

THE HEAVENLY CALLING

consider . . . Jesus

Heb. 3:1

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The Time of the End

Part XXVII

Judgment of the Great Whore

And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:

With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns...

And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over [lit., 'which possesses kingly authority over'] the kings of the earth (Rev. 17:1-3, 16-18).

The main thrust of Scripture seen throughout Revelation chapter seventeen through the first part of chapter twenty has to do with God's plans and purposes regarding the Jewish people, the

Gentile nations, and the Church of God being brought to fruition, leading into the Messianic Era (cf. I Cor. 10:32).

In a larger sense, the working out of God's plans and purposes for all three creations — Jew, Gentile, and Christian — has to do with ruined man and involves 6,000 years of restorative work, followed by the 1,000-year Messianic Era, a sabbath rest awaiting the people of God. And this is patterned after God's previous restorative works surrounding the ruined material creation — occurring over six days time, with God resting on the seventh day — in Genesis chapters one and two (Heb. 4:4, 9; cf. Ex. 31:13-17; II Peter 1:15-18; 3:3-8).

In a narrower sense, regarding Israel and the nations, the working out of God's plans and purposes in this respect dates back 4,000 years (to the days of Abraham, about 2,000 B.C.) and 2,600 years (to the beginning of the Times of the Gentiles, about 605 B.C.).

And in a narrower sense yet, regarding Christians, the working out of God's plans and purposes in this respect dates back 2,000 years to the inception of the Church on the day of Pentecost in 33 A.D.

The complete scope of God's plans and purposes is dealt with numerous places throughout Moses, the Psalms, and the Prophets — "line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little" (Isa. 28:9, 10), with different facets of the matter being dealt with different ways in different places. Each facet provides a different part of one complete overall word picture, with the complete picture presenting the matter exactly as God would have man view the whole of His plans and purposes regarding Israel, the nations, and the Church.

And, regardless of how or where these things are dealt with in the Old Testament, there is always a particular emphasis on concluding events — events which bring the whole of the matter to fruition, as seen in Revelation chapter seventeen through the first part of chapter twenty.

Thus, when one arrives at this closing part of the Book of Revelation preceding the Messianic Era and begins reading extensively about a Beast and a harlot woman, he is not left to his own imagination and interpretation concerning that which is in view. Scripture will reveal and interpret the matter for him. Through comparing that which is spiritual with that which is spiritual (I Cor. 2:9-13) — in this case, comparing numerous sections of the Old Testament with that seen beginning in Revelation chapter seventeen — the Old Testament will have already interpreted the matter for the reader.

(Two Anglicized Greek words are sometimes used to call attention to correct and incorrect methods of Biblical study and interpretation — *exegesis* and *eisegesis*. The Greek prepositions *ek* [meaning, "out of"] and *eis* [meaning, "into"] are prefixed to the same word, which, without the prepositions, means "to guide" or "to lead."

Exegesis has to do with deriving out of a passage that which is within the passage. In Rev. 17-19a, *exegesis* allows Scripture to comment upon and identify the harlot woman. And, at every turn, Scripture [O.T. or N.T.], reveals that "the great whore" is a metaphor for Israel at the end of the Times of the Gentiles [ref. previous article in this series, Part XXVI].

Eisegesis, on the other hand, has to do with placing into a passage that which is not in the passage. *Eisegesis*, rather than allowing Scripture to identify the harlot woman in Rev. 17-19a, reads a foreign meaning into the passage, usually iden-

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tifying “the great whore” as a metaphor for a false religious system, often seen as the Roman Catholic Church.

And this type mishandling of the passage is no small thing. Not only does such a teaching do away with the correct understanding of the passage but such a teaching has the Times of the Gentiles ending in the New Testament after a fashion which is completely out of line with the way in which the Times of the Gentiles is seen being brought to a close throughout Moses, the Psalms, and the Prophets.)

The Old Testament has already dealt extensively, in minute detail, with the whole of that seen beginning with Revelation chapter seventeen and continuing into the first part of chapter twenty. A complete word picture has already been presented, for all to see. And this section in the Book of Revelation, dealing with the same thing as previously seen in the Old Testament, places the emphasis exactly where Moses, the Psalms, and the Prophets had previously placed the emphasis, which could only be expected.

The emphasis in chapter seventeen through chapter nineteen, preceding the Messianic Era in chapter twenty, is placed on *Israel and the nations* (17:1-19:6, 11-21). And, within this section, *the Church of God*, as well, is brought back into the picture from chapters one through three, though only taking up four verses throughout chapters seventeen through nineteen (19:7-10).

