Glorious Gospel Publication



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Seven Ducks In A Dirty River

I have often been impressed with the events that God has recorded at different times in the Old Testament. It seems at times, that He has a variety of reasons or purposes for which they are recorded. I feel that there are often multiplied lessons to be received therein. The Holy Spirit arrests our attention along different points of interest as He sees fit. It is interesting to notice how He can use "little things" for enlarged interest. I have been blessed in considering how Jesus used a little boy's lunch to feed a multitude. Thank the Lord.

2 Kings 5:1-19

In this record we read how the testimony of a little maiden, a slave girl was instrumental in sending a mighty man to a muddy river, for life. He was mighty captain, and she was a captive maiden.

- 1. Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, but he was a leper. (leprosy is a terrible condition that pictures the deathliness of sin).
- 2. And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.
- 3. And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.

- 4. And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.
- 5. And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment.
- 6. And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have therewith sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.
- 7. And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me. (The king of Israel was very uncharitable, suspicious of wrong motives as a hindrance to real care.)
- 8. And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.
- 9. So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. (Naaman seems to be expecting a far different reception than he got, that would be far more respectable. What Elisha did or didn't do seems far below the dignity given such a great man. He seems to know just how his healing should be done. And felt he knew the better rivers to be used for such. But...)
- 10. And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean. (WOW Elisha didn't even come out to meet him. Great things should be expected from great men.)
- 11. But Naaman was wroth, and went away, in a rage and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand,

and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. (He talks like the leper is someone else.)

12. Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.

THEN HIS SERVANTS GAVE HIM WISE COUNCIL

13. And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? How much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?

HE THEN WENT THE RIGHT DIRECTION

14. Then went he **down**, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. (God has wonderfully provided SPIRITUAL CLEANSING for all those who will humble themselves before Him. This great and mighty man of valour may have thought that he could do some great things to merit his deliverance, at least choose his own rivers, and pay his own way. He found that obedience is better than sacrifice.)

THE LORD DELIVERED

He then could truly say I know there is only one God in all the earth. He said thy servant will henceforth offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice unto other Gods, but unto the Lord.

LESSONS OF THE DUCKS IN A DIRTY RIVER

I don't intend to suggest what each of these seven "Ducks" represent nor typify, but God's Word tells us some traits of a victorious attitude. Seven is said to be the number of completeness. There is humility, submission, obedience, surrender, adherence unto God's Word, appreciation, acknowledgement in all things, ect. Let dependence replace independence. Naaman learned not to lean on his own understanding. He decided that it didn't have to be done his way, nor had to be His rivers.

Do I have natural talent, motivational gifts? Should we expect our gifts to motivate our services, or ministries? Or shall **the love of Christ constrain us?** Has the Lord provided all the channels to the thrones of Glory and grace? Shall I count on my course of how to win friends and influence people? Shall we take Paul's Duck? What things are gain to me I count loss for Christ - Phil. 3:7-11.

I appreciate this Old Testament example of an about-face, of turning a trusting heart to the true and living God. Knowing God he was changed from haughtiness to humility, and from rage to reverence of him that is able to pardon. He determined to no longer offer burnt offering nor sacrifice to other gods, but only to the Lord. Elisha was kind to encourage him saying "Go in peace." (vs. 16-19)

LUKE 4:27-30

When Jesus relates this event it seems to distress the selfrighteous Jews exceedingly. A hint of how He would provoke to jealousy when He would turn to the gentiles. Jesus said, "And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian. And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto brow of the hill whereon there city was built, that they might cash him down headlong. But he passing through the midst of them went his way."

In conclusion: When Naaman returned to Elisha offering gifts of appreciation after he was delivered, reminds us of the lone leper of the ten healed that returned to glorify God after being delivered from his leprosy. WHAT SAD PERCENTAGE! Let us be mindful of our gracious and glorious deliverance on our daily course.!

Proverbs 3:5-8

- 5. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
- 6. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
- 7. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.
- 8. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

I Peter 5:6-7

- 6. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:
- 7. Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

J. D.



THE LAST DAYS



Anita Clark

"Lift not up your horn on high: speak not with a stiff neck. For promotion cometh neither from the east, no from the west, nor from the south" (Psalms 75:5,6).

