

THE UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet;
but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God*

IN CHRIST JESUS.

(Philippians 3.13-14 NASB)

#02-08138

NOVEMBER 10, 2008

WHERE HAS PROSPERITY LED THE NATIONS?

As I have shared in other issues, the global financial banking system is under judgment, and I believe the political system of the US is coming under judgment, to be followed by all systems associated with **mystery Babylon** that essentially affect every area of life throughout the nations of the world. Babylon is **a counterfeit kingdom** to the kingdom of our Lord and of His (God's) Christ. Mystery Babylon is comprised of **manmade systems** built on **foundations of sand** that cannot and will not withstand the shaking that has come and will continue to come until heaven announces the arrival of **the kingdom of Christ** (Revelation 11.15) and the manifestation of **the conquerors** that will reign with Christ.

Keep in mind that what is coming is a good thing; it is glorious. It is not doomsday. However, according to God's word, on the road to the coming kingdom, there will be shaking; how we respond to this shaking will depend on our kingdom view and whether we have faith in the One who is Faithful and True.

But now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I am shaking not only the earth, but also the heaven." [Haggai 2.6] Now the [phrase] "Yet once more" clearly shows the removal of the [things] being shaken, as of [things] having been created, so that the [things] not being shaken shall remain. For this reason, [since we are] receiving an unshakable kingdom, let us be having grace, through which we are sacredly serving God in an acceptable manner, with reverence and godly fear. For indeed our God [is] a consuming fire [or, [is] as to His essence consuming fire]. [Exodus 24.17; Deuteronomy 4.24] (Hebrews 12.26-29 ALT)

I continue to believe that we are to watch the next two years; more crises are to come. Some of us might get some of the details wrong along the way, but we can stand on the word of God that shaking is required since we are receiving an unshakable kingdom. It takes time to shake things created.

In the days ahead, we need to keep a few points in mind. *First*, we must realize that the news media and politicians will drive what they consider relevant to their worldview, which is, more than not, driven by the spirit of this world (humanism, relativism), as well as the spirit of antichrist. Simply, there will be days when we will not truly know whether we are hearing the truth about the current state of affairs. *Second*, the issue is not a worldwide recession, depression, or even a surge in prosperity. The world has experienced all of these. The issue is the fall of mystery Babylon and the coming of the kingdom of our Lord. *Third*, we are near the end of our present wicked eon (age), so we must accept that things are going to change, perhaps even dramatically. Our God is a consuming fire, and He will consume all that is not of His kingdom. *Fourth*, we must cling to our Lord, be patient, have grace, and serve Him with reverence and godly fear, something that is lacking among the leaders of the nations.

As I have written elsewhere, the leaders of the nations must be viewed as Babylonian leaders, and as such, they do not know the ways of God or, more specifically, the ways of the kingdom of God. They are ruling according to man's ways, not God's ways. Apart from the leaders of the world declaring that Jesus is God's King over the nations and seeking His face for answers to the many perplexing problems of humanity, we should not expect them to change their ways. Rather, they will seek ways to continue the many systems that affect us all and, frankly, keep us in bondage. This is why they are striving to prop up and save the current **global financial banking system based on usury and credit** that goes against one of God's divine laws. They do not see a better way because they have been yoked to the current system and have been seduced to **become rich by the wealth of her sensuality** (Revelation 18.3). I believe God has purposely blinded them. Recently, the Lord spoke to me: **"It is the blind leading the**

blind, and they will all fall into a pit"; and then **"When the bell tolls,"** signifying that some kind of death is coming. It is interesting that the Stock Market closes with the ringing of a bell. The entire global financial banking system is built on a foundation of sand that cannot and will not withstand the shaking of God. It will collapse under the weight of its debt.

Something that might be overlooked is that the Lord Himself has yoked us to mystery Babylon. In other words, it is the Lord's doing. After all, it was the Lord who yoked ancient Israel to Babylon due to their rebellion. Rather than follow the ways of God, they chose to follow the ways of the nations around them. But what happened while under Babylonian captivity? Those in captivity actually thrived to the point that when the call went out to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the wall, many remained behind. Why? Life was pretty good for them. By the way, those who remained behind in Jerusalem and, in a sense, refused to go into captivity or be yoked to Babylon did not fare as well.

If you agree that we are yoked to Babylon, then you must also agree that we have fared pretty well under this yoke. After all, we have lived during a time of great prosperity and advancement in our standard of living. The achievements of mankind in the last 100 years are truly amazing, and this was accomplished in the absence of the leaders of the world declaring that God's Son is the rightful heir of the earth and King of the nations. At the cross of Calvary, the nations were in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing, that is, they purposed to kill the Son of God, the rightful heir of the nations. The kings of the earth took their stand and the rulers took counsel together against the Lord and against His Anointed. They sought to cut the cords of God attached to them. Simply, they sought to cut all connection to God (read Psalm 2). But this same spirit has continued throughout the 200 centuries since Calvary and is prevalent in mystery Babylon that says in her heart: **"I sit as a queen and I am not a widow, and will never see mourning"** (Revelation 18.7 NASB). Today, the mention of God in some nations is more like lip service, and in others, there is outright refusal to have anything to do with God in the affairs of state. How does God answer such a thing?

"But as for Me, I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain. I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.'" Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; take warning, O judges of the earth. Worship the LORD with reverence and rejoice with trembling. Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him! (Psalm 2.6-12 NASB)

While in Babylonian captivity, the nations of the earth have prospered, especially the US. The Lord has blinded us to this captivity as He has blessed and prospered us. I realize that there are some, perhaps many, who will disagree with this thought. After all, the prosperity teaching of our day says that we can demand God to prosper us; all we need is the right type of faith and boldness. Don't take me wrong; I am not against prosperity or wealth. In fact, I greatly appreciate what we have and that we are living during the most prosperous time in the history of mankind, except perhaps Adam's first 33 years. I thank God for what we have. I would not have wanted to live even 100 years ago.

But here is the point: The prosperity that we have experienced is the mercy of God while under captivity, but prosperity has not led the nations to acknowledge **God's Son as the Heir and King of the nations**. In the US, a major push has been underway since the 1960's to push God out of the affairs of state, and during these nearly-fifty years, the prosperity we have experienced has been unprecedented. And yet, any mention of the name of Jesus in government is often met with disdain and threats of legal action. As a point of interest, the nations of the European Union have prospered as well, and yet, they have purposely excluded any reference to God from their charter.

I want to leave you with a thought. At the end of the age, the nations under Babylonian captivity **have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality** (Revelation 18.3). At the end of the age, the church of Laodicea, as heard by the Lord Jesus, says: **"I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing"** (Revelation 3.17). The source of the wealth for the nations and the church has been one and the same, and the result has been one and the same! It is time to repent and buy from the Lord.