

More than "cute"



Let us be ready...

"To you, O men, I call, And my voice is to the sons of men. O you simple ones, understand prudence, And you fools, be of an understanding heart."

—“Lady Wisdom” raising her voice (Proverbs 8:4-5)

Personal insight should be more than cute, don't you think? Just as weather forecasting involves more than finding just the right ground hog to look over its shoulder on ground hog day. The ground hog may go by instinct, while humans may shiver, and have an “inkling” of where our weather (or culture) is going, but truth be told we have little more than a child's grasp of life in matters of the here and now. Our giant orbiting telescopes, laboratory grade microscopes, and doctor's stethoscopes . . . bring us no closer to understanding the true heart of our Universe, than the latest diet craze has of extending our lives another hundred years, towards immortality.

And yet, as amazing as it may seem, the God of the Bible loves to favor us with simple values that we may grab hold of, from that Book's pages.

¹⁶ But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. ¹⁷ Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.

Luke 18:16-17 (KJV)

What did Jesus mean by saying, “of such is the kingdom of God”? Obviously, He was referring to simple humility—but might something else also be implied? Is this what more sophisticated purveyors of personal “happiness” now seek to impart in their theme parks, when using the oversized plush animals that Disney has incorporated?

Is this the underlying secret of Disney's success: That the parents bringing their children into their parks, are themselves seeking to find a second childhood? Is this what all of the attention focused on childhood (and the craven abuse of the same) is about in our day? The hapless loss of innocence, that groomers

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and the abortionist may feed upon: jealous somehow of something that they no longer possess; which they hope to deny to others?

Yet on the other side of the coin, is also the appeal (and victory!) of the Christian faith: of the Man of Galilee Who visited our world to walk among us, and gave to us a simple “peek” into Heaven, as He taught disciples to pray, “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On Earth as it is in Heaven”? —More, that through His voluntary death and His exchange of Heaven’s perfection for our sinful depravity, He might offer to us the

same gift offered to a high brow religionist, when saying, “I tell you the truth, unless one is born again, he cannot [even] see the Kingdom of God.” ~John 3:3 ??

How might such a simple, and celestial, perspective affect our common understanding of what the Bible has forecast for our world by its prophets . . . especially now that we have had the advantage of approximately two thousand years of “progress” (and digression) into the forecasts hidden within those pages?

Come and see. . . .

The Jewish Question

“I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Genesis 12:3

It is time to get down to the nitty-gritty. As Jesus said so clearly to a woman who had simply come to draw water from a well that was to her little more than a religious relic: “Woman, believe Me,” Jesus told her, “the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews.” (John 4:21-22). And, “. . . the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.”

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

John 4:23-24

Or, as the apostle Paul put it:

So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

Galatians 3:9 (KJV)

For Abraham believed God, and it was in this way that righteousness was attributed to him and, “he was called a friend of God” (James 2:23, Romans 4:3, Gal. 3:6). It was clearly God’s intent to bless the nations of the world through that friendship, and so may we do today—whatever nationality we be, whether (natural) Jew, or Gentile.

that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Galatians 3:14

We may define “Gentiles” as simply non-Jews. — Or, a bit more technically, we may define the part of



Israel that aligns itself with the tribe of “Judah” (whose name means “praise” in the original (Genesis 49:8)—as being “Jewish”. We might then say that one who is truly Jewish is one who truly praises God (Rom 2:28,29).

If we humble ourselves, and bring ourselves under God’s dominion when the Spirit of God is pointing out short comings within our lives, we will then be “keeping short accounts” with God. Was this not the first of Christ’s beatitudes (godly attitudes) presented in the Sermon on the Mount (“Blessed are the poor in spirit, . . .” —Matt. 5:3)? For by understanding our neediness before the God of Heaven, we sense our spiritual poverty here on earth—allowing God to freely give us of His bounty!

And we are “born again.”

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:3

From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Matthew 4:17

But Jesus called them to Him and said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.

¹⁷ Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.”

Luke 18:16-17

National implications:

As we approach the end of this present age, however, we begin to notice the contest between good and evil is starting to intensify, as tensions “heat up” between the *nation* of Israel, and the non-Jewish (or Gentile) *nations* of the world.