Very soon the United States will be holding conventions to select both the Democratic and Republican nominees for president of the United States. In November the one will be elected, who the people will feel is the best candidate for the job. Many will not realize that God has anything to do with the choice made, but the scripture says, as in this verse in Psalms 75, that God promotes the ones He knows will fulfill His plan. In Romans 13:1 Paul tells us, "The powers that be are ordained of God." God spoke to Nebuchadnezzar in a dream, concerning the abasement that God would bring upon him, "...The most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will, and setteth up over it the basest of men"- Dan.4:17. And in Daniel 2:21, Daniel said, "He [God] changeth the times and the seasons: He removeth kings and setteth up kings: He giveth wisdom to the wise, and knowledge unto them that know understanding." The understanding we arrive at from these scriptures is that whoever wins the election in the U.S.A. will be the one God wants at this time and for His divine purposes to be fulfilled. This is what the Scripture says. We believe it. We may become upset at what one candidate does or says, and we might rally others to vote against or for a certain candidate, by the truth of God from His holy Word is, He is in control and will work it out to fulfill His will.

Time is so short. The greatest change in all the history of the world is about to take place. The trumpet will sound to call away

the people of God who are watching and waiting for Him. I Thessalonians 4:16-17 tells us of this wonderful event. "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then those which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

In Revelation 4:1, John saw an open door into to the throne room in heaven. He looked into the future and saw Jesus Christ on His throne in the heavens, and the overcomers, the twenty-four elders and four living creatures, there in the midst and round the throne. This event is about to take place. Christ will call the bridal company, the overcomers of this age home to be with Him. Then will begin the seven years of Tribulation.

Just before that time a man of renown will arise in the earth who will have the answer to Israel's problems. Daniel 9:27 tells us, "He shall confirm a covenant with many for one week (seven years)." This covenant or agreement or treaty will no doubt guarantee Israel's safety for seven years. Right now the news is ripe with talks of peace in the Middle East.

PALESTINIAN, ISRAELI, CALL FOR LARGER EU ROLE IN PEACE PROCESS - These headlines from the Voice of America, relate that Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas met with French President Sarkozy to talk about peace at an historic event in Paris at the Euro-Mediterranean summit. The two Middle eastern heads discussed peace before the afternoon summit, whose purpose was to establish a non-European Mediterranean partnership. There were forty heads of state from these Mediterranean countries.

This meeting launched a pact between the European Union and the non-European Mediterranean states. Olmert and Abbas were pictured hugging the French President and one another in the press picture. These are remarkable times. Prime minister Olmert of Israel described the talks as very serious and said "Never had the two sides been so close to an Accord."

The French President has great charisma and is now serving a six month rotational term as the head of the EU. Could he be the man of which the Scripture speaks, "the Man of sin" (II Thess. 2:3). God only knows at this point, but none the less we can see the revived Roman Empire getting stronger and stronger, coming to the front more and more in brokering peace to the world.

Daniel speaks of these times in chapter 7:19-28, describing the fourth beast, who represents the Roman Empire. He speaks of the "horn that had eyes and spake great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows." In verse 25, It says of this man, "He shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws." We see this happening before our eyes. Times are changing! One U.S.A. candidate has this as his slogan. He declares himself, "The Candidate of Change." I'm not intimating that he is "THIS MAN." France's President is a man of change also, as well as others. The EU is achieving momentous changes in Europe and the Mediterranean Countries.

The most important thing for us to get to know is not who the Antichrist will be, but WHO THE CHRIST IS. Paul said, "That I may know Him in the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His suffering" (Phil 3:10). This is not just a head knowledge of Him, or just a knowledge of Him as our Savior, but a deep intimate knowledge of Him as our Lord and soon coming Bridegroom. Paul says in II Cor. 11:2, "I am jealous over you with a godly jealousy: for I have espoused you as a chaste virgin to Christ." As we come into this more intimate knowledge of Christ, we began to know Him as the lover of our soul. We begin to seek Him and His will in every iota of our life. Our

desire is toward Him. Jesus is seeking those to worship and adore Him. Will you say, "Yes, I will go"? (As reflective of Rebekah in Gen, 24, a type of the bride of Jesus Christ). Then, God will began to work in your life to prepare you for that place. Notice in Ephesians 5:27, it says, "That He might..." It does not say, "That we might..." "That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of the water by the Word, That He might present it to Himself a glorious church (Gk. assembly), not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." How beautiful and sweet the prospect of arriving in heaven, to be greeted with a glad, "Well done thou good and faithful servant."



