

As we continue, having identified the spirit of the king and the priest associated with the lampstands and with the oil, the light of the word and the Spirit being perfected in a people who are a royal priesthood, we then begin to see that for a period of time (and during the time that they are opposed)—those forty-two months or this time, times, and half a time—they have enormous power and demonstrate great authority and power upon the earth in the midst of that opposition.¹ Now, that is very much like Christ who, in the three-and-a-half years of His life once He had been revealed and had confirmation by the Father and by the Spirit and lived upon the earth, was opposed. They tried to trick Him, they sent teachers to try to trap Him, and so on. The gospels are replete with the efforts of those who stood to lose their positions, trying to discredit the Lord.

A notable example would be when He had healed the man at the temple.² The religious leaders of the Jews wanted to discredit Him, so they asked the man who had been healed, “Who do you think He was?” First, they asked Jesus, “Why was this man like this?” They did not want to deal with the fact that he had been healed. They were very evasive: “Why was this man like this?” Well, what does it matter? He was blind. But in their understanding, if they could find a way—this was a fishing expedition—to assail the authenticity of the man’s healing and/or alternatively to discredit Jesus, even if He healed the man, by saying perhaps He should not have healed him. So they asked Him, “What was the reason that this man was blind anyway? Whose sin was it? Was it his own sin or his parent’s sins? How did he come to be in this case? Because the argument was, “If he was being punished by God for the malfesants of something he had done or that his parents had done—in the fashion of visiting the sins of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me³—and if You have interfered with that and healed him, then this is not a real healing. You are not the Son of God. You are not who You say You are because You

All Scripture quotations are from the NKJV Bible, unless otherwise noted.

¹ See Revelation 11:3-4: “And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.”

² See John, chapter 9.

³ See Exodus 20:5: “...you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those who hate Me,”

should let him remain with the consequence, whether of his sins or his parent's sins." How surprised they were when Jesus said, "It was neither. It was neither his parent's sins nor his own sins, but he was here to receive and to entertain the work of God. It had nothing to do with his sin or his parent's sins. I am here to show you the fulfillment of Scripture that says that the Messiah would give sight to the blind, He would set the captives free, and He would proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. This is about the favor of the Lord." Well, they did not give up. When Jesus moved off, they then found the man and started questioning him and saying to him, "Who do you think He was who healed you?" First, the man said, "Well, why are you asking me? Are you wanting to be His disciples?" As the English would say, he was a cheeky sort of fellow, evidently. And they just said, "Ah, shut up. Answer the question." And he said, "I do not know who He actually is, but this I do know: once I was blind, but now I see. Now deal with it."

When the word of God comes in the midst of an unbelieving generation—people whose hearts were hardened, even amongst those who walk the temple grounds; in short, wolves in sheep's clothing if they are the leaders—the people are deceived and not interested in the truth. Seeing they see not, and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. Because when you see and you do not see, it is not saying that you are not seeing; it is saying you see, but you do not see. You hear, but you do not hear. That condition is one in which you only see what you want to see and only hear what you want to hear. So, even though the word of God comes and burns up your arguments, and reduces to ashes your vaunted and lofty opinions, and restores truth, and destroys the reasoning that is based in the foolish and darkened hearts of men, even then they will be despised, just like Jesus was despised.

And the correlation of the time in which they are doing those things and the time in which Jesus did those things—forty-two months; three-and-a-half years; time, times, and half a time—that is intentional. It may be actual, as well, that there will be a time when God is speaking by those who represent the lamp of the word of God and the anointing of the olive trees, so anointed words coming from witnesses who testify to the end result of what God intended to bring about: a man in the image and likeness of Christ who is, by definition, a royal priest. For Jesus is the High Priest

forever in the order of Melchizedek⁴—*melchi* is king; *zedek* is righteousness.⁵ This is from Hebrews 7, where He is King of Righteousness and *Sar Shalom*, Prince of Peace⁶—the royal priesthood. So, the perfection of the beauty of Christ in His body is what is now being both revealed and demonstrated.

And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner (Revelation 11:5 NKJV).

