

Chapter 44: The Day The Earth Stood Still

Life Application Verses:

Joshua 10: 12-14: On the day the LORD gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the LORD in the presence of Israel: “Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and you, moon, over the Valley of Aijalon.” So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day. There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the LORD listened to a human being. Surely the LORD was fighting for Israel!

In 1951, one of my all-time, favorite movies arrived on the scene, *The Day The Earth Stood Still*. That was two years before I arrived on the scene myself, but as I grew up, I watched this movie a 1,000 times—maybe even one thousand and one times! This is a synopsis of the film: “An alien lands and tells the people of Earth that they must live peacefully or be destroyed as a danger to other planets.”¹ Klaatu (Michael Rennie) was the “human-alien” and Gort (Lock Martin) was the all-powerful robot that could easily destroy the whole of Earth. Okay, so it was a sci-fi movie, but it was a GREAT movie! It had a theme that is right in-line with the Mind of God. IN fact, it is Heavenly Minded, and Earthly Good. Why? Because as I write this, I have been watching the outcomes/verdict of the Michael Brown case against Officer Darren Wilson in Ferguson, Missouri. By the time you read this, the events will have passed and more than likely been forgotten by most of the nation, or this event may have become the catalyst for racial strife in the hearts and minds of many. The Grand Jury acquitted Officer Wilson of any criminal action, setting off some of the most devastating riots in this nation’s history, with calls for a ‘race war.’ Thus, it became *The Day The Earth Stood Still*—just not the Heavenly Minded kind. Earthly Good, for many, was of zero value.



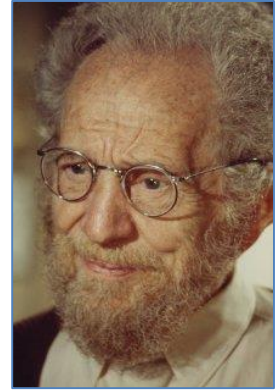
As a reminder of Heavenly Mindedness, I read Joshua 10: 12-14 and discovered that there actually was ‘*The Day The Earth Stood Still*’; to be Earthly Good, I am reminded that we should treat one another as we do want to be treated, and we should place responsibility on our own actions and stop making excuses. I am not going to pass any judgment on what is going on, as I Pray that God sees what is happening and once again, causes the Earth to stand still. I

¹ <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0043456/>

cannot imagine losing a child nor can I imagine total disregard for the law. What I can imagine is a continued Hope that at some point SOON, God will cause this evil world to take notice of His Power. I plead with You, O God of All Things, would You PLEASE, Lord, just create one more time when *'The Day The Earth Stood Still'* occurs?! Cause the sun to burn red and the moon to shine bright as the sun; shake the Earth from North to South and East to West; speak from Heaven in an audible voice that no one will mistake for anything other than the Voice of Almighty God; create an event that will cause lost sinners to hide their faces from fear and the Saved to lift up their faces to give Praise to their Holy God; let Jesus be seen by every eye as He walks among the clouds in His Full Glory; or, Oh God, repeat the following: "On the day the LORD gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the LORD in the presence of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and you, moon, over the Valley of Aijalon." So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day. There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the LORD listened to a human being. Surely the LORD was fighting for Israel!" **Grab our attention God in this physical world, one more time! Make the world KNOW who holds ALL POWER!**

When I watch the movie, *The Day The Earth Stood Still*, I think of Gort and its/his power to destroy. It has this power to destroy all things, but not for the sake of destruction. Gort is the absolute-final-word in a sea of hatred, murders, riots, and brutal idiocy. This robot has unlimited power, but the message that Klaatu carries to the people of Earth is not that he desires for Gort to destroy Earth, but that Klaatu desires peace above all else—yet, if this is not the will of the people of this planet, Gort can easily eliminate Earth from the galactic scene. Okay, like I said, it's a movie, but do you hear the truth in what it says to us as a people? God stopped the Earth for a day, and allowed Israel to win against its enemies! As the scripture points out, "There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the LORD listened to a human being." Well, my fellow Christians, as our Heavenly Father has done through the ages, He is listening now and He is watching our hatred towards one another; I can only imagine His reaction, even in His Limitless Love, Mercy, and Grace towards us.

As I write this, I think of God's Word as he admonishes the people of Earth. For example, in Acts 7: 51: "You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting the Holy Spirit; you are doing just as your fathers did." Sounds pretty serious to me! Sounds like it's time for: *The Day The Earth Stood Still*!!! I don't know why God doesn't cause a global event that can be seen and heard and felt that demonstrates His Power like nothing we have ever witnessed in our modern times?! Just like in the movie, when Professor Jacob Barnhardt was discussing the reason for the visit and the power of Gort, the Professor asked for a demonstration of "such power."



Klaatu decided to stop all activity on Earth, less the few things that must prevent death and destruction. In fact, Klaatu's solution was to explicitly create: *The Day The Earth Stood Still*. In reality, God cannot only stop the Earth and all that is on it, around it, and within it, He can do so if He chooses to do so. I am but a Sinner Saved By Grace, and I do not have the Mind of God; I only have what I see around me and in the world, yet I desire for God to create just one more day when the Earth stands still. Just stop all activity from functioning: only a few things work that prevent death and destruction, but all things stop. No cars run, no watches keep time, no lights work—just for say---one hour! Then again, I can imagine what it would be like in the papers the next day. FREAK EVENT STOPS THE WORLD! No mention of God or Christ Jesus!!!

I have talked about a movie with the title of, *The Day The Earth Stood Still*. What I am truly getting to is what is found in 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 4, Verses 13-18. "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words." This WILL be the second time the Earth stands still—at least for a

time—as *The Rapture* will cause the world to take notice. Some years ago, there was a set of 16 books written based on this Scripture promise. The books, *The Left Behind Series*, were based on the event prophesied in God’s Word. All believers were taken out of this world, and from that time on, chaos and anarchy reigned—even when it was a time of pseudo-peace and false-security. But, that initial event—The Rapture—was a day when the Earth stood still as those left behind tried to make sense of what had happened. They talked it away, justified it to human-reason, and they continued on. So, you see, *The Second Time The Day The Earth Stood Still*, is before us. I believe it as surely as I am typing these words; should God delay until my Home-Going, this event will still occur. There are days when I Pray for it to happen soon because of all the turmoil in our world. I worry about my children as adults, their children who are my grandchildren, and their children in time. What will happen to them if this Present World continues as it is? How will it every turn around without the direct intervention of God? I don’t know all the details, but that is immaterial, is it not? I Trust in God, I Believe in Christ Jesus, and the rest of the story is just alright with me! **But oh, do I long to hear the audible voice of Christ Jesus in the Heavens shouting to the Earth: “Repent and be Saved while there is still time!”**

In terms of allegory, as some like to claim exists in the Bible, I will indulge “them” just for the twinkling-of-an-eye: God is Klaatu; Gort is Jesus. God wants the people of this planet to repent and turn to Him; He has given all authority to Jesus Christ as it is recorded in the very Words of Christ Himself as Jesus speaks of the relationship of Himself to the Father. (I suggest that you return to the Gospels and conduct a deep-reading and study of what Jesus speaks to us about who He is in the Father, including our need for Salvation in the present timeline of 2000, 2016, and so on.) Jesus has Absolute Power of Heaven at His command, including the final disposition of the very Souls of Men, Women, Youth, Haters, Adulterers, Murders—EVERY SINGLE PERSON WHO LIVES AT THIS WRITING!!! Now, to the ‘allegorists’; God is God and Jesus Christ is the Son of God. If God wanted to stop the Earth for a day or a decade, it shall be as He Commands; if Jesus Christ returns in the clouds to call believers up to be with Him, it shall be as He Commands in the Father. Did you get all that? The idea in *The Day The Earth Stood Still* movie has a lot of Truth in it; even so, there is only one Truth and that is found in Christ Jesus!

As this book has often done, I ask those who may read these words as God directs, to consider those who are lost. But let me do this in sequence: 1) I believe that those who are without Jesus Christ will not be welcomed into the Kingdom of God if they should depart this world without having accepted the Gift of God in Christ Jesus—that is one of God’s Absolutes (John 14: 6); 2) As Christians, we give our best to witness and win these lost Souls for God, yet they refuse and refuse; we continue to Pray for them until they leave this world in the Hopes that at some point, they have received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and commit their lives to His Service in God the Father; 3) At the same time, we work with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ to change our world as best we can in the Spirit of God’s Leading. We work tirelessly, without ceasing, and for the Glory of God in Christ; 4) We look to the day when God in Christ will call us Home either by The Rapture or when our Souls leave this world and travel to be with Christ, who is the Most Precious Gift as Our Sacrifice for Sin, in the Presence of God Almighty. This sequence of events is not make-believe, allegory, or fiction; it is as God has said, and IT WILL COME TO PASS!

In the movie I have used in this chapter, at the end of it, Klaatu speaks to the world leaders to tell them that he and Gort are leaving. They leave this final message:

Klaatu:² I am leaving soon, and you will forgive me if I speak bluntly. The universe grows smaller every day, and the threat of aggression by any group, anywhere, can no longer be tolerated. There must be security for all, or no one is secure. Now, this does not mean giving up any freedom, except the freedom to act irresponsibly. Your ancestors knew this when they made laws to govern themselves and hired policemen to enforce them. We, of the other planets, have long accepted this principle. We have an organization for the mutual protection of all planets and for the complete elimination of aggression. The test of any such higher authority is, of course, the police force that supports it. For our policemen, we created a race of robots. Their function is to patrol the planets in spaceships like this one and preserve the peace. In matters of aggression, we have given them absolute power over us. This power cannot be revoked. At the first sign of violence, they act automatically against the aggressor. The penalty for provoking their action is too terrible to risk. The result is, we live in peace, without arms or armies, secure in the knowledge that we are free from aggression and war. Free to pursue more... profitable enterprises. Now, we do not pretend to have achieved perfection, but we do have a system, and it works. I came here to give you these facts. It is no concern of ours how you run your own planet, but if you threaten to extend your violence, this Earth of yours will be reduced to a burned-out cinder. Your choice is simple: join us and live in peace, or pursue your present course and face obliteration. We shall be waiting for your answer. The decision rests with you.

² Source: <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0043456/quotes>

What stands out to us in reality is that God in Christ Jesus has said to us, 'The decision rests with you'." Is that not precisely what God is saying to us today? The decision rests with us, because we have been given Free Will and that is an 'eternally big deal.' God, in His Wisdom and Holy Insight, knew that Free Will in our hands would lead to what we have today. Here is why I say this: it is our Earthly, fallen, nature to act as Paul, until we unconditionally surrender to Christ Jesus. For example, as he stated in Romans 7: 14-25:

For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I *would* like to *do*, but I am doing the very thing I hate. But if I do the very thing I do not want *to do*, I agree with the Law, *confessing* that the Law is good. So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good *is* not. For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

You might say that Paul gives us reason to sin. DON'T EVEN GO THERE! You know that is not what God is telling us when He gave Paul the Spirit to write these words. It means that we are in this world, but never should we be conformed to this world. Here's the rub: we are born into this world, and until we are Saved in Christ Jesus, our Free Will is bound in Sin. Once we are set Free in Christ, we are no longer slaves to sin, but our Free Will has not been removed. Therefore, we must be on Guard at all times as Sin will seek every opportunity to Trip us up and make us step out of the Will of God. IN other words, when we sin, it becomes.... (drum roll)..... *The Day The Earth Stood Still* for us as individuals! Let us stand Arm-in-Arm with Joshua: "If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but ***as for me and my house, we will***

serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15: NASB). God will soon cause the Earth to stand still, again. Until that time, let us as Followers of Christ remain the Children of God in a world that has lost even its ability to discern what is right and wrong. God is NOT dead! Nor is He deaf! Christ Jesus is alive and seated at the Right Hand of the Father. Amen and Amen!

Question of Curiosity:

"If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but **as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**" And you say...

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Will the world end this weekend? The Bible says not even the angels know the day or hour of Jesus' return. But amid speculation that's been around for centuries, there are certain timeless truths to which all Christians can cling.

First, we need to be sure we have put our trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. "The fact of the matter is... we are all a heartbeat away from eternity," said Will Graham, grandson of Billy Graham, when asked about recent "doomsday" predictions.

"Whether you stand before God on May 21, or whether you stand before Him 50 years from now, is irrelevant in the scope of eternity," Graham added. "The important thing isn't when you stand before God; it's where you stand with God."³

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[© James J. Tissot, "Jesus Preaches the Sermon on the Mount" (1886-1896), watercolor.]

*We shall
be
waiting
for your
answer...*



*The
decision
rests
with
you...*

³ <http://billygraham.org/story/end-times-are-you-ready/>

My Prayer For You:

God of Heaven, As I write this, our nation has been in the midst of strife, riots, threats, and anarchy. We have lost our focus on You, O God, and have gone astray of even the most simple of Holy Words to love one another as we desire to be loved. There is destructive hatred between races, beliefs, and ideologies. Yet, in the midst of this turmoil, so much of our nation and our world, never speak the name of God's One and Only Son, Christ Jesus. We are like children with deadly weapons and our hatred of one another for any number of reasons gives rise to Free Will to kill, maim, and destroy each other. I fear for my children, for my neighbor's children, and for all generations to come. What we leave for them is a legacy of distrust and struggle, and for this, I am broken hearted. I Pray that as You hear and see these things that exist around us, You would intervene. Step in, Lord, and cause those who would do harm to Your Children to take note of Who You Are! Give them pause and fear, so that they might seek the Face of God in Your Son, Christ Jesus. I know that while we are in this world, we will have struggles and heartache and worry; yet, I know and believe that my God, who made all things, can also demonstrate His unlimited Power before the self-proclaimed rulers and principalities of this world. If that were not True, we would be the most miserable of creatures in all of time. It is my Prayer that for those who may read these words, that they would also learn of your Mighty and Holy Power in their lives as they serve You through Christ Jesus. We seek your face, Lord, and we NEED You now more than ever. I offer this Prayer: "If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but **as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**" In the Name of Christ, Amen.

How large is the Sun compared to Earth?

Compared to Earth, the Sun is enormous! It contains 99.86% of all of the mass of the entire Solar System. The Sun is 864,400 miles (1,391,000 kilometers) across. This is about 109 times the diameter of Earth. The Sun weighs about 333,000 times as much as Earth. It is so large that about 1,300,000 planet Earths can fit inside of it. Earth is about the size of an average sunspot!

Joshua said to the LORD in the presence of Israel:

"Sun, stand still over Gibeon...

Almighty God in His Power controls even the Sun...

DO YOU SEE HIS POWER IN THESE WORDS?

Bring Oh Lord, "The Day The Earth Stands Still"