel would walk in My ways!
14 I would **soon** subdue their enemies,
 And turn My hand against their adversaries.

Mark 9:39

39 But Jesus said, “Do not forbid him, for no one who works a miracle in My name can **soon** afterward speak evil of Me.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-4

1 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, **2** not to be **soon** shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. **3** Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, **4** who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

END.

I discovered something while researching the word “soon” for this newsletter. My discovery is that I could not find anywhere in the Scripture where “soon” is used to describe either the Rapture, or the Second Coming of Christ. None. Zero. Nada. Zilch.

So, what does this mean?

I will leave the answer to this question for another time.

****** The Oxford Dictionary describes “**soon**” as an adverb:

1. In or after a short time: everyone will soon know the truth | he'll be home **soon** | they arrived **soon** after 7.30.

• early: how soon can you get here? | it's a pity you have to leave so **soon** | I wish you'd told me **sooner** | it was too **soon** to know.

2. Used to indicate one's preference in a particular matter: I'd just as **soon** Tim did it | I'd **sooner** stay where I am.

USAGE: In standard English the phrase no **sooner** is followed by than, as in we had no **sooner** arrived than we had to leave. This is because **sooner** is a comparative, and comparatives are followed by than (earlier than; better than, and so on). It is incorrect to follow no **sooner** with when rather than than, as in we had no **sooner** arrived when we had to leave.

P. S. I performed an internet search for this phrase: “the soon return of Christ”. Here is a link to the results - <https://duckduckgo.com/?q=the+soon+return+of+Christ&t=ffab&ia=web>

P. P. S. In the Book of Revelation, Jesus is quoted as saying that He is “coming quickly”. He does not say “soon”. Indeed, we now have over 2,000 years of Church History. Could we not just as easily have 2,000 years more, and then the Rapture? But we don't know, because the Scripture says we don't have access to that information.

May our Father grant us His Light to Know, Live, and Love His **Word**.

Amen.

THE WORD FOR THE WEAK NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON THE SIXTH DAY OF THE WEEK

— ‘GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU’ —