(To illustrate how the preceding is very much in line with the way matters are presented in the Old Testament, note material in five of the opening chapters of Genesis — chapters five through nine. *The Church* is foreshadowed in chapter five in the person of *Enoch*, who was removed from the earth alive before the Flood, typifying the Church being removed before the coming Tribulation [vv. 21-24]. Then, *Noah and his family* come into view in the latter part of chapter five [vv. 28-32]. And God’s dealings with *Israel and the nations* relative to the Tribulation and the succeeding Messianic Era are foreshadowed by events seen throughout the next four chapters.

After one complete period of time

[at the end of the seventh generation], *Enoch* is removed from the earth. This foreshadows *the Church* being removed from the earth at the end of the present dispensation. Then, within another complete period of time [within the tenth generation], *Noah and his family*, under Divine protection, pass through the Flood. *Noah and his family* being Divinely protected through the Flood foreshadows *Israel* being Divinely protected during the coming Tribulation, the final seven years of the Jewish dispensation. *The nations* destroyed in the Flood foreshadows *the nations* suffering the same fate during the Tribulation. And *the new beginning* following the Flood foreshadows *the new beginning — the Messianic Era* — following the Tribulation.

For more information pertaining to the overall type seen in Genesis chapters five through nine, refer to the editor’s book, SEVEN, TEN GENERATIONS.)

The Purpose for the Times of the Gentiles Realized

The Times of the Gentiles exists because of *the Jewish people’s disobedience, extending over centuries of time*. And, at the apex of this disobedience was *harlotry*. *Israel*, a nation separate and distinct from all the other nations (Num. 23:9), was having forbidden relationships with these nations.

Because of their continued disobedience, God eventually uprooted His people from their land and drove them out among the nations (using the Assyrians in about 722 B.C. to remove the northern ten tribes and then the Babylonians in about 605 B.C. to remove the remaining southern two tribes). And, with the removal of the southern two tribes (*Judah and Benjamin*), a theocracy which had existed in the camp of *Israel* for some eight hundred years came to an end. Following the complete removal of the Jewish people in 586 B.C., *the Glory of God departed, ending the theocracy which God had previously brought into existence during the days of Moses at Sinai* (Ezek. 10:4, 18; 11:22, 23; cf. Ex. 40:33-38).

And, though two remnants of Jews have returned to the land since 605 B.C. (one beginning seventy years following the Babylonian captivity, and the other occurring in modern times), the Times of the Gentiles has continued throughout. The Gentiles have held the sceptre throughout this time, lasting about 2,600

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years to date. And the Gentiles will continue to hold the sceptre until God’s purpose for driving His people out among the nations has been realized.

The Jewish people, through Gentile persecution, must be brought to the place of repentance before the Times of the Gentiles can end.

Both remnants returning during the Times of the Gentiles eventually formed a Jewish nation in the Middle East. And both returned under similar circumstances — *apart from national repentance, which could only have been prior to the time for the nation to return.*

The first remnant was driven back out among the nations in 70 A.D., and the second remnant will be driven back out among the nations yet future, in the middle of the Tribulation. God has decreed that He will deal with His people relative to their sins, with a view to repentance, *out among the nations*, not in the land. And, if for no other reason, *the remnant presently in the land, forming a modern-day nation of Israel, will have to be uprooted and driven back out among the nations.*

Just as surely as God dealt with *Jonah* relative to repentance *in the sea* (which has to do with the Gentile nations in Scripture) rather than on the ship (which would be out of the sea and, thus, could only have to do with the land), God will deal with His people relative to repentance *out among the nations* rather than in the land of *Israel*.

And in the final analysis, after 2,600 years of Gentile dominance and Gentile persecution, the Jewish people are pictured in Scripture as *a harlot out in the sea, a harlot removed from her land and residing in the worldwide kingdom of the Beast* (Rev. 17:1, 15). The kings of the earth will have committed fornication with the harlot woman (through forbidden national

relationships), having been *made drunk* “with the wine of her fornication” (Rev. 17:2). They will, as well, have become *wealthy* through the woman’s condition and position; and the woman will have become *wealthy* as well — all having to do with *worldly wealth, void of spiritual wealth* (Rev. 18:3-19).

But, all of the preceding is *about to change*. God is going to use the final and most corrupt form of Gentile power the world has ever known or ever will know to bring Israel to the place of repentance. Through Gentile persecution under *the man seated on Satan’s throne and empowered by Satan* — as this man seeks to do away with the Jewish people, making individuals such as Hitler, Eichmann, Nassar, Ahmadinejad, *et al.* pale by comparison — *Israel will, after centuries of time, be brought to the place of repentance.*

Note Rev. 17:16, 17:

“And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.”

