

Now Concerning Spiritual Things
an historical account of one man's walk with God

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THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM
PART THREE

The first Adam was a perfect specimen. It is believed that he was created at about thirty years of age, the time when Jesus began His ministry.¹ Adam was originally without sin and was given complete authority (dominion) over a perfect earth.² He was created on the sixth day as the crowning glory of God's creation since he was created in God's [Our] image.³ That means, among other things, a triune God (Father, Son and the Holy Spirit) created a triune man (spirit, soul and body).⁴ Adam and Eve, originally called "man" (a singular collective noun meaning both male and female) by God, were first blessed and then told to be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over everything that lives in the water, moves on the earth and flies in the air. The first Adam "had it all." But God's promises to Adam were conditional upon obedience. He was promised blessings if he obeyed, curses if he disobeyed. ***God's promises are always conditional upon obedience.***

Then came Satan's temptation. And his temptation – his enticement – was along the line of learning or knowing something, in addition to the wisdom with which God had endowed Adam, from a source God had strictly forbidden. Adam chose evil against God's instruction because it was packaged attractively and his disobedience brought death. It still does. Obedience brings life. The evil one comes to bring death. Jesus comes to give life. God's wisdom is real. The wisdom of this world (the wisdom of the

¹Jesus began His ministry at about thirty years of age, see Luke 3:23. This was the age specified by God to Moses and Aaron when a Levite son could enter service to do the work in the tabernacle of meeting relating to the most holy things. See Numbers 4:3, 22, 35, 47. For this reason it is believed that Adam may have been created at about thirty years of age although this is not reflected by the biblical record.

²See Genesis 1:28.

³See Genesis 1:26-31.

⁴See Matthew 28:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:23.

enemy) is counterfeit. Disobedience brought God's curse upon God's creation: Satan, Eve, Adam and the earth.⁵ With disobedience, God's perfect creation of the earth and everything that lives and moves in the air, the water and on the earth began to change – and become radically different from God's original intent. These radical changes put on "hold" God's perfect plan for man and the earth that began in Eden. And I believe God's plan for man and the earth was thwarted for about six thousand years.

Six thousand years is a long time to correct a mistake. But it was first Satan's and then man's mistake, not God's, that needed correcting. God's plan was for man to have authority over the earth and to subdue it, that is to rule and have dominion over it.⁶ And that plan, once decreed by God could not be rescinded since what He says and does is Truth and truth cannot be changed. For this reason God's plan had to include the restoration of His original plan, i.e., the restoration of the earth and the restoration of His plan for a *man* to rule and reign over His creation. That plan of restoration was in place *before* man's fall, but was triggered into action *at* man's fall.⁷ I believe the time of God's original six-day creation may mirror or reflect His timing of the restoration of the earth in preparation for Christ (the second Adam) to come and rule and reign over the earth during the Millennium. I

⁵Read Isaiah chapter fourteen and Ezekiel chapter twenty-eight for the account of Satan's origin and fall. Isaiah fourteen begins with a proverb against the king of Babylon followed by the origin and fall of Satan (whose original name was Lucifer) from verses nine through twenty-three. In a similar fashion Ezekiel chapter twenty-eight starts out with a lamentation against the king of Tyre as an introduction to Satan, his origin and fall, as an anointed cherub of God, through the end of the chapter.

As a result of Adam's disobedience, see Genesis 3:14-19 for the curses pronounced upon Satan, Eve (and to all women) Adam (and to all men) and to the ground. Although unmentioned in these scriptures, the personality of the animal and reptile kingdom (and probably all other creatures of God's creation) changed beginning with the pronouncement of these curses.

⁶See Genesis 1:28.

⁷See Matthew 13:35; 25:34; Luke 11:50; John 17:24; Ephesians 1:4; Hebrews 4:3; 9:26; 1 Peter 1:20; Revelation 13:8.

offer this explanation:

The apostle Peter gives us a key: “But beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”⁸ God seems to have divided the time of man’s dominion on the earth into three segments of time: (1) two thousand years from Adam to Abraham, (2) two thousand years from Abraham to the cross and I believe (3) about two thousand years from the cross to the Millennium. Charles Capps gives an interesting explanation of the two days (or two thousand years) from the cross to the Millennium through the explanation of a parable. Here is a brief story of the parable told by Jesus:

On the road from Jerusalem to Jericho, a Samaritan found a man, who had been attacked by thieves, beaten, stripped, robbed and left half dead. By chance a Priest and a Levite⁹ both came down the same road, saw the man, looked at him, and passed by on the other side.¹⁰ But the Samaritan saw the man and with compassion, bound up his wounds pouring in oil and wine, put him on his own beast, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day when he departed, the Samaritan gave the inn keeper two denarii (two pence in the KJV), instructed the inn keeper to care for the wounded man and promised to repay him for any additional expense when he returned.¹¹

Here is Charles Capps’ explanation:

⁸2 Peter 3:8, KJV.