I LOVE HIM BETTER FAR

When first my Lover's voice I heard, And saw His face a glow, My heart with deep delight was stirred; My love began to flow.

Tho' many days have passed me by Since first His face did shine; Still dearer is my Lord on high Than when He first was mine.

I love Him better far today Than in the years of yore, And I shall love Him all the way Unto the golden shore.

Then when I meet Him in the sky, And face to face adore. "Fairer than thousands," I will cry, And love Him more and more.

— Mary M. Bodie

TRUE FREEDOM

Verta Giddings Sand Lake, Michigan

John 8:28-36 - Here were Jews who erroneously thought they were free. They were actually in more than one kind of bondage. They claimed they had never been in bondage to any man because they were the seed of Abraham. At that time in history, they were under Roman rule. In fact they had not governed themselves since the Babylonian captivity - since 606 B.C. But Jesus was speaking of another kind of bondage. It was bondage to sin. We here in the USA are so thankful for our freedom, our liberty. Still consider how many even when boasting of this liberty, are in bondage to sin.

Notice in **V. 28**, Jesus spoke of the cross. He knew He would be lifted up. He very well understood He would become the sacrifice for the sins of the world. Then He said people could be delivered from sin, and not have to serve sin anymore. They would be free indeed. Jesus was the only One who could claim what He said in **V. 35** - the Son abideth forever. In their condition they were on their way to hell with no hope of heaven, no matter their boast.

We have the opportunity to proclaim liberty. That is the message of the gospel. Sin is bondage. Look at those who have wanted to be free from fleshly things which have brought only misery, disease, and even death, and have not been able. Remember **Rom. 6:23**, "The wages of sin is death." Jesus said (Jn. 3:7), "Ye must be born again." Jesus came to bring life. The only way this was possible was that He would be lifted up on the cross. Liberty, freedom could not come by any other

means. Sad to say many are counting on other roads to get to heaven. Jesus said over and over that He would give His life. No one took it from Him. He laid it down. He said in **John 12:32**, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." Peter declared, "...there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" - Acts 4:12. His spotless life, great as that was, wasn't the answer. It was His death. Jesus died in our place. I should have been crucified - but Jesus *in love* took my place.

We cannot be free from sin in any other way. We are studying Romans chapter 6, there we have learned identification. God sees believers as united with His Son is His death, His burial, and His resurrection. **Rom. 6:7** tells us, "He that is dead is freed from sin." (We died, were buried, we rose, we ascended, we're seated in the heavenlies.) Then that chapter goes on to say, sin shall not have dominion over you! Dare to believe it!

There is another bondage we need to consider. **Rom. 7:4.** So many are in bondage to the law. They are as ignorant of the complete work of Christ as those who haven't realized freedom from sin. **Gal. 3:10-13** speaks of this bondage. Jesus became the curse for us. Jesus fulfilled every jot and tittle that the Law demanded. We know, if we were to be saved by keeping the Law, it would be necessary to keep it *all* - all or nothing at all. Jesus took the penalty for all our wrong doing. He fulfilled the law - all of its demands, every one.

That seems to be the reason that the Apostle Paul wrote the epistle to those in Galatia. You will find that the Apostle Paul went over the region of Galatia and Phrygia on both his second and third missionary journeys. Judaizers followed hard after him, telling the believers they had to be circumcised and keep the Law of Moses in order to be saved. Paul told them in no uncertain terms that this teaching was wrong. He said in **Gal.**

5:1 that they should not be entangled (trapped in) again with the yoke of bondage. Peter had explicitly stated when the conference was held in Jerusalem, that this was a yoke that even the Jewish fathers had not been able to keep. So why put it on the Gentiles. Paul said in **Gal. 2:21**, that they should not frustrate (set aside) the grace of God. Righteousness does not come by keeping the law, otherwise Christ died in vain. He also brought this out in **Rom. 11:6** - law or grace - which? Can't be both.