Two angels actually highlighted a gateway into understanding the signs of Christ’s returning by saying that just as He had ascended into the sky, so too, He will return from Heaven. When we link this statement to an Old Testament prophecy, it grants us insight into what to expect, just prior to Christ’s returning.

Those two angels’ statement, given on the Mount of Olives (Acts 1:11) pointed to the writings of the Old Testament prophet Zechariah; describing the Messiah’s returning to the same spot, while noting that at the time of His return, *all* the nations of the world will find themselves fighting against Jerusalem (Zech. 14:1-3).

How might this be?

How can it be possible that *all* the nations of the world will be fighting against Israel?? Certainly, the United States will not be among those nations, will it? Hm-m-m-m. Perhaps, we might be careful about saying what our nation may, or may not, do when put to the test.

Remember how the US reacted to the terrorist attacks against Israel . . . at first? Yet, now, it seems that standing up against the terrorist organizations is becoming increasingly difficult.

As we back up a few chapters into Zechariah’s

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A Question of Timing:

⁹ Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. ¹⁰ There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time.

Revelation 17:9-10

“Uh-Oh – This is going to be one of those really complicated articles, with massive time lines & sophisticated charts for the NWO!”

No, actually, just the reverse is true for this just happens to be one of those occurrences where the prophet recording the revelation is actually *told* where he was in time, at the moment of his writing—by an holy angel, no less.

In other words, the guess work is eliminated for the day in which the prophet was writing, before the NWO even came into being.. So if we (in the future, where the forecasts are being fulfilled) know the time or exact era in which the prophet lived, we can then get a very good estimate of where *we* are on the timeline.

In a day of nearly infinite guesses and, “I think this . . . or, that,” it really can be comforting to realize that Bible prophecy can seem quite

simple, don’t you think?

This is not to say that we can “leave our brains at the door” as we enter the room. No, Jesus clearly taught that God’s secrets are reserved for certain types of people (not brainiacs or geniuses, but persons having an earnest and sincere desire to know Him). Jesus said as much, when giving His parables. For example, when instructing the twelve disciples, Jesus was asked

about the parables (illustrations with symbols, etc.)—why use them, when speaking to the crowds? Jesus answered:

¹⁰ And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand.

Luke 8:10 (KJV)

On another occasion Jesus actually celebrated the use of

such illustrations, speaking to the Father, and saying:

²⁵ At that time Jesus answered and said, “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.”

Matthew 11:25

--Which really makes sense, does it not? For, in many ways such things are the “currency of

God reserves His treasures for those who reverence and fear Him . . .

Heaven” –and, in a cogent and working society, one does not simply throw out riches like it grows on trees, lest the economy crumble . . . God reserves *His* treasures for those who reverence and fear Him. This includes insights on the rise and fall of kings and empires. —As the prophet Daniel observed, after having received the answer to a dream given to a pagan king that actually *contained* a divinely ordained timeline:

. . . *"Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. ²¹ And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding.*

Daniel 2:20-21

And, as Solomon observed: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, a good understanding has everyone who does what God instructs us to do (~ Psalm 111:10). So, we may begin our treasure hunt in the timeline of John's Revelation, by first observing a similar distinguishing event in the prophet Daniel's day. We will then compare the two visions, take out our newspaper (or, perhaps, a good school textbook) to see if we can learn something about our own era, in this 21st century.

Daniel's interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream: (we will lay out the entire dream, this time, when we return to John's Revelation, we'll simply update the timeline.)

³¹ *"You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. ³² This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, ³³ its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. ³⁴ You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. ³⁵ Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.*

Daniel 2:31-35 [emphasis added]

In Daniel's interpretation, note that at the conclusion of the dream, a the stone was cut out of a mountain "without hands" (cf. verse 45ff) –and broke in pieces the magnificent statue, representing the ruling empires of the earth. In other words, Jesus the Christ would establish a Kingdom that is beyond this world, not made of brick and mortar or human engineering, that will ultimately prevail, and carry the saints into the future, forever. The four empires outlined in king Nebuchadnezzar's dream are:

1. Gold – Babylon (where Nebuchadnezzar was then reigning)
2. Silver – Media Persia
3. Bronze – The Grecian Empire
4. Iron & Iron & clay –Rome & its derivatives

You may notice that I have made use of a very, very, brief outline above, for a reason which will soon be apparent—for there was also an empire that *preceded* Babylon's rise, as we shall see.