⁹Under the Law of Moses the priesthood was a perpetual inheritance, transmitted from father to son. After the Captivity, those who could not prove their descent from Aaron lost their privileges as priests. The corruption of the priesthood, by making their office a means of amassing wealth, and intriguing, in politics, for political power, hastened the ruin of the Jewish nation. (Smith’s Bible Dictionary, Revised Edition, p. 252)

Levites, descendants of Levi, who were not a privileged class, took part in the coronation of the king and installation of the high- priest. They did not work at trades, but received a tenth as tithes from the people, a part of which was given to the priests. Their duty was to instruct the people in the law, and to enable them to spread this knowledge through the land. (Smith’s Bible Dictionary, Revised Edition, p.181).

¹⁰I have wondered if the Levite was late for Synagogue and the Priest was on the way to a speaking appointment.

¹¹For the complete story of the good Samaritan, see Luke 10:25-37.

The Samaritan is Jesus,¹² the oil and wine represent the Holy Spirit and the cleansing blood of Jesus. In another parable Jesus defines the denarii (or penny) as the equivalent of one day’s wages.¹³ Therefore the two denarii left with the inn keeper was the equivalent of two days wages at the time Jesus told this parable. After *two days* Jesus would then return (representing the Rapture) to the inn (representing the Church) and pay the inn keeper all additional expenses incurred (the ransom or redemption price) during the Samaritan’s absence. Since one day is with the Lord as a thousand years and a thousand years as a day, these *two days* account for the third two-thousand-year increment of time before the Rapture, the trigger point for the seven-year tribulation culminated by Christ’s return to earth to begin His millennial reign.¹⁴

Dr. Perry F. Stone, Jr. has the following interesting insight into scripture concerning the soon return of the Lord:

“Psalm 102:16-18 teaches that the generation that sees Zion (Jerusalem) built up will see the Lord appear in His glory! David wrote, ‘This shall be written for the generation

¹²Only once is it recorded in the scripture that the legalistic Jews, looking for a way to entrap Jesus, in derision called Him a Samaritan and demon possessed, meaning a half-breed, or a low-life, as recorded by the apostle John with these words, “Then the Jews answered and said to Him, ‘Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?’” (John 8:48). This appears to be an accusation against the circumstances of the conception of Jesus in Mary’s womb. Mary became pregnant while engaged to Joseph before they were married. Upon discovering this Joseph began thinking about how to get out of this dilemma and call off the marriage since he knew that he was not the father. As he was pondering on what to do an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream explaining that Mary was impregnated by the Holy Spirit. Only then was Joseph contented to marry his already pregnant wife. People could count then as well as now and apparently realized that Mary was pregnant before she and Joseph were married. I believe that was the reason for the accusation against Jesus that he was a Samaritan and possessed by a demon or demons.

¹³See Matthew 20:2.

¹⁴For the complete story of this parable as explained by Charles Capps, I refer you to *his book, END TIME EVENTS*, published by Harrison House, Tulsa, Oklahoma, pp. 54-59.

to come.’ The Hebrew word *to come* is the word *acharon*, meaning *the end* or *the finale*. It refers to the last generation on earth that will literally see the return of Christ. The verse continues, ‘This shall be written for the generation to come (acharon) and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord’ (Psalm 102:18). The generation that sees Jerusalem built up will be the final generation and will also be a generation created to praise the Lord.’¹⁵

Jerusalem came under the control of Israel in 1967. Since according to the Psalmist, a bible generation is considered to be forty years,¹⁶ then the year 2007 could be a pivotal year for Christians. On a television program recently, I heard Dr. Stone give the time-frame of 2007-2008. Either way this is exciting to me since on November 10, 1998, the Lord gave me the date of May 7, 2007, as a pivotal date for a project I am working on concerning the rapture of the Church. There is no exact biblical time set for the date and hour of the Rapture. This is confirmed by Jesus Himself as recorded by Mark’s Gospel: “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”¹⁷ But I also know “Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.”¹⁸ In the light of this scripture, I fully expect God to reveal signs sufficiently to His servants the prophets so that the born-again believers who look forward with great anticipation to this *signal event* will be ready for that glorious day!

If you are not sure of your salvation, make sure of it by accepting Jesus as your personal Savior and Lord of your life today. This implies more than just going to Church and believing in God since even the demons believe and tremble.¹⁹ The “Salvation Ticket”

inclosed in several of my past letters gives a simple way be sure.

I will mention only one more of the signs (although there are many more) that the coming of the Lord is near. Concerning the end-time, Jesus said:

“For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and *earthquakes* in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.”²⁰

The United States Geological Survey, National Earthquake Information Center, Denver, Colorado, reported the following information from Data Control Search Statistics compiled on February 19, 1997.

There were 4,130 *earthquakes* in 1970 and 19,999 *earthquakes* in 1996. That’s an increase of 15,857 from 1970 to 1996!