The power with which they speak is likened unto words that are like fire coming out of their mouths and devouring the enemies. And anyone who wants them harmed will be killed in this manner. In other words, they will destroy, they will annihilate the arguments of those who oppose them. And perhaps even there will be those who, like in the days of Paul when a certain sorcerer opposed him, Paul spoke and the man became blind.⁷

Jesus healed a blind man to show the condition into which His messages had come. You have heard me explain this before: when Jesus made clay out of spitting on the ground and working the soil, making clay and putting it on the eyes of the blind man. In a sense, what came out of His mouth was used to create a clay to put on his eyes, which, of course, is symbolic because the man was already blind. If you put clay on a person's eyes who can see, you will make him blind because it is opaque. What Jesus was telling him—of course, the reference to his actual condition and the imputed condition of clay on his eyes—that was to tell him that he only saw as a natural man, but his existing condition was that he was already blind, so he was doubly blind: he was naturally

⁴ See Hebrews 5:9-10: “And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest ‘according to the order of Melchizedek,’ ”; see also Hebrews 7:17 NIV: “For it is declared: ‘You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.’ ”

⁵ See *Malki-tsedeq*, Strong's Hebrew 4442 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/4442.htm>

⁶ See Hebrews 7:1-3: “For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated “king of righteousness,” and then also king of Salem, meaning “king of peace,” without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.”

⁷ See Acts 13:6-11

blind, and he was spiritually blind. It is the reverse of that, but it occurred also within the ministry of Jesus. Then, Jesus told him to go and wash in the pool of Siloam. “Siloam” means “sent one.” Quite literally, the parable is how Jesus told a man who was doubly blind—he was physically blind, and he was spiritually blind—Jesus told him to go and wash in the word of the sent One, and he would receive his sight. And of course, he did and received his sight.

The point being that now you have a hardened people, a people whose hearts are hardened, who resist the truth, and few among them are likely to receive the word that comes as fire that devours false arguments, that burns up works that may be characterized (according to 1 Corinthians, chapter 3) as wood, hay, and stubble, leaving no place of refuge, no fantasy land in which religious practitioners and false teachers, false pastors, false prophets to hide. But instead of admitting, with the intent to change... You see, repentance is not, as my grandson often says when he does something wrong, “Oopsies.” Repentance is not oopsies. Repentance requires soul searching as to why you could not hear God, and therefore prophesied falsely. That is not an oopsie; that is a very serious matter that discloses the actual condition of the person who falsely represents God, who says, “God said,” and God did not say.

You know, in the Old Testament, that would be a capital offense. You would be stoned to death. But in a permissive church, where there are no standards of God’s righteousness and no requirement of upright behavior and authentic ministry, every man does what is right in his own eyes. And by his or her Twitter feed or Facebook posts, by whatever means, you can simply keep going, even though the charge is that you falsely represented the Lord. The day has come when those who are representing the Lord will speak amongst the unbelievers in the House of God, and their words will be like fire to chaff, fire to wood, hay, and stubble. We are watching this happen. Men who have built, over a lifetime, religious empires, the word of the Lord coming burns it down, and there is nothing left in a day—except in some cases, the finances. But there is no credibility left in a day. This is the day we are in. Anyone who harms them, speaks against them, argues with them, slanders them, who speak deceiving words to them, these who are authentic kings and priests carrying the Spirit of what God intended to put on display as the person of Christ, anyone who harms them will come to nothing. And some will actually die.

These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy;
(Revelation 11:6a)

Rain, of course, is a type of the word coming. And they will be as much responsible for the thing that is called a famine for the word.⁸ I cannot begin to overstate, there is no way to overstate the power of the people of God, the real sons of God, who have been authentically judged. They have been authenticated by the Rod of judgment. There is no way to overstate the power that they can and will exercise upon the earth.

Listen, this is not anything that speaks of a defeated people, or any of that. They are firmly in control of the increments of the revealing of the power of God, down to, when they see that people do not want to hear—like Jesus did, there were occasions when it can be said that Jesus shut up the heavens, so that it would not rain. Because, when He was not received in a city, He moved on. When they tried to throw Him over the brow of a hill in Galilee, the Scriptures say that He went through the midst of them, and He went on His way. The later commentary on that would be, “Woe unto you, Chorazin! Woe unto you, Bethsaida! Because unlike Nineveh in the days of Jonah, when Nineveh repented at the preaching of Jonah, and yet a greater than Jonah has been among you, and you did not repent. So it will be held against you for your judgment. You cannot say, ‘I did not know.’”⁹ But when Jesus moved away from regions, and the best example is when He said to Jerusalem, “Woe unto you, O Jerusalem, Jerusalem! You kill the prophets, and you stone those who are sent unto you. Your house is left desolate, and you will not see Me again until you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.’”¹⁰ So, these witnesses have the power to cause a famine for the word of God.

