

Current Affairs #38—The Man Above the Water

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So if we are in a time of birth pangs—birth pangs on a pregnant woman, not the end yet, but birth pangs—it is where trials come one upon the other, upon both the church and the world. Where the church is concerned, it is purging and cleansing everything that can be shaken to make room for a Kingdom that cannot be shaken. God is not sentimental about things that oppose His purpose, nor is He obligated to prop men up who have strayed away from Him. We talked the last time about various ones who are now the objects of scrutiny, who are being mocked and laughed at as buffoons and false prophets [see Current Affairs #37]. We have had a plethora of those lately. I mentioned many of them, including blood moons, and all of the rest of it. They have played fast and loose with the things of God. With unholy hands they have laid ahold of holy things, and God is repulsing them. He is pushing them back. But He is making room... And these are minor considerations. I mean, they are obviously major considerations to the persons themselves and the ones who have invested faith in them; but to God, they are minor considerations. It is purging the threshing floor, as it were: preparing the way of the Lord, pulling down the high places and filling up the low places to make a highway of holiness for what God is about to bring into the earth.¹ We see that that is a Kingdom that cannot be shaken. In light of that advent... It is not that the Kingdom is coming; the Kingdom is already here. The Kingdom has been here and functioning. But He is about to clothe the corporate man with the authority of Christ to represent Him in the corporate man in the earth in these last days, in these times. That is what is going on.

So you can focus on the trials that will engulf the earth, and you can focus on the hardships that are the direct and proximate result of these trials, and the way that the earth's systems are going to be reconfigured—from its financial, economic, trade systems, political systems, and the like, which are all the subjects of the Scriptures—or you can focus on what the reason for all of this actually is. Because this is the original intent. It is what God meant to do when He created the heavens and the earth. When He put man on the earth, He had done the last thing necessary to ensure that His intent for all of creation, the heavens and the earth, would be fulfilled, which was that on the earth at the finish of the age, a corporate man in the image and likeness of Christ or of God would stand up and would be beheld. That man could be measured by the fulness of the stature that belongs to Christ, for such a man is a mature man who carries the authority of Christ in the earth. That is that man, who like Adam, will suddenly appear. He will appear fully grown.

So, he is a man, but his presence in the earth has been unprecedented, so in that sense he will be a child—a new entity, fully grown, like Adam. Adam was a new entity in the earth, a man, but the son of God, the child of God, first appearing on earth of one of the two sons of God. So he will be a full grown man, which is why he is called a “man child.” That is the thing that God is about to bring into the earth.

This picture has had a stunning series of prophetic references ahead of the time of his appearing—this mature man who appears to be born in a day, just like a Kingdom appearing in maturity in a day.² Because that is the day that God chooses to pull back the veil and reveal the thing He had been doing all along. Just like in the days of Jesus, for thirty years since His birth, God had been working to produce that Man, who standing up out of the water in Jordan and coming up out of that water—a reference to coming up out of the word, because this was the Son of promise, and the word contains the promise—coming up out of the water, the Holy Spirit descends on Him in the form of a dove. And a voice is heard out of heaven saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (cf. Matthew 3:16-17). That is God’s introduction of the mature Son to the world as a first look at what He had been doing in secret. In the same way, God has already been building and establishing His Kingdom, which is the basis of authoritative support of this mature son. So the son is not the Kingdom. The Kingdom is the basis of authority that has been established for the support of the activities of the son, this corporate son.

This corporate man is what all creation has been waiting for. Daniel caught a glimpse of him all those many millennia ago. I want to read you something from the book of Daniel, chapter 10.

In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar (Daniel 10:1a NKJV).

He identifies the time of this as the third year of Cyrus, the king of Persia. The Medo-Persian Empire had replaced the Babylonian Empire, and now the Persian Empire had emerged out of the Medo-Persian Empire. The progression is seen in Daniel’s writings. He writes some things, like in the first year of Belshazzar, who was the last king of the Babylonian Empire. Then he writes some things about the first year of Darius, the first king of the Medo-Persian Empire. And now he writes

about the third year of Cyrus, the king of Persia, the first of these Persian kings. So, we can see the progression in history through the way Daniel identifies when he got the revelation. Daniel, by the way, had been given a Babylonian name, and it is was Belteshazzar—not Belshazzar, but Belteshazzar—like Nebuchadnezzar. In fact, it was Nebuchadnezzar who gave him that name. After he survived the night in the lion’s den, he was called Belteshazzar. This is said about the message. Pay attention, please.

The message was true [Daniel said], but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision (Daniel 10:1b, comments added in brackets).

This is different from many of the other visions that are recorded in the book of Daniel. And Daniel is known for having these incredible visions written down throughout the story of the book of Daniel. So, here is the buildup to the vision: “the message is true, but the appointed time”— the time when the message will become revealed— “is long,” far into the future. Because, indeed, it was a message for the end of the age.

In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

Now on the twenty-fourth day of the first month, [of the third year] (Daniel 10:2-4a, comments added in brackets).