To see the *completed* line up of world empires, within the Scriptures, we now return to the text quoted in the opening of our article. There, the beast that has often labeled as the NWO (the so called "New World Order") in the opening verses of the thirteenth chapter of John's Revelation—is given a time-line identifier.

A woman is described sitting upon this beast (or NWO) representing the total conglomerate of all false religions in the world. Specifically, she is called **Babylon: "the Mother of Harlots and of the Abominations of the Earth"** (Rev. 17:5). — How appropriate, to lump all false religions together, as the "Mother of Harlots..." —within this final section of The Book, entitled "The Revelation of Jesus Christ" which the Father gave to the Son, to show those who believe in Jesus—things soon to come (Rev. 1:1)! For God's Kingdom is not at war with individual underlings, and demons, but with the whole nasty lot of them, **led by Satan himself** (Rev. 12:9)!

What we are observing now, in the seventeenth chapter, is an angel giving John a brief synopsis of the seven headed beast upon which this "Mother of all wickedness" sits. (This is where, for the sake of

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How appropriate to lump all false religions together, as the "Mother of all Harlots..."..!

time & space, we must keep in mind the above summarized listing, from Daniel's dream, #s 1 - 4). The angel notes that there are *seven* total empires, with an extension for *the* Antichrist, who "is of the seven, and is going into perdition" (verse 11). In other words, *the* Antichrist's kingdom will one day vanish into ashes, like the devastated image that was ground to powder in Daniel's interpretation of the dream (in our discussion, above).

Now, follow with amazement:

Since the angel states that "five have fallen, one is, and the other is not yet come" (verse 10) we may assume that the "five kingdoms" mentioned *also include* the four already mentioned—along with *an empire preceding* Daniel's interpretation—reaching all the way back to Ancient Egypt. **Thus, here, in the final prophecy of the Bible, we have an enumeration of the entire history of world empires listed within the Holy Bible: Reaching from Genesis to Revelation.**

The fifth kingdom that "still is" (the Amplified Bible's translation of verse 10)—was Rome, where John was recording his vision.

Most interesting, for us, are the events scheduled to take place *after* the time of John's writing. For the angel stated that another Antichrist figure *was still to come* who must "continue for a short time" (the tail end of vs. 10). **This personage, whom we have outlined our earlier studies of the twelfth chapter of John's prophecy (in *When It Is Time*, for example)—was none other than Adolf Hitler.** This anti-Christ figure—who initiated WWII, was inspired by Hell with the ultimate purpose of *entirely wiping out all the Jews of the world* in an attempt to void God's Scripture & Bible prophecies, as they relate to God's ultimate purposes—"But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth" (Rev. 12:16)—i.e. **the systems of this world, in a rare move, rebelled against its ultimate master: the god of this world** (2 Cor. 4:4

AV)—to allow the nation of Israel to come back onto the world stage in 1948!!!
And Satan's response?

¹⁷ And the dragon was enraged with [Israel], and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 12:17

Ever heard of terrorists describing Israel as "the little satan" and the US as the "great satan"? Ah, that is what is going on in the back rooms of evil, as they are now prying open our borders, while

unleashing an insanity upon our world that is increasingly evident within our politicized Justice System!

Only the nation "with eagles wings" that is now having its wings of faith plucked (Daniel 7:4, Isa. 40:31), is standing in the way of the "eighth beast, who is of the seven"—the final Antichrist figure. In other words:

Here, in the final prophecy of the Bible, we are given an enumeration of the entire history of world empires . . . from Genesis to Revelation.

The United States of America, as it was founded, upon Judeo-Christian principles, is now standing in the way of the final closeout of the war of good vs. evil, within this age.

To make a long story short: The sleeping church (not to be confused with the "Confessing Church" which resisted Hitler) must now make a cogent decision: either to simply lay down and let the juggernaut of evil roll over our nation; or to seek to awaken fellow brethren within our churches early (Matt. 25:1-4)—to bring an extension of Light and Life to our world, for a little while longer (2 Peter 3:8-9).

⁴ But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. ⁵ You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. ⁶ Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.

1 Thessalonians 5:4-6 [emphasis added]

Amen.

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≡The Jewish Question≡

prophecy, we read a curious comment concerning how the peoples of the world will then (or *now*) be viewing the nation of Israel. Just prior to the Christ's returning, the opening of **Zechariah's twelfth chapter** begins:

... Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, . . . ² "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. ³ And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it."

