

Chapter eight

WHEN THE KINGDOM IS SET UP

The apostle Paul told the first century church that they should not “*avenge yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.*” In a section above we have established that the wrath of God was about to come upon apostate Judaism (the harlot of Revelation 17, for proof of this read the paper “Yahweh’s Wives by this writer). Then he warned them That they should “be subject unto the higher powers...the powers that be are ordained of Yahweh. (Rom.12:19 & 13:1) When Paul wrote these words “the higher powers” were the Caesars of the Roman Empire which was in “full swing.” By c. 60 AD five (5) of the Caesars had reigned and died while the sixth (6th) Nero Caesar was only a short time into his reign (Rev.17:10, See the paper “the Abyss” by this writer).

The prophet Daniel tells when and how Yahweh revealed that he had ordained (appointed) that particular higher power. In Daniel chapter 2 we read that the king of Babylon had a dream which troubled him greatly. Eventually Daniel was brought before the king. It is recorded that Daniel first told the king that the wise men, astrologers, the magicians and the soothsayers cannot show the king “the secret which the king has demanded, but there is a God in heaven that reveals secrets, and makes known to the king what shall be in the latter (last) days. Then Daniel told the king what the king had dreamed and gave him the interpretation of the dream.

The king had dreamed of a great image; head of gold, breast and arms of silver, belly and thighs of brass, lower legs of iron, and feet and toes of iron mixed with clay. Then the king had seen in his dream that a stone was cut out without hands and this stone struck the image upon his feet and broke them into pieces. The total image was shattered and disappeared and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. (Dan.2:31-35)

Daniel’s interpretation of the dream was that the image represented a succession of four (4) great kingdoms. The first, the head of gold, was the Babylonian empire, the second, breast and arms of silver, was the Medo-Persian Empire, the third was the Greek Empire, and the fourth, lower legs of iron, feet and toes iron mixed with clay was the

Roman empire. Then, after giving a more detailed description of the iron and clay kingdom (vss.40-43), Daniel said:

And in the days of these kings (the kings of the Image) shall the God of heaven set up **a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed**: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, *but* it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and **it shall stand for ever**. Forasmuch as thou saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream *is* certain, and the interpretation thereof sure. (Daniel 2:44-45, comment and emphasis added)

Thus more than 600 years before Christ, the prophet Daniel foretold “that the stone cut out without hands” was the kingdom that Yahweh would set up and that this kingdom of Yahweh (aka the kingdom of heaven) would be established during the days of the kings of the Roman Empire. Right on schedule Jesus Christ the king was born, died, rose again, ascended to the father, and came again in power and great glory during the days of the kings of the Roman Empire.

Paul wrote ,“they that resist the (Roman) power, resist the ordinance of Yahweh: and they that resist shall receive destruction to themselves...for he (the Roman king, in the end, Vespasian Caesar) is the minister of Yahweh...he does not bear the sword in vain, (he is) an avenger to execute *the wrath* (of Yahweh) upon those that do evil (those first century apostate Jews and other Christ rejecters and persecutors of the Christians). (emphasis and comments added)

As we previously noted, the pastor wrote:

The term “last days” and the subsequent terms in my previous article were used to describe...the end of an age. When Jesus returned to His Father in Heaven, and was seated at the Father’s right hand, it was for a season, a time. He told those who watched Him Ascend that **He would return again**. *I believe we are just about at that point* where this current age of Jesus being bodily in heaven and believers being bodily on *earth is about to end*, and we shall be changed and be with Him. (emphasis added)

In His own words, as recorded by Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Jesus told His disciples when He would come again!

And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: but he that endures **to the end** (the end of what? Not time, but the Mosaic Marriage Covenant.) **shall be saved**. But when they (the first century Jews that rejected their Messiah) persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, **ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, until the Son of man be come** (come from where to where?). (Matthew 10:22-23, emphasis and comments added)

For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works. Verily I say unto you, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, until they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom (i.e. shall not die until they see the Son of man coming in His kingdom, Matthew 16:27-28).

Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall **the Son of man** be ashamed, when he **cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels**. And he said unto them, **Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, until they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.** (Mark 8:38-10:1 AV)

For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall **the Son of man** be ashamed, when he **shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels. But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God.** (Luke 9:26-27 AV)

Matthew reported that Jesus said that some of the disciples standing with Jesus that day would not die before they would see Him “**COME** in the glory of His Father with His angels.”