- “In those days, I, Daniel, was **mourning** three full weeks.” — In other words, he was in a state of deep contemplation and fasting, frankly.
- “on the **twenty-fourth** day”— These things are highly symbolic. Twenty-four is the number for government. You read about twelve and twelve, and in heaven there are twenty-four elders. So, this is a story about something that relates to the government of God.
- “of the **first month**”— It is the first month, so it defines the course of the year, as it were. And, in a way, it refers to that time that would come a long time hence; at the beginning of that time, there would be some issue of God’s government being brought into the earth.

...as I was by the side of the great river, that is, the Tigris, I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! [Uphaz was a region known for fine gold.] His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude. [This is what Daniel saw about this man.]

And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision; but a great terror fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves (Daniel 10:4b-7, comments added in brackets)

That reminds you of the book of Revelation, how they fled from before the face of the Lamb and said, “Hide us from the face of the Lamb.”³ But, I am ahead of myself.

Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength. Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words I was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground.

Suddenly, a hand touched me... (Daniel 10:8-10a)

But that is all that he said about that vision until later in the chapter. And he was given more of the vision, but not of that particular man who was standing clothed in linen, and so on. He was, in fact, given what are called the seventy prophetic weeks of Daniel at the end of the tenth chapter through the eleventh chapter, and so on. Then he comes to the twelfth chapter, and he picks up with the man again, with this man. Now this time, this man is speaking. Daniel said, in Daniel 12:5,

Then I, Daniel, looked; and there stood two others, one on this riverbank and the other on that riverbank (Daniel 12:5 NKJV).

In verse 6, he goes back to the man clothed in linen, who was arrayed and his splendor was a golden splendor. One of the two men he saw on one riverbank and the other riverbank, the river

being Tigris. This man, by the way, was standing above the waters, which is the point of him arising out of the water. In other words, this is the man promised.

Then I, Daniel, looked; and there stood two others, one on this riverbank and the other on that riverbank. And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, (Daniel 12:5-6a).

Jesus, when He had come up out of the water, that was when He was declared to be the Son of God, and He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. Now He is prefigured standing above the Tigris River—not the Jordan, but the Tigris—and He is prefigured as one clothed as magnificently as he was. To him, these two others, presumably angelic figures, said to him,

“How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?” (Daniel 12:6b)

Because, in the intervening period, these wonders had been spoken of as things that would happen at the end of the age. So they turned to him and they said, “How long will it be?” Because he apparently was unlike the other two on either side, and as much as he affected Daniel by literally causing him to lose what measure of strength was in a natural man’s body.

Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever [swore to God], that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; [and here is this incredible verse:] and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished (Daniel 12:7).

Now the Jews have been referred to as holy people, but this is a different thing. This is not a reference to them returning to the land, restoring the temple, restoring the walls of the city as they did from Babylon, waiting for the coming of the Messiah. This is a glorious man whose voice is the voice of many waters, or the voice of many people. This is a corporate man. This is a corporate man who has, according to the book of Revelation 3:18, where He says, “I counsel you to buy of Me fine raiment, wherewith you may be clothed (that is fine linen) and gold tried in the fire.” This

is spoken in the first chapters of the book of Revelation, when certain churches claimed to be rich and have no need of anything, and He said, “You are poor, and weak, and miserable, and blind, but I counsel you to buy of Me gold tried in the fire and fine raiment with which you may be clothed.”⁴ He describes the fine raiment as the righteous acts of the saints.⁵ But then, in the first chapter of the book of Revelation, where John is on the island of Patmos and he turns to see the voice that had been speaking to him, which had spoken to him from behind where he was standing, when he turned to see that voice, he sees one arrayed much like this description in the book of Daniel of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is described as the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End,⁶ and he goes on to say the following in Revelation 1, starting at verse 13.

...and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire [same description]; His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters (Revelation 1:13-15 NKJV, comments added in brackets).

Daniel saw a prophetic vision of the corporate Christ. He appears to John in the same way. But on the earth, it was meant to be in the last days, the glory of God’s appearing would be upon a people. Therefore, they were counseled to buy fine raiment, fine linen, wherewith they should be clothed, and gold tried in the fire, by which their wealth would be determined.⁴ What is the gold and the fine raiment? The fine raiment stands for the righteous acts of the saints,⁵ and the gold tried in the fire is their character—the character that produces those acts. When Daniel saw it, he was blown away by the glory of it, because he saw it in a prophetic vision.

If you have eyes to see, you will see it as it is. But if you do not know what you are looking at, as Daniel did not, he saw it from a spiritual viewpoint as a vision, and in the vision this corporate man was resplendent in glory. In fact, the only thing he seems to be connected to in this vision is when he was asked by the two attendants on the right and on the left, “When will the end of the age come, and what will be the consuming events?” (cf. Daniel 12:6). That is the only thing he is used for. He is not the angel Gabriel who comes and gives him the vision of the seventy weeks, or it is not a vision in which he sees four great beasts, or any of that. Here is the appearing of this

glorious man, before whom, Daniel, the great prophet, falls down like he is dead, and the only thing associated with this glorious man is when he is asked to declare, “When will the consummation of the age be?” He says, “It will be for time, times, and half a time, when the power of the holy people has been finally shattered” (cf. Daniel 12:7).