Those forming the ten-kingdom federation of the Beast will hate Israel, and do everything within their power to destroy the nation, not realizing at all that the Gentile nations hold the sceptre and are *wealthy only because of Israel’s condition and position among them*. And they also will not know that God will use their genocidal efforts to bring Israel to the place of repentance, which will result in an end to Gentile rule and Gentile wealth, both wrought at Israel’s expense. God will take the sceptre from the Gentiles, take their wealth, and give it all to Israel, as He restores the theocracy to the nation (Isa. 60:5, 11 [“forces,” KJV, should be translated “wealth”]; Ezek. 37:21-28; 39:21-29; 43:2ff).

Insofar as governmental power and material wealth are concerned, those in the kingdom of the Beast, as they seek to destroy Israel, will, at the same time, unknowingly be committing *national suicide*. God will use their efforts, *fulfilling His will*, “until the words of God shall be fulfilled” (Rev. 17:17). Then, once

Israel has been brought to the place of repentance through Gentile persecution, God will *hear from heaven, remember his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and act in complete accordance with His promise to Israel* (cf. Ex. 2:23-3:12; Lev. 26:27-42; II Chron. 6:24-27; 7:12-14).

Once the reason for the Times of the Gentiles has been realized, Gentile world power, existing in the kingdom of the Beast in that day, *will be destroyed*. This is seen in Old Testament typology in places such as the Books of Exodus and Esther — the Assyrian Pharaoh and his armies in Egypt destroyed in the Red Sea as they pursued Israel, or Haman and his ten sons impaled on the gallows that Haman had prepared for Mordecai, the Jew. And this is seen in the Book of Revelation in chapter nineteen, following Israel’s repentance and the Father sending His Son back to the Jewish people, to deliver them (vv. 11-21).

(Note the sharp contrast in the government of the earth as it has existed during the last 2,600 years and as it will exist yet future once God’s purpose for the Times of the Gentiles has been realized. Conditions in the government of the earth are quite different when the Gentiles hold the sceptre [present], as opposed to Israel holding the sceptre [past and future].

The descendants of Shem through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, comprising the nation of Israel, form the only nation on the face of the earth with a God [Gen. 9:26; Ps. 33:12]. And for the Gentile nations, without a God, to acquire spiritual wealth and blessings, *they must go to the one nation with a God* [Gen. 9:26, 27]. *They must go to the nation of Israel* [something really not possible today because of *Israel’s condition and position among the nations*].

The Gentile nations though do possess *gods*, but not the one true and living God. *The gods of the nations* are said to be “nothing” compared to the one true and living God [I Chron. 16:26; Ps. 96:5]. *The gods of the nations* could be anything separate from God Himself — *materialism, demons in Satan’s kingdom, etc.*

All of the Gentile nations find themselves in the same position, *in the natural realm*. And they simply cannot move from that realm into the spiritual realm [except, of course, that spiritual realm where Satan and his angels operate, which is aligned with the natural]. The man of flesh simply cannot function in the realm where the man of spirit exists.

Many individuals out of the nations, over centuries of time, have moved from the natural into the spiritual realm *through a Saviour which came from the one nation with a God*. But it is *not possible* for the nations themselves to do this. Again, nations simply cannot function in this realm.

In this respect, there is *no such thing as a Gentile nation with a God, or a Gentile nation which can be referred to as a Christian nation* [the Church, taken mainly from the Gentiles, is referred to as a “nation” and has a God, though the Church is neither Jew nor Gentile but *one new man, a new creation* “in Christ,” with a heavenly citizenship (Matt. 21:43; I Peter 2:9, 10; cf. II Cor. 5:17; Gal. 3:26-29; Eph. 2:11-15; Phil. 3:20)].

Gentile nations, in their governmental structure today, rule within a form of a theocracy, though a corrupted form connected with Satan and his angels. “Satan” is *the god of this present age* [II Cor. 4:4], and he and his angels *rule through the Gentile nations from their place in a heavenly sphere* [Dan. 10:13-20].

God rules the entire universe, and He rules over all parts of His kingdom through angels whom He has placed in regal positions throughout the universe. The earth, one province in the universe, is ruled in this manner, though presently through a rebel ruler. *God presently rules the earth through Satan, the god of this age*. God has delegated power to Satan, and Satan, in turn, has delegated power to subordinate angels ruling with him. It is this delegated power and regal position [his throne] which Satan will give to the Beast during the coming Tribulation [Rev. 13:2; cf. Ezek. 28:14; Luke 4:5, 6]. Then the Beast will rule in this same manner *under God, as a rebel ruler in a corrupted form of the theocracy*.

It is immaterial whether a nation’s government is like that of the United States [where there is a separation of religious and civil powers] or like that of a Moslem country [where religious and civil powers are inseparably connected], in the final analysis all Gentile governments have a common connection. *All occupy their positions directly under Satan and his angels, who rule in a rebel respect under God*.