This is what came to me one night last week. Some seem to go from one extreme to the other. The pendulum seems to swing one way then another. There are those who have realized their freedom from sin through the blood of Christ, but they swing over and put themselves under very strict law keeping. Or perhaps under rules and regulations of man, which is not always according to the Word of God. Even it could be rules they have imposed upon themselves.

Then others, when they are saved, see their deliverance from the Law. But they put themselves under bondage to sin. Somehow they get the impression that they have liberty to go to the other extreme, and engage in fleshly sins, thinking it doesn't matter to God.

Neither those who are as legal as the day is long, nor those who think they are free to do anything and everything because they have been saved are in the right. Paul asked the pointed question in **Rom. 6:1** about continuing in sin that grace may abound. On the other hand he asked the question in **Gal. 3:3** if they thought they could be made perfect by the flesh.

Is there a balance? Must God's people keep zig-zagging back and forth? **No.** We are free to serve. On the one hand, we see our liberty, our freedom from the demands of the Law, but we

also have the love of Christ to constrain us - II Cor. 5:14. We know even though all things are lawful, all things are not expedient - I Cor. 6:12. We are called unto a separated life. That life is actually Christ within. Then we see that we are not just living to please ourselves, for even Christ did not do this. We are free to live according to the Word of God, always keeping in mind that we are to serve God and be considerate of others. We don't want to be a stumblingblock to other believers, nor to unbelievers. We don't just live unto ourselves, but unto the One who paid such a great price to give us true freedom. Are you free?



INFLUENCE

Not so long ago one of my two boys spoke these sobering words to me. He said, "When the two of us were young, there were times when you and mom would obviously set out to tell me how to live the good life. We could always recognize those moments and we would close our ears and our minds. Your most influential moments were your most inadvertent ones. We were apt to imitate what you really were — not what you said you were or even what you may have believed you were."

J. N. W.

Beloved, let us love. . .

Part 6

Doug Delhay

1 John 4:7

"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God."

If an engineer operating a typically loaded freight train traveling at 55 mph were to see an automobile stopped on the tracks one half mile ahead of him, his heart would sink as he threw on all of the braking power at his disposal because he knows far too well that the momentum of the train behind him will carry the train that half mile without slowing it down the least little bit. The impact with the automobile will not be felt by him any more than a car running over an aluminum can. The engineer will be the sole audience member of what could be a horrible tragedy for nearly 30 seconds before it takes place and he will be absolutely helpless to prevent the scene from being played out. He cannot stop; he cannot veer out of the way; the tracks have been laid; the speed is established; the cargo is on board; and his train will destroy the automobile and its contents.

Mark 14:29-31 reads, "But Peter said unto him, Although all shall be offended, yet will not I. And Jesus saith unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this day, even in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. But he spake the more vehemently, If I should die with thee, I will not deny thee in any wise. Likewise also said they all." What God in His great love and grace had set in motion before the

foundation of the world, would certainly come to pass. There was no power or desire in existence that could change the course, speed, or outcome of what was about to take place. The words and muster of Peter and the others had absolutely no controlling influence over what would take place. Jesus was arrested, tried and crucified even as He said He would be. The course of events was perfectly charted from before time.

But as Christ's resurrection demonstrated His absolute victory over the authority of sin and death according to the perfect working of God, it also serves to establish the faith of the children of God in the unstoppable force that is at work in them. In Paul's prayer for the Ephesian saints he prays that the eyes of their understanding would be enlightened that they might know "what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:" Eph. 1:19-21.

The unstoppable redemptive work of God's love rendered Peter's resistance inconsequential. The exceeding great power of the resurrection instantly rendered the claims of sin and death null and void. The merciful, intelligent graciousness of Christ swept away the perceived failure of Peter in his honorable intentions, and Peter was brought to understand how it would be possible to faithfully, successfully stand at the side of his Lord through thick and thin.

"Beloved, let us love" became the standard for all who would from that time forward desire to manifest their faithfulness to

the Redeemer of their souls. It is the standard that John proclaims in the epistle from which we are drawing our study. From 1 John 2:8-11 we read, "Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth. He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes." Nothing can stop those that walk in the light of love because of its exceeding, great power. Nothing but the light of Christ that brings life, love and understanding to the sin-blinded soul can give sight to those who would know God. If we would possess more of the true, working knowledge of Christ and represent Him and His love to the world, we must first abide in the true, working knowledge we currently possess. Abide in the light.