Since the Roman Empire, Constantine gave the power of the Empire to the church. And the strength of the church, for nearly 2,000 years, has been its hegemony over human society, particularly Western Civilization. Western Civilization was made to accommodate the religious views of the state’s church. And it has held things back, held things in check, but only insofar as it continued to perpetuate the goals of the church, which was simply to have power and authority. But there was never the understanding. It seemed that the church for millennia, since the early apostles were gone, lost any reference to its role in the earth as being the image and likeness of God Himself. Therefore, there has been no theology insisting that the people grow up to become this splendid man seen in this vision. The counterfeit has always been the use of state power to maintain the position of privilege of the religious system. Every variation of that is a variation on the same theme.

But listen, God always intended to bring forth a glorious man on the earth who is, in his representation, exactly like Christ. It is why Christ came. He is the pattern Son. He is the mature Son, who only does what He sees His Father doing, to whom the Father reveals whatever the Father is doing.⁷ All this other stuff has been in the way, because it has promoted the primacy of men in their infantile grasping for power and authority, as orphans would. These are not people who preached a gospel of the sonship of man to God, nor did they understand the ways by which sons are assembled to families to be made into mature people to carry the glory of God. The end of the age is the separation out of that. And so, what we are seeing is this, the consummation of the matter. Revelation 22:10 says,

And he said to me, “Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. [At the end of the age, this is what it will look like.] He who is unjust, let him be unjust still [This is how God is dealing with people in these days. Whoever has been historically unjust, he is going to be left in that condition: let him be unjust still.]; he who

is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.”

“And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.”

Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city [Gates, as I have talked about before, are the fathers. You come in through the fathers into your inheritance, into this glorious allotment of the House of God.] (Revelation 22:10-14 NKJV, comments added in brackets).

So, here we are at the end of the age. God is sweeping away the pretenders, the charlatans, the frauds, and the false. The hand of God is sweeping them away, and no amount of praying is going to change that outcome because it is God doing it. He is just using the coronavirus and the destabilizing effect of it to bring to the surface all this dross and putrefying excesses that have been rotting underneath the surface of glitzy sounding words. These cannot be denied anymore. The truth of who these people are, and the truth regarding their doctrine, and the nature of the falsity that they have propagated, it cannot be pushed back. This is not a time for you to say, “We need to be gentle with our brethren.” This is a time when God is casting out the money-changers and the filthy ones from His House. This is a time of the great falling away because judgment has begun with the House of God.

When it is finished, the House will be cleansed, and this glorious man will stand up in the earth. The appearing of this glorious man will happen when the power of the holy people has been finally broken. The earth is going to turn against the church, and these charlatans will scatter like leaves before a strong fall wind. What is left in place will carry the glory of God and will demonstrate the economy that comes from heaven and how sufficient that economy is for everything that is necessary for life and godliness. You know, the end of the story is how all the kingdoms on earth were brought under the domain of Christ. That is the next great age that is coming: when upon His

return, He will rule over all the nations. But in the meantime, He is taking a people to Himself out of every tribe, tongue, language, and nation, and He is forming them—that is what He is doing *now*—into a royal priesthood and a holy nation. Their appearing on the earth will be so resplendent, as to be viewed as a man clothed in fine linen, whose appearance in the earth is golden: the corporate man, the head and the body as one, the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ in His House.

What an incredible vision! What a time in which men should live. What a time we are living in. No, no, no. We are not going to be raptured out. That is a bogus doctrine. It never was true. In fact, by now we should have been raptured out if the proponents of this doctrine were correct. They are not, just like the proponents of the faith doctrine spoke a bogus word about faith. Faith is to *tithémi* (Strong's Greek 5087), to lie down in death in the certainty of who God is. Faith is about coming into God's rest. It is not about airplanes and mansions, although I have nothing against mansions or airplanes. I do not have a theology of poverty and deprivation. To be poor is not the same as being humble. That is as false as to be rich is the same as being blessed. These are false doctrines on both sides. We are talking about a Kingdom; they only spoke of church, not the Kingdom, not the glory of the appearing of God on the earth.

We now are about to see the entrance by heralds announcing, heralds who have come from the King announcing good news, the good news of the appearing of Christ in His own House now, and the glory of it, the likes of which the world has not seen. It has been building to this, but its appearing was reserved for such a time as this.

Grace and peace be with you. Amen.

Endnotes:

1. See Isaiah 40:3-5 NKJV: “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.’”

2. See Isaiah 66:8 NKJV: “Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion was in labor, She gave birth to her children.”
3. See Revelation 6:15-17 NKJV: “And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the mountains and rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?’”
4. See Revelation 3:17-18 NKJV: “Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked— I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.”
5. See Revelation 19:8 NKJV: “And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.”
6. See Revelation 1:8 NKJV: “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,” says the Lord, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”
7. See John 5:19-20 NKJV: “Then Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.’”