There is only *one nation* on the face of the earth with a government which rules after any other fashion than the preceding, and that’s the one nation with a God, the nation which is *not to be* “reckoned among the nations” [Num. 23:9], *the nation of Israel*. The angelic princes of the Gentile nations [each nation has a prince,

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with other princes under him], who rule through the nations from a heavenly sphere, are *demons* [Dan. 10:13-20]. But Israel's angelic prince, ruling through the Jewish nation in the same manner, is *Michael* [Dan. 10:21], and Michael exercises power under God separate from Satan and his angels.

This is why God could establish a theocracy and rule in the midst of Israel during Old Testament days. As well, this is also why God will be able to establish a theocracy in the world yet future.

"Israel" is the key. Since Abraham's day, the separate creation during Jacob's day, and the subsequent inception of the nation during Moses' day, God has looked upon and dealt with the Gentile nations through one nation alone [cf. Gen. 12:1-3; Ex. 4:22, 23; 12:2; 19:5, 6; Isa. 43:1-11; Zech. 2:8]. And God's dealings with the nations through Israel in this respect will never change [Rom. 11:29].

Israel's position relative to the nations is why Israel must be brought to the place of repentance, Gentile world power destroyed, Satan and his angels removed from power, and God's three firstborn Sons [Christ, Israel, and the Church (following the adoption)] placed in power [cf. Gen. 1:26-28; Heb. 2:5].

Satan knows this, and over millenniums of time he has done *everything within his power* to thwart God's plans and purposes by launching his attack at the fountainhead, seeking to destroy Israel. And this is why Satan will give his power, his throne, and great authority to the earth's last ruler during the Times of the Gentiles [Rev. 13:2b]. Satan will use this man in a final, climactic attempt to do away with the nation of Israel.

But God, in His sovereign control of all things, will use this man's efforts to achieve a completely opposite end — to bring about His Own predetermined plans and purposes for Israel. Matters in that day will be as in the words of Haman's wife, Zeresh, relative to Haman attempting to slay Mordecai:

"If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him" [Esther 6:13b].

For additional information on the preceding, refer to the editor's book, THE MOST HIGH RULETH. Also, refer to the article by the editor, "The Intractable Middle East Problem" [see main page of web site, www.lampbroadcast.org.]

"The great whore" in Revelation chapter seventeen through the first part of chapter nineteen is seen being burned with fire (17:16; 18:8, 9, 17-21; 19:2, 3). This is the picture which Scripture provides of Israel's harlotry being done away with. God is seen using the Beast and his kingdom to do away with Israel's harlotry through a persecution of such an intense nature that "except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved" (cf. Matt. 24:22). And this will occur after 2,600 years of Gentile dominance and control.

Israel will be brought to the place where the nation will have nowhere to turn other than to the God of their fathers. (Rev. 17:16, 17). Repentance and cleansing will then occur (Isa. 1:16-21), Israel's harlotry will be a thing of the past (Rev. 18:8-10), and it will never again be an issue (Rev. 19:3).

Then God can complete His dealing with Israel, deal with the nations, deal with Satan and his angels, and usher in the Messianic Kingdom.

The Complete Purpose for Israel's Existence Realized

God called Israel into existence to be the channel through which He would deal with mankind at large. The Word of God would be given through Israel, a Redeemer for fallen man would arise out of Israel, Israel would be God's witness to the nations, and Israel would rule the nations within a theocracy, with the nations being blessed through Israel.

Israel has given mankind the Word

of God, and a Redeemer has arisen out of Israel. But the remainder of God's purpose surrounding Israel's existence awaits a future fulfillment.

The past theocracy under the old covenant never approached the heights surrounding the reason for Israel's existence, but the future theocracy under the new covenant will. In that day, God will "cleanse" the nation, give the nation "a new heart," and place "a new spirit" within the Jewish people. In that day, God will cause them to walk in His "statutes" and keep His "judgments" (Ezek. 36:25-27). In that day, God will put His law "in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts." And in that day, the one true and living God will be Israel's God, and the Jewish people will be His people (Jer. 31:31-33).

The 144,000 Jewish evangelists (Rev. chs. 7, 12, 14) will form a first fruit of the nation during the Tribulation and will carry God's message to the Gentiles worldwide during this time. This will result in the conversion of "a great multitude," which no man will be able to number, "of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues" (Rev. 7:9).

Then, following the conversion of the entire nation when Christ returns at the end of the Tribulation, the main harvest will appear. And the entire nation will then go forth with God's message to the Gentile nations throughout the earth.

As well, the theocracy will be restored to Israel. And a restored nation will hold the sceptre, ruling the Gentile nations, with the Gentile nations, in turn, being blessed through Israel (cf. Zech. 8:20-23).

This is what awaits Israel and the nations of the earth following the horrors which will befall those upon the earth during the Tribulation. And this will occur through the "Sun of righteousness" arising "with healing in his wings" (Mal. 4:1, 2).

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