If God so loved the world that He sent His Son into the world as the propitious Lamb, and it is by this immense demonstration that our eyes have been opened to the unspeakable quantity and quality of His love, then how is it that we could possibly hope to minister this love to the world of darkness around us unless we walk in the same spirit and power of His love? "But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." (1 John 2:5-6)

There is no other legitimate means by which we can serve the Lord of love but by the standard of His love established on the cross of Calvary. The light has now shined in the darkness and the way is now revealed. It is new to us as human beings, and ever challenging to us as the children of God, but there is simply no other way by which to gauge our understanding or chart our spiritual maturity other than by the presence of the same self-sacrificing, Christ-adoring love that first burst upon our souls when the Spirit enabled our eyes to catch a glimpse of that eternal light. When that light shined into the darkness of our souls, our understanding of self and existence was changed forever. His all-glorious love is aimed directly at the greatest needs and deepest desires in our beings, even as it is in the lives of every other human being around us. From the vast dimensions of eternity He knows perfectly the moments when He can strike a powerful, transforming blow to the hardness of our hearts and shatter our defenses that He might draw us closer to Himself.

And it is now our glory and His to have Him work through us, His spiritual body on earth, to administer this same love to those to whom He sends us. How many times have you just happened to be in just the right place at just the right time to meet just the right person to whom you are enabled to say or do just the right things that their hearts might be touched by the love of Jesus? How many times has your heart yearned and burned in prayer and desire to share the love of God with someone who is troubled in the darkness, so you watch, and listen, and pray, and wait for just such a moment. When it arrives you enter the scene graciously and lovingly with all the momentum of the eternal love of God behind you, and the love of God in Christ is poured out from your heart and soul, in word and deed by the enabling of the Holy Spirit, and in whole or in part you shatter the darkness that entombs them in one of its life-limiting forms.

"Beloved," (you that have come to know the love and grace of God in Christ Jesus the Lord), "let us love" (let us be granting the same favor to others which we ourselves have received). Let us lay our tracks so we cannot veer to the left or to the right and build them in the direction of being all pleasing to God. Let us load our precious cargo into every available space that we have in our lives, filling hours and minutes with those laborings of which we will never be ashamed. Let us ply the power of the Holy Spirit in prayer, study, and worship to stoke our new creation engines with a full head of steam, and ramp up our speed and momentum with faith and patience. Let us roar down the track with boldness and confidence in the love that first won our hearts, and prepare our hearts to love with grace every individual that crosses our tracks trusting that we will impact their destinies with the light of the gospel of Jesus. May we make His bountiful supply ours as well.

"He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep." (John 21:16)

r r r

Let those love now who never loved before; Let those who always loved, now love the more.

Love is a gift, take it, let it grow.

Love is a sign we should wear, let it show.

Love is an act, do it, let it go.

The Book of Daniel

Chapter 7:7-10



V. 7 - This monstrous Roman Empire broke in pieces and devoured everything in its path to greatness, with it greet iron teeth. What it did not own, it crushed with it feet, spoiling it for others. It was dreadful, terrible and strong exceedingly, the most powerful world empire that this world has known. It acted beastly especially to the Jews. As terrible as it was, the worst is yet to come in the last phase of the Roman empire.

"It had ten horns." This tells us of the *latter stage* of this empire, for it did not have ten horns when Daniel first saw it come up out of the sea (out of the Gentile nations) - V. 3. It was not *divided in power* at the first for it was strong and fierce and diverse from all others. It never could be said that it had ten horns before it deteriorated from within. That is when the part iron and part clay phase resulted. The strong Roman Empire ceased to exist. It must rise again, the same beast with ten horns, a *divided kingdom* will develop.

Let us not confuse these ten horns with the ten toes of Nebuchadnezzar's image. Many commentaries do, but that cannot be. Because three of these horns are plucked up (v. 8) and we don't have three toes plucked off. These horns are an earlier stage. The toes are at the very end, when the Rock cut out without hands falls on the toes and crushes (the nations). So the toes are at a latter time than these horns. The ten horns represent kings (horns always speak of power in prophetic language). So these are nations that are in harmony with the revival of the Roman Empire.

