

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)

#02-08156

DECEMBER 17, 2008

WHO IS THE LIAR? #2

'I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich), and the blasphemy by those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. ... 'Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you.' (Revelation 2.9; 3.9 NASB)

"But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (Revelation 21.8 NASB)

In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed; and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. (Revelation 21.25-27 NASB)

As stated in the first issue, the above verses have one thought in common, and it deals with lying and being excluded from entering the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ in the next eon, as well as New Jerusalem in the following eon, which Peter called the day of God (2 Peter 3.12).

The verb *lie* means "to utter an untruth or attempt to deceive by a falsehood." The person who makes it a practice to lie or to deceive by falsehood is a *liar*, one who deceives. But who are these liars as recorded by John?

First, by the word of the Lord Jesus, they are the ones that claim to be Jews but are not Jews. But what does this mean? I realize that many read this and think that these ones are liars because they are not descendants of Jacob according to the flesh. In other words, they are liars because they claim to be Jews according to the flesh when they are not. Actually, it is just opposite; they are, in truth, descendants of Jacob, and because of this, they are liars. Let me explain.

The ones that call themselves Jews because of their flesh and outward form of religion are not true Jews in the mind of God. They are liars, for they continue to hold to Moses and reject God's Son, the Christ, the "Anointed One" or Messiah, while they claim that they worship God the Father. One day, they will bow to the ones who are the true Jews, the ones who have circumcised hearts and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. The only ones who can rightfully make this claim today are Christians; they are the spiritual Jews. So, I offer a word of caution to those who believe the Jews according to the flesh are God's chosen people and covenanted to God apart from God's Son. There is only one way to the Father, and all other ways are false; and all who claim such a privilege apart from the Son are liars.

God is spirit, and all that God purposes to do is in spirit. If ancient Israel had grasped this principle as they stood at the base of Mount Sinai as the Lord came down upon the mountain in a fire of glory, things would have turned out much differently for them. But, it was not in God's plan that they would understand the spiritual principles at work at that time. Consequently, it was God's intention that they fail. I realize that this is a difficult thing for some to grasp, so I refer you to my book *The Purpose and Plan of the Eons*, Volume 1, Chapter 8, *Locks Up All Together In Stubbornness*.

They will remain liars as long as they reject God's Son. I believe that this is an unchangeable fact. In John's day, as well as in Paul's day, there were many so-called Jews according to the flesh that rejected Jesus as the Anointed One and continually challenged the apostles, especially Paul who called them false brethren (Galatians 2.4). Paul leveled the most serious charges against the Jews in his epistle to the Thessalonians. The Jews, who both killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and who drove Paul and company out, were not pleasing to God, but hostile to all men (1 Thessalonians 2.14-16). These are the liars, and all who claim the name of Jew and look down upon the rest of mankind that are not of their kind, calling them dogs, are liars.

In our day, Christians that say they love the Jews according to the flesh actually are not expressing their love for them, unless they share with them the truth about the Messiah that they reject and that their ancestors killed. How else are they to be made jealous (Romans 11.11)? Unfortunately, there are some preachers who say they love the Jews and are very close to them but have chosen not to mention the name of Jesus while in their presence. Why? Because they believe that they are a people covenanted to God strictly on the basis of their flesh and that this covenant has not been broken. However, read what Paul had to say about those that are the sons by the bondwoman (Galatians 4.21-31). "**Cast out the bondwoman and her son.**" If you love these people according to the flesh, then tell them of Jesus! Otherwise, they will remain liars.

Second, in reference to entering New Jerusalem, it appears that all unbelievers are liars. Why? Because Christ is the Truth and they reject the Truth; consequently, they are living a falsehood, which is a lie. Anyone who rejects the truth of God is a liar because they have accepted a lie and are living in the light of this lie. This lie says that Jesus is not the Son of God and the Anointed One. Consequently, lying about God's Son is a very serious matter to God the Father.

Now, I don't want to leave you on this note, as if it is all bad news, for there is truly good news, even for the liar.

At the end of the next eon, the millennial kingdom of Christ, the dead that were not resurrected in the first resurrection, believers who did not conquer and all unbelievers, will face the great white throne to be judged according to God's fiery law. The believers will be **saved, yet so as through fire** (1 Corinthians 3.15). The unbelievers, that is, all liars, must be taught righteousness as they make restitution for their transgressions and are purged of all unrighteousness and sin, as their fleshly works go into what is called *the second death*. They will be saved through the fiery law of God (lake of fire) (see Deuteronomy 4.36; 33