Since my study of end-time events began about three years ago, from what I have learned there appears to be no catastrophic events such as devastating hurricanes, tornados, and earthquakes during the millennial reign of Christ. Because Satan and his angels will be bound during that one thousand years, I have wondered if he is not the cause of these catastrophic events. My thoughts have also taken me back to the garden of Eden before sin entered into the world. Before Adam’s sin I do not believe these catastrophic events contrary to man occurred. When Adam sinned, he surrendered the earth lease to Satan, about which I have written previously. That’s why Satan is called the god of this world.²¹ And that’s why the apostle John states that Jesus came to earth to destroy the works of the devil.²² The effect of sin and Satan on the whole creation is much greater than most of us realize, *but this*

¹⁵Perry Stone, *PICKING THE EAGLE’S WINGS*, Published by The International Office for the Voice of Evangelism, Cleveland, TN 37320, p.27.

¹⁶See Psalm 95:10.

¹⁷Mark 13:32.

¹⁸Amos 3:7.

¹⁹See James 2:19.

²⁰Matthew 24:7, 8.

²¹See 2 Corinthians 4:4.

²²See 1 John 3:8.

will be revealed and corrected during the Millennium.²³

The coming millennial age will be instituted to fulfill God's covenant. Dwight J. Pentecost writes of the millennium and Israel's covenants:²⁴

"This age (the Millennium) will see the complete fulfillment of all the covenants that God made with Israel. This kingdom on the earth is viewed as the complete fulfillment of these covenants, and that the millennial age is instituted out of necessity in order to fulfill the following covenants.

"1. *The Abrahamic covenant.* The promises in the Abrahamic covenant concerning the land and the seed are fulfilled in the millennial age. Israel's perpetuity, their possession of the land, and their inheritance of blessings are directly related to the fulfillment of this covenant.²⁵

"2. *The Davidic covenant.* The promises in the Davidic covenant concerning the king, the throne, and the royal house are fulfilled by the Messiah in the millennial age. The fact that Israel has a kingdom, over which David's Son reigns as King, is based on this Davidic covenant.²⁶

"3. *The Palestinian covenant.* The promises in the Palestinian covenant concerning the possession of the land are fulfilled by Israel in the millennial age. These footnote references to the possession of the land promise fulfillment of the Palestinian covenant.²⁷

"4. *The new covenant.* The promises of the new covenant of a new heart, the forgiveness of sin, the filling of the Spirit are fulfilled in the converted nation of Israel in the millennial age. All the spiritual blessings Israel receives are fulfillment of this covenant."²⁸

²³See Romans 8:22; Jeremiah 12:4, 11.

²⁴J. Dwight Pentecost, *THINGS TO COME*, PUBLISHED BY Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, pp. 476, 477.

²⁵See Isaiah 10:21, 22; 19:25; 43:1; 65:8, 9; Jeremiah 30:22; 32:38; Ezekiel 34:24, etc.

²⁶See Isaiah 11:1, 2; 55:3, 11; Jeremiah 23:5-8; 33:20-26; Ezekiel 34:23-25; 37:23, 24; Hosea 3:5; Micah 4:7, 8.

²⁷Isaiah 11:11, 12; 65:9; Ezekiel 16:60-63; 36:28, 29; 39:28; Hosea 1:10-2:1; Micah 2:12; Zechariah 10:6.

²⁸Jeremiah 31:31-34; 32:35-39; Ezekiel 11:18-20; 16:60-63; 37:26; Romans 11:26-29.

*A Prophetic Word For You and Me*²⁹

The following words were written during my prayer time the morning of February 22, 2000 after a day of fasting:

Thought for the morning: The self in you must die so the life of God may live in you.

Shortly after the above thought came, I was prompted to pick up my pen again and was given these words:

My son there is much work to do. You can best see to these needs by staying close to Me for then your guidance is assured. You need not be concerned about fulfillment of My mission for you for I AM the one who will see to that. Your task is to stay prayed up and available, desire Me and the guidance will come. Be bold, be strong and of good courage in all I direct you to do for only in that way will these things come to pass.

The thoughts you have on the things I have called you to do are My thoughts – My desires, for this is an essential part of My calling and election to all who come to Me. Your salvation, your guidance, your success, your prosperity is assured only as you come to Me as your Source for everything your heart desires, for this is My planned way for My poor world. But so few really come to Me for the sake of My relationship that I AM unable to bless them as I would like.

So come to Me, seek Me, long to be with Me for only then will you have success and prosper in all you do. These words I am speaking to you are for your admonition and for the benefit of those who get your letters. But remember you are My letter to My world. You are My letter to those with whom you come in contact. Only as you totally surrender to Me on a daily basis can I fulfill the purpose in your life. A life totally surrendered to Me is My letter to My poor world.

These words hit home to me. Too often I am guilty of hurrying to pray instead of hurrying to Him, the Source of our blessings.

. . . . more about the Millennium next time, the Lord willing.

²⁹The purpose of prophecy today is explained by the apostle Paul with these words, "But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men." (1 Corinthians 14:3).