Although there were other nations with the first part of the Roman Empire, they had very little power or authority. Even Israel was still a nation, but a conquered nation. Herod let them have a little leeway. At the death of Christ, Pilate let them have their way, but the last word was Caesar's.

In the revived Roman Empire there will be these nations and we believe we can see these nations forming now. A confederacy of European nations has taken place and these nations may shift a lot more. In the last several years there has been changes and it is still changing. It is for God's purposes in the end time. We don't know all that will take place, but we do know He lifts nations up and teardown nations. He does His will among them. They think they are so smart and they are doing this and doing that and making peace treaties and working out things, but it is all going to fail.

V. 8 - Daniel eyes are focused on the ten horns and among them comes up a little horn. This is the antichrist before whom three of the first horns are plucked up and taken away, not the people, but the kingdom itself will exist no more (for they were plucked up by the roots). Seven horns are left. They no doubt are the seven heads (kings) that John saw in vision in Rev. 17:9-10, which will rule over the seven mountains (kingdoms) at the beginning of the seven years of tribulation. John saw this seven headed empire arising out of the troubled sea (the unstable condition of the Gentile nations) - Rev. 13:1. It is a conglomeration, a little bit of all these world systems as we read in verse 2.. The beast of verse 3 is not the same beast as in verse 1. The beast of verse 1 is a revival of the Roman Empire. The beast in V. 3 is the antichrist that they will run after. One of the heads will be wounded unto death, the antichrist will be killed.

Rev. 17:9-10 - Of the seven, five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must contine a short space. The antichrist will be raised from the dead - V. 11. The ten horns of V. 12 are a lesser body of nations.

He will have "the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things," which speaks of discernment and ability to deal with people. Revelation 13 tells us that he will have special discernment and a special mouth. The antichrist is different from other people because he is empowered by Satan.

V. 9 - This verse bring us right down to the end. The whole scene changes from an earthly scene to a heavenly scene. Our view is from another angle altogether. "I beheld" - Daniel continued to look until the thrones were "cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit." Christ will take His throne - Rev. 4:2,5. Jesus today is on the right hand of the Father making intercession for us, but there is coming a day when He will get up from His Father's throne and be seated on His own throne. Then will be the beginning of tribulation, the judgment upon this world. The Gentile times end when Jesus sits down on His throne. The Gentile nations are not going to want to give up their place, so He will take it by force . We read the description of tribulation days from Revelation chapter 5 to 19.

"The Ancient of days," is a new name given Christ and is found 3 times in our chapter - V. 9,13,22. When He walked here on this earth, He was known as Wonderful and a Counsellor (Isa. 9: 6). He was even seen in His Deity - the mighty God, but He was not known as the Everlasting Father. This is a title that He will have when He takes His place as the king of the Jews. Neither was He known as the Prince of Peace because He was rejected, but here we read of Him as "the Ancient of days," or that which is older, able to control the days that are left.

"Whose garment was white as show" - or His outward appearance was in holiness and righteousness in every way. "The hair of his head like the pure wool" - wool is taken from the sheep. Sheep are known as God's people, (especially the Jewish people). John 10 shows them as the sheep and He is the shepherd. So the wool is taken from the sheep and put on the Ancient of days. A wonderful picture of the honor that the overcoming sheep will give to the Ancient of days (to the Lord Jesus Christ) honoring Him as their head. Giving Him the headship that is rightfully due unto Him.

"Hair" in scripture also speaks of weakness. The woman's long hair speaks of weakness. Peter tells us the woman is the weaker sex (not inferior, but of her weakness). We see Calvary also in this (II Cor. 13:4) though He was crucified through weakness, He lives by the power of God.

"His throne was like the fiery flame," the judgment He can pour out because He is God, He is the Everlasting Father, He is the Ancient of days, etc. Out of His throne will come lightening, thunder and the judgment of the world during the 7 years of tribulation time.

"His wheels as burning fire," wheels speak of a cycle of time In Ezek 1 we read of a wheel within a wheel speaking of cycles and here we have the cycle of God's judgment. Over and over and over again God's has judged His people and now we come to the very last judgment and then His wheels will stop rolling. **II Thess. 1:8** - there is going to be great vengeance at that time. Deut. 4:24 - "For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God."

