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REVIVAL IN AMERICA
2023-2024 – PART 15

MAY 2024

We continue our series **“Revival in America”** with our Scripture text: **“And he brake in pieces the images, and cut down the groves, and filled their places with the bones of men. Moreover the altar that was at Bethel, and the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, had made, both that altar and the high place he brake down, and burned the high place, and stamped it small to powder, and burned the grove. And as Josiah turned himself, he spied the sepulchres that were there in the mount, and sent, and took the bones out of the sepulchres, and burned them upon the altar, and polluted it, according to the word of the LORD which the man of God proclaimed, who proclaimed these words. Then he said, What title (monument) is that that I see? And the men of the city told him, It is the sepulchre of the man of God, which came from Judah, and proclaimed these things that thou hast done against the altar of Bethel”** (2 Kings 23:14-17).

Josiah smashed the pagan pillars and cut down the Asherah poles. He then desecrated those places by scattering human bones all over them. Ceremonially, all graves are considered unclean, therefore, all of this unclean refuse was deposited in the graveyards because of all the idolatry and paganism in which Israel had indulged. In **verse 15**, the Scripture gives divine proof that all of Jerusalem was literally filled with idols and paganism.

One of the greatest altars men can build – other than to Christ – is an altar of humility. The more vile and

wicked a nation becomes the more pride they manifest. Solomon declared: **“The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way”** (Proverbs 8:13).

The truth is, all spirit-led children of God will hate evil and abstain from pride and arrogance lest they too become corrupted. America’s pride will become more openly manifested the closer we get to God’s judgment. We read: **“Pride goeth before destruction** (ruin or a crash), **and an haughty** (self-exalted) **spirit before a fall** (such as an overthrow)” (Proverbs 16:18).

With pride and arrogance exploding across America, something tragic and unsettling will happen. Humility is the only thing Christ will embrace: **“Wherefore he saith, God resisteth** (opposes) **the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble”** (James 4:6).

The more humble we become, the greater His grace will be magnified within our lives. Any believer who humbles themselves will always get a positive reaction from the King of glory: **“... he forgetteth not the cry of the humble”** (Psalm 9:12).

The apostle Peter elaborates profusely concerning the blessing of the Lord when one is humble: **“... for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time; Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you”** (1 Peter 5:5-7). As we walk in humility, that promised **“due time”** Peter speaks of will come to fruition in our lives. It’s not important that we are

exalted but rather we are living under His mighty hand!

When judgment comes to America – and it will – the humble will be delivered and protected but the prideful will be decimated. Sodom and Gomorrah was overrun with sodomy coupled with extreme pride and for that reason Jehovah sent a cataclysmic overthrow: **“Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness...”** (Ezekiel 16:49). One translation reads this way: *Sodom’s other sins were pride, gluttony, and laziness, while the poor and needy suffered outside her door. She was proudly committing detestable sins, so I wiped her out, as you have seen.*

Jehovah is just in every way, and if he does not judge us, then he has changed; but that is impossible: God is immutable! Scripture says: **“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever”** (Hebrews 13:8).

It is imperative we understand the only thing Christ can do is right. God declares about Himself: **“I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare** (bring to light) **things that are right** (upright)” (Isaiah 45:19). The point being, the only thing Christ can and will do is that which is absolutely right.

Abraham said of Elohim: **“Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”** (Genesis 18:25). Abraham was declaring the only thing God can do is right. Therefore, whatever punishment God metes out to America regarding our national sins will absolutely be the right thing no matter what He does.

Allow me to make an important

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point here: The same Jesus who ascended into Heaven is not returning in the same meek and mild manner as when He ascended. Christ is returning with a rod of iron; not as some imagine as a weak, effeminate, non-binary, questionable pervert. No, when He returns, His eyes will be as flames of fire (**Revelation 1:14, 2:18, 19:12**) and He's coming with pure unadulterated vengeance: *"In flaming fire taking vengeance (revenge, retribution) on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished (pay the price) with everlasting (eternal) destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power..."* (**2 Thessalonians 1:8-9**).

I'm terribly concerned with the disposition of the modern church thinking Christ's Second Advent will be nothing more than a mere glorious display of love. His glorious coming will be a display of retribution, dark destiny, and doom concerning sin, lawlessness and evil.

The first time Christ came in love, notwithstanding, He's coming as a man-of-war the second time: *"The LORD is a man of war (warfare): the LORD is his name"* (**Exodus 15:3**). The psalmist celebrates this man-of-war: *"Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty (champion) in battle (warfare)"* (**Psalms 24:8**).

The modern church is clueless concerning the fierceness and wrath with which Christ will rule throughout the earth and how He will battle and destroy all that is lawless and wicked once He returns. John the Revelator saw the Lord, mighty in battle, as He makes His triumphant return to planet Earth: *"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse (representing righteousness); and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of*

fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite (pummel or hammer) the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness (passion) and wrath (anger) of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS" (**Revelation 19:11-16**). Divine glory and magnificence will be displayed when Christ returns!

As Josiah turns and looks at the other sepulchers, he fulfills yet another prophecy given by the man of God when king Jeroboam was burning incense at a pagan altar. There is a very vivid and detailed prophecy given in **1 Kings, Chapter 13** by an unnamed prophet. The prophecy would be given approximately 300 years before all of this would come to fruition in the life of Josiah. The prophecy even gave the child's name and in whose house the child would be born, which was King David. This unnamed prophet detailed many things Josiah would do following his encounter with the Word of God and thereby bringing to fruition this great reformation.

In closing, I want to emphasize Josiah continued in his righteous anger, which was a path of utter destruction. According to **verse 17**, Josiah turns to those around him and asks the question: *"What [monument] is that that I see?"* And the people of the town said unto him: *It is the tomb of the man of God who came from Judah and prophesied the very things you are doing right now.* To authenticate the sovereignty of God, we see Josiah did not actually

know why and what he was doing concerning Bible prophecy until after he had fulfilled the Word of God. This alone authenticates and validates the power of God Almighty and His Word. We are told: *"The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will"* (**Proverbs 21:1**).

I am certain there are times we do things we thought were of our own will but, at the end of the day, it was God's divine plan. Solomon said: *"A man's heart deviseth (fabricates) his way: but the LORD directeth (appoints) his steps"* (**Proverbs 16:9**).

It is my humble prayer that in the coming days Jehovah will call His servants to have the same intestinal fortitude Josiah displayed in opposing all that was evil and wicked. God is still God, and He can do anything when we pray and believe.

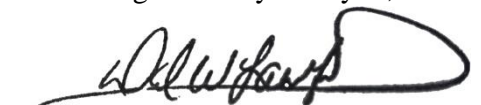
Thank you so very much for your love, prayers, and support for this ministry. We profoundly esteem, value, and appreciate what you are to this ministry!

Please remember our meeting,
"Revival in America"
September 20-22, 2024,
at the
Hickory Metro Convention Center,
Hickory, North Carolina.
We anticipate a genuine move of
God at this meeting!

Please bring someone with you so they too can experience God's anointed Word.

You will not be disappointed in what our Lord will do **in you, through you, and for you.**

Serving faithfully with you,



David W. Lankford
Pastor / Evangelist