Zechariah 12:1-3 [emphasis added]

A cup of drunkenness, to the nations of the world. How appropriate is this description, within today's political climate! -And the longer we continue to "handle" those issues involving Israel, the heavier the burden gets!

We might also point out that a serious precursor to the above events was also forecast by Jesus, within the 21st chapter of Luke's story about the life of Jesus (Luke's gospel). There, He foretold that the Jewish people would be scattered all over the world (while the gospel was being preached to every nation -Matt. 24:14) -and that Jerusalem would be trampled by Gentiles until *the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled* (Luke 21:24). Or, as the Jewish apostle Paul puts it:

²⁵ For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

Romans 11:25 [emphasis added]

By the way, within the 20th century, even some of the most revered Zionists (Zionists are persons who fervently believe in having a Jewish *state* within our world) did not believe that the nation of Israel would actually return to the original "Promised Land" bequeathed by the Lord. Theodor Hertzl, probably the most famous of these early Zionists, was actually considering a British proposal to settle in East Africa (a beautiful tract of land) — yet the Holy Bible states clearly, that Jerusalem would be "inhabited again in her own place— Jerusalem" (Zechariah 12:6). (Mr. Hertzl's remains, lay interred in Jerusalem, today.)

And a spiritual renewal of Israel? What of that? Did Jesus have something to say about that, as well? Those familiar with Bible prophecy may recall the fact that a well known sermon regarding end time events, is located within the gospel of Matthew: chapter twenty-four.

Perhaps we might note, as well, how the previous chapter happens to end. Jesus is speaking:

³⁷ "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"

³⁸ See! Your house is left to you desolate;

³⁹ for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' "

Matthew 23:37-39 [emphasis added]

Ah, yes, you say, "How depressing!"

Not so fast: Remember that 12th chapter of Zechariah? We were noting the fulfillment of Israel becoming that "burdensome stone" for all the nations of the world (vs. 3). Within the same chapter, verse ten, an amazing promise regarding Israel's future is given:

¹⁰ "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn."

Zechariah 12:10

Stay tuned, for we have not heard the last of Israel, or her Messiah Who was pierced, rose from the dead, and is soon to return!

How wonderful it would be, don't you think, to be ready to greet Christ as *our* Messiah, as well!

We may do so, by humbling ourselves like little children, to be born again, by praying something like this:

Lord Jesus, I acknowledge to You that I have sinned, and am a sinner—coming short of God's goodness and glory, in my life and actions.

Thank You for going to the Cross to die for my sins, and rising again to give me eternal life, with You!

Please forgive me, and help me to forgive others, as I make You the Lord of my life, today.

Amen.

†

What Must I Do?

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.”
Acts 16:31

How? . . . *If you will confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*

For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Romans 10:9,10

In Other Words

Acknowledge: your need

—as a sinner (Romans 3:23, II Cor. 5:14-15)

Accept: His work on the Cross —to be your Savior

Confess: your acceptance of His lordship over you.

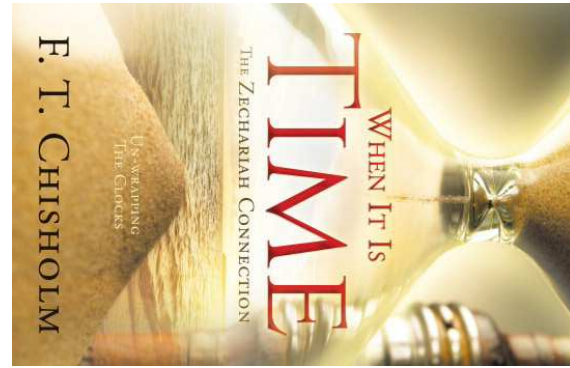
Live for Him: with your new life.

For the scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be ashamed.”

Romans 10:11

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A Comprehensive Approach

—to end time events

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ENDNOTES;

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The three clocks, found in Revelation 11 – 13, may be summarized as (1) diaspora (2) restoration (3) glorification. The last two of these “3½ clocks” compose Daniel’s seventieth week. The first . . . is the “gap” between the 69th & 70th. For a better explanation I suggest my latest book, “When It Is Time: The Zechariah Connection.” Available online @ Amazon.com etc. (paperback & ebook)