Mark reported that Jesus said that “the Son of man...**COMES** in the glory of His Father with the holy angels,” and that some of the living disciples standing there in His presence that day would not die “**until** (before) they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.”

And Luke also reported that Jesus said “the Son of man...**SHALL COME** in His own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels. **BUT I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, there are some of YOU** (living, breathing disciples alive and present with Him that very day) **which shall not die before they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.**

In addition to this, Matthew reported that Jesus said that he would **COME** during that first century period of persecution, **BEFORE THE DISCIPLES HAD GONE OVER THE CITIES OF ISRAEL**. This also clearly states that some of the disciples would still be alive when He came. They could not be “going over the cities of Israel” if they were dead.

In addition to telling the disciples that some of them would still be alive when He came, Jesus also told His disciples (Matt.23:1), and the multitude (Matt.23:1) that “all things, which certainly included His coming, would come upon “this generation” i.e. that generation that was presently alive in that first century.

Verily I say unto you, **All these things shall come upon this generation.** (Matthew 23:36 AV)

In their conversation about the destruction of the temple, while on the Mount of Olives, Jesus also told His disciples that that present, first century “generation shall not pass, until all these things would be fulfilled.”

Verily I say unto you, **this generation shall not pass, until all these things be fulfilled.** (Matthew 24:34 AV)

Finally, during His conversation with Caiaphas, the high priest, Jesus told him that he would “see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.”

Jesus saith unto him (the high priest, Caiaphas), Thou has said: nevertheless I say unto you, **hereafter YOU SHALL SEE the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.** (Matthew 26:64, emphasis and comments added)

The phrase “sitting on the right hand of power” is a reference to Psalm 110:1:

“« A Psalm of David. » YHWH said unto my Lord (Jesus), **thou sit at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.**” (Ps 110:1)

In this Psalm YHWH, the “power”, invites Jesus, who is David’s “Lord,” to sit on His right hand. Thus, when Jesus ascended and sat down at the right hand of YHWH, He would be “sitting on the right hand of power.” Caiaphas, the high priest would have certainly been aware of that passage in Psalms and would have immediately understood that with that statement Jesus was making a claim to being the “Lord” who would sit at the right hand of the deity which explains his immediate reaction:

“Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, *He has spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? Behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy.*” (Mt 26:65)

According to Scripture, after His resurrection Jesus ascended to the Father and “sat down on the right hand of Majesty on high just as He had informed Caiaphas He would do.”

“Who being the brightness of *His* glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, **sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;**” (Heb 1:3)

SUMMARY

By 70 AD, during that first century generation, all these prophecies (including the second coming) were fulfilled just as Jesus Christ said they would be (Matt.24:27-34) . It should now be clear and certain that Paul and the others used the terms “last days,” “latter days,” “last times,” and “last hour” to warn the first century Christians that they were living in the last generation of the Mosaic Marriage covenant. They would see the destruction of the Mosaic Covenant with its temple and city, Jerusalem (Lu.21:22).

As recorded by Luke, Jesus Christ told them, “these be **the days of vengeance**, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.” The days of vengeance” being the time when the **WRATH** (vengeance, Rev.6:16; 14:8, 10, 19 et. al.) of Yahweh was expended against apostate Judaism, its temple, and its city, Jerusalem the harlot wife of Yahweh (Rev. 17, See Yahweh’s Wives by this writer).

John, in Revelation, is also writing about these same events, as we have demonstrated above. John’s phrase “the first earth” was his apocalyptic hyperbole for the old Mosaic imagery for the new covenant of Jer.31:31ff, Heb.8:8ff, et.al.)

The setting up of the “kingdom of heaven” during the days of the kings of the Roman Empire was foretold by the prophet Daniel, and in perfect fulfillment the kingdom was completely established in Heaven and “possessed by the saints for ever and ever¹” in 70 AD, during the days of the kings of the Roman Empire. The house of Judah was made desolate and the kingdom was taken from the Jews and given to the people of the new covenant, Christian Israel (Matt.21:43; Gal.6:16) just as YHWH had declared it would be.

¹ Daniel 7: 13-14 reveals Jesus, the Son of man and the Son of YHWH entering heaven in His ascension and being brought before YHWH to receive His kingdom. Verse 18 reveals the resurrection of “those who belong to Jesus in His Parousia (1Cor 15:23c) by stating: “and the saints (resurrected disciples) of the most High (Jesus Christ) shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.” (Dan 7:18)