I am promising you, this is a whole lot different from these motivational speakers who would convince you that the love of God means you keep pouring out the wisdom of God and the counsel of God on people who treat you like, if you cast pearls before swine, and they cannot distinguish

⁸ See Amos 8:11: “ ‘Behold, the days are coming,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘that I will send a famine on the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD.’ ”

⁹ See Matthew 11:21-24; Luke 10:13-16.

¹⁰ See Matthew 23:37-39; Luke 13:34-35.

between pearls and acorns, so they will turn and rend you in their wildness because they are unrestrained by the word of God. These are about skilled administrators of the grace of God who know the difference between the unbelievers—what the Bible describes as whoremongers, and unbelievers, and he who loves and makes a lie; outside are dogs, and whoremongers, and the rest of them. The mature church will know the difference. The mature Body of Christ will know the difference and will not waste time with quarrelsome, argumentative, unbelieving people pretending to be believers.

Look, I am already at the place where, if I am talking to somebody about the things of God, and I see them beginning to form arguments for the defense of what they already believe, I will typically stop talking. I will typically just pack it up and move on. That is a world of difference from people asking questions that allow you to discern that their hearts are righteous, and they are seeking the truth. I am never offended by questions from people who are seekers of God. I am always willing to be present and encourage others to help and to aid those who are willing, who are genuinely interested in learning.

As an example of this, the other day I called this one fellow who is a prophet, who got all connected up with this prophetic movement that prophesied a second term for President Trump. I called him after the matters had been settled because the Lord told me to call him. When I called him and was talking to him, I told him that the Lord had put him on my heart for like a week. I called him to just check on him and see how he was doing. You know, he told me what he was doing in business, he told me what his kids were doing in school, he told me what his wife was doing, but he never touched, he never broached the subject of the elephant in the room. I called to extend to him an opportunity to rescue him from this debacle he had gotten himself into—and this is not a young man—not a word, not a peep. He did not open the subject. I moved the conversation as close to it, to give him the opportunity to comment. He steered it away as quickly as I got in the borderlands of what I really called him about. He would not touch it. I went away feeling somewhat like the Lord might have felt with the rich young ruler who could not—grace had come directly to him to rescue him—but he could not give up the worthless trash that he had come to value as being so important.

These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire (Revelation 11:6).

They can shut up the heavens, so that it will not rain, and all the rest of it. It talks about the lack of rain, meaning no word from God. They have power over the waters to turn them into blood. It is almost like Jesus said to Judas, “Whatever you are going to do, do quickly.” He did not stop him from doing it. You can turn the water into blood. Of course, this too is a reference to the plague in Egypt, but spiritually it is a reference to the continuation of shutting up the heavens, so that it does not rain. They can strike the earth with all plagues as often as they wish. When they finish their testimony—when, like Jesus, the three-and-a-half years are over—then the rejection of the word became obvious by the fact that the enemy was permitted to,

...make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified (Revelation 11:7b-8).

Again, there is a connection to the Lord. Spiritually, Sodom is a place of extreme lawlessness, and Egypt is a place where they were made slaves to build an economy for the Egyptians, so where there is lawlessness and an addiction to wealth, to money. It is analogous to the crucifying of our Lord because He brought them the standard of God’s righteousness.

Now let me quickly show you something. There are lots of people who say, “Look, we will overcome the devil, so that means we will not die.” Let me quickly read you a couple of things here, which prophesied that there will be a slaying of the righteous. This is from the Book of Daniel, and it speaks about the beast that arises from the earth. Verse 13 of Daniel 7,

*“I was watching in the night visions,
And behold, One like the Son of Man,
Coming with the clouds of heaven!
He came to the Ancient of Days,*

*And they brought Him near before Him.
Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,
That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him” (Daniel 7:13-14a).*

In that scene of God’s judgment, the following is said at verse 21. This horn that arose on the head of the beast, a proud horn—

I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom (Daniel 7:21-22).

At the very end of the matter, the same chapter, the following is said. Verse 26,

*‘But the court shall be seated,
And they shall take away his [the beast’s] dominion,
To consume and destroy it forever.
Then the kingdom and dominion,
And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven,
Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High.
His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
And all dominions shall serve and obey Him’ (Daniel 7:26-27).*

This passage is telling us, much like the Lord Jesus Christ who was crucified, and on the third day He rose again, and forty days later He ascended to the right hand of God, from which He now has all authority and all power in heaven and on earth, in a like progression, the two witnesses accurately represent the mature believers exercising kingly authority and priestly righteousness. So they are the standard of God’s righteousness in the earth, and they demonstrate that for the same period of time, three-and-a-half years, that the false church opposes them, and the world agrees with the false church.