V. 10 - "the fiery stream" speaks of the divine presence of God. It only takes His presence to defeat all the forces of the devil. His presence was with the children of Israel as a pillar of fire,

keeping them as they went through the wilderness. He defeated the Devil through His word. He was victorious in every way, even in His time in the wilderness when He was tempted of the Devil. On the Cross, He defeated him and He is going to put him in his place. His ministers who will execute the judgments are also called "a flaming fire" - Ps. 104:4 and Isa. 66:15-16. Yes, angelic beings to minister, but so do others minister to God. Paul called himself a minister of God to the Gentiles. We read how the overcomers will be ministers of God in the book Revelation, caring out or calling forth His judgments.

"Thousand of thousands and 10 thousand times 10 thousand" - it simply means an astronomical amount.. This agrees with Rev. 5:11. That numbers more than 10 million and then plus thousands of thousands. They all "stood before Him" - they have a standing before Him. "Judgment was set" in other words it is unchangeable. In John 5:27 we read all judgment has been given unto Him, because He is the Son of man. He will be reigning as God Almighty, yet He will judge as Man. He became man, so He might be able to redeem men. He has that authority to judge because He as the Lamb of God was slain for the sins of mankind - Rev. 5:9,10,12.

"The books were opened" - several books are mentioned in scripture (the book of the living and the book of the Lamb and some others). Rev. 6 speaks of the book sealed with 7 seals. It is a book of judgments and the opening of each seal releases judgment upon the world. What we see here is the judgment of the Gentile world powers that aren't going to want to give up their place - Ps. 2. God keeps accurate books and all the ungodliness of these Gentile powers are recorded. His judgments are just because He is just.

E. J. D.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Labor Day weekend meetings from Saturday August 30th through Monday September 1st at **Church of the Full Gospel**, 180 E. Lake St., **Sand Lake, Michigan.** Rooms and Meals furnished. Please contact: Gary Giddings, PO Box 111, Sand Lake, MI 49343 Phone (616) 636-5628 or e-mail: giddingsgary@hotmail.com

You are invited to the 30th annual Living Hope Tabernacle Labor Day fellowship meeting. Meetings will be held on Monday, September 1st, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The church is located at 6956 Platte Av., Lincoln, NE. Contact Pastor Doug Delhay at 402-780-6637 for any questions or assistance in locating the church or lodging. Come be with us as we celebrate 30 years of the Lord's faithfulness, blessing, and grace as we worship Him in testimony, song and the Word.

Several Grace Ministers have been called home to be with Jesus recently and we do not often hear about it until much later. We do appreciate Sharon Townsend writing and informing us of the home going of Pastor Patricia Miller (of Roseville, Mich). Please pray for the saints there and their pastor as they patiently for Christ coming.

Also Pastor Jeff Holmes (of Littleton, Colorado) is with his Lord. His wife, Paula is filling in as the pastor. Remember the saints there in prayer as they faithfully stand by the stuff.

Also Pastor Charles Fulton (of the Assembly at Yale, Oklahoma) has entered into the presence of the Lord. His wife Alice (Aileen) is commuting from Supulpa to pastor the flock at Yale. Pray for her and that Assembly as they carry on the work of the Lord.

New address and phone number for tracts and booklets:

Paul Fellers, 104 SE Lake Village Blvd, Blue Springs, MO 64014

Phone: 816-224-9498 or e-mail: rphrfellers@sbcglobal.net These are available on a free will offering basis (for the printing of them and the postage).

Booklets:

The Chaste Virgin
Preparation of the Bride
Pauline Sanctification
The Oneness of Christ
The Five "Much Mores"
Grace -What Does it
Signify?
Law, or Grace, Which?
The Two Adams
The Adam's Case
Diamonds in the Rough
Dying Daily
Tabernacle
Women's Ministry
Predestination

Eternal Life
The Unforgiven Sin
Baptism in Water
When Jesus Plunders
Numerology
Saints of Caesar's
Household
Not legislation, but
Revelation
The Holy Spirit- Baptism &
Anointing
Phoebe, Woman's official
Place
Death, Hell, and the Lake of
Fire

Tracts:

Is God in Everything
This is That!
God - A Triunity
Why Am I Not Healed

Friend, Listen A Burning Truth (John 3) It is Finished

I am not anxious about leaving this earth, because I am eager to arrive in heaven on God's gracious time.

J. D.