

BEHOLD! THE BEST NEWS EVER

Rick Warren

“BEHOLD” is used 1,275 times in the Bible (KJV)

- To hold in focus for an extended time
- To gaze in awe or appreciation
- Pay attention! Think about the meaning!

WHAT'S THE GOOD NEWS GOD WANTS US TO “BEHOLD”?

The Bible summarized in four statements:

1. BEHOLD! GOD CAME TO EARTH! HE BECAME A HUMAN SO WE COULD SEE _____

“In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. Everything was created by him. Nothing has been made without him. He is the source of all life, and his life gives light to everyone . . . The WORD became a human and lived among us, and WE BEHELD HIS GLORY—the glory of the Father’s only Son. We saw his full grace and truth.” John 1:1,3,13

“That night there were shepherds watching over their flocks in the fields outside of Bethlehem. Suddenly, an angel appeared with the radiance of God’s glory surrounding them. They were terrified by this but the angel reassured them, saying ‘Don’t be afraid! BEHOLD, I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS of great joy, which is for everyone! Today, in the town of David, your SAVIOR has been born. He is Christ the Lord! You’ll find the babe lying in a manger.” Luke 2:8-12

2. BEHOLD! GOD LIVED A SIN-FREE LIFE ON EARTH THEN PAID FOR OUR SINS _____

AT HIS BAPTISM: *“One day, John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him, so John announced, ‘BEHOLD, the Lamb of God, who comes to take away the sin of the world!’” John 1:29*

AT HIS TRIAL: *“Pilate said, ‘You brought this man to me . . . but BEHOLD, I didn’t find him guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did King Herod, for he sent him back to me. BEHOLD he has done nothing deserving death. So I’ll have him flogged and released.’ But they all cried out, ‘No! Crucify him!’” Luke 23:13-19*

AT HIS DEATH: *“Then Jesus cried out in a loud voice and gave up his spirit. And BEHOLD, at that moment the curtain of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.” Matthew 27:50-51*

3. BEHOLD! JESUS DEFEATED DEATH BY RAISING HIMSELF BACK TO LIFE SO _____

AT HIS EMPTY TOMB: *“And BEHOLD, there was a great earthquake, and an angel came and rolled back the large stone in front of the tomb door, and sat on it! His appearance was as bright as lightning . . . and the tomb guards were so frightened they shook with paralyzing fear. But the angel said to the women, ‘Don’t be afraid! I know you’re looking for Jesus who was crucified. But he’s not here! For he has risen, just as he promised. BEHOLD the place where they had laid his body. Now go tell his disciples that Jesus has risen from the dead; and BEHOLD, he will meet all of you in Galilee. LO, I’ve told you!’ So the women hurried away, afraid, yet filled with joy, and they ran to tell his disciples. But on the way BEHOLD, Jesus met the women! He said, ‘Greetings!’ Amazed, they ran to him, embraced his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said, ‘Don’t be afraid! Go tell my brothers . . . ’” Matthew 28:2-10*

AFTER HIS RESURRECTION: *“Then Jesus told them . . . ‘Go to all people everywhere and make them my disciples . . . Teach them to do everything I’ve shown you . . . And BEHOLD, I am always with you, to the end of the age.’” Matthew 28:18-20*

HIS RETURN TO HEAVEN: *“When Jesus had finished speaking these things, they BEHELD him being taken up into the sky until they could no longer see him past the clouds. As they kept gazing at the sky, two men dressed in white appeared. One said, ‘Why are you still staring at the sky? This same Jesus that you just saw taken up to heaven will return one day in the same way that you just saw him leave.” Acts 1:9-11*

4. BEHOLD! GOD’S PLAN ISN’T FINISHED. JESUS WILL RETURN TO COMPLETE IT & _____

“BEHOLD, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him . . . and all the tribes of the earth shall gaze on him . . .” Revelation 1:7

JOHN’S GLIMPSE OF HEAVEN: *“BEHOLD, God’s home is now with his people! He’ll live with them forever and they will be his family. And he will wipe away every tear from their eyes! There will be no more death! There will be no more grief or crying! And there will be no more pain anymore, for the old order of things will pass away. And God will say, ‘BEHOLD, I’m making EVERYTHING NEW!’”*

Revelation 21:3-5

Jesus says: *“BEHOLD, I’m standing at your door and knocking. If you hear my voice and open the door I’ll come in and we’ll fellowship together!” Revelation 3:20*

Next Step

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