They could not abide them anymore, and then the beast came up out of the abyss and killed them. Like Jesus, they first were killed, remained for three-and-a-half days, and then they were taken up into heaven. Verse 12,

And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here.” And they ascended to heaven in a cloud and their enemies saw them (Revelation 11:12).

Again, “While they beheld, He was taken up and a cloud received Him out of their sight.” This is Acts 1 (verse 9), talking about the ascension of Jesus. So this shows and repeats the pattern of Christ, and how He overcame.

In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly (Revelation 11:13-14).

Here again, this is an analogy that relates to Christ but applies to the mature saints. Both Daniel and the Revelation tell us that God will allow certain ones to be destroyed, to be killed. In fact, Revelation says, “who is to go to prison will go to prison; who is to die by the sword will die by the sword.”¹¹ But it is to perfect the witness by which then everything is judged. After this, the wrath of God begins to be poured out. After this, mankind has abandoned choice. Because after this, chapter 12, after this, the war that started in heaven continues, and the devil and the fallen angels with him are thrown out of their place in the second heavens. And it is said, “Woe to the inhabitants of the earth”—this is not a reference to the people of God; it is a reference to the inhabitants of the earth—“Woe to the inhabitants of the earth because the devil has gone down to you, and he is full of fury because he knows his time is short. But rejoice, O heavens! Rejoice, those who dwell in the earth (referenced to the people of God). For the Kingdom and power and authority of Christ and of His Kingdom have now come to the saints.”¹²

¹¹ See Revelation 13:10: “He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.”

¹² See Revelation 12:10-12

So after this dying and death, out of the heavens the demonic will come. We have talked about this before. Some of the demonic are in the second heavens, and they will be kicked out—all of the rest of them will be kicked out. Some are in the abyss, and the rest of those will be let loose, including the beast that is the very spirit of the anti-Christ that is in the abyss will be released. Some of the demonic are in the heavens, some are in the abyss, and some are on the earth, walking to and fro, and going up and down in the earth. Finally, some are chained at specific locations on the earth, awaiting the time when they will be released by the decrees of God to be part of the judgment of God that comes upon the earth: four great angels by the great river Euphrates (we have touched that already before).

What is the compendium of the picture, then? We are about to be certified in heaven—measured, weighed, certified. The *naos*¹³ of God will come forth as the mature bride, as the mature representation of Christ, in the form of kingly rule and in the form of priestly anointing. And the power that will come from this body will have the ability to shut up the heavens to create famine on the earth for the word of God, will destroy and debunk all this foolishness and twisted theology, and even the twisted views of mankind who do not retain God in their knowledge, in an environment in which things are rapidly collapsing. This word and these people will be greatly opposed. For a while they will absolutely prevail, being clothed with power from on high; but the resistance to them will be let loose—as is prophesied in Daniel, and spoken of here in the Revelation, and as it was let loose against Christ—and they will be killed. Many will be killed. That is why the Scriptures say, “if you are to go to prison, you will go to prison; if you are to die by the sword, you will die by the sword.”

But this is when the perfection of beauty, that Zion, shines forth. To those who are perishing, it will be a stench in their nostrils. To those who are looking for the answer that has eluded them for a long time, suddenly they know. Those of the earth yet to be drawn in, the full number of the brethren to be drawn in, they will come in. The opposition will harden under the influence of this demonic falsehood. The witnesses being killed, people will rejoice because they do not have to

¹³ See *naos*, Strong's Greek 3485 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/3485.htm>

deal with them anymore. “Better that one should die than we should all lose our places,” the killers of Jesus said.¹⁴ The killers of Stephen had the same argument. Pattern exists in Scripture. They are caught up to God and to His throne, and removed from all that is yet to come. Then God begins to empty the heavens of the demonic and empty the abyss of the demonic. These demonic leaders who, together with the hordes that serve under them, will join with mankind in this terrifying end and death spiral to human society. Then, in chapter 13, the final arbiter of destruction and death will be revealed, this beast of seven heads and ten horns.

That is where we are going in the next broadcast. I wanted to give you a preview by way of a summary of these messages on the judgment of the House of God. Judgment begins at the House of God for the purpose of certifying and authenticating the result that God has been laboring to produce on the earth that is consistent with what He intended to establish on the earth when He said, “Let Us make man in Our own image and in Our own likeness.” We will continue our studies in the Book of Revelation. The timeliness of it is unmistakable.

This is Sam Soleyn. I will talk to you next time. Bye-bye.

¹⁴ See John 11:50: “nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish.”