

Luke 21:28

Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

Jesus taught us to "***look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.***" Yet how many do the opposite?

I remember as a kid or even growing up as a young adult, lying on the grass and looking at the blue sky and the white clouds moving across the sky. It was a peaceful time, just relaxing and enjoying the beauty of the Lord and His creation. Even today, I will be driving or walking or just outside and I will look up and think, "*Any moment Jesus can come back and take us all (believers) home!*" And these things once again remind me of what Jesus said, which is to "***look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.***"

But like I said, how many do the opposite, instead of looking up, which is not really always a physical thing of looking up in the sky, but you can think of it as saying, "*Wake up, because your redemption draws near.*" But so many are too busy looking down at the cloud.

"*Wait that doesn't make sense*" you may be thinking.

Years ago it would not have made sense, but it does today, because when we refer to "the cloud" we are referring to the internet, those things that we or others store in a system called "the cloud". Videos, things posted on social media, movies, songs, pictures, texts, emails, websites... So much "stuff", and a lot of "junk" that people post on or in the cloud. Therefore, people look down at the cloud on their phones, walking around like deer's staring into the headlights of an oncoming car, refusing to get out of the way. Then so many wonder why they have difficulties, why they struggle, why they have no hope, why they fail, why life is so miserable. It's all because they are spending too much time looking down, searching for redemption, yet not finding it.

Where have you been looking for comfort and redemption lately? Are you spending more time looking down at your phone or tablet, seeking to find comfort in a man-made object? Maybe it's time to start looking up, at the one who created man. And as you look up, you will also see the sky, the clouds, the moon and stars, the birds of the air, so many other things that God created that we are missing out on, because we choose to look down for our peace rather than looking up to Him Who is our Redeemer. JESUS CHRIST!

✠ ***2 Peter 3:11-12 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?***

- † **Hebrews 12:1-2** *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*
- † **Job 22:26 (NLT2)** *Then you will take delight in the Almighty and look up to God.*
- † **Psalm 5:3** *My voice You shall hear in the morning, O LORD; In the morning I will direct it to You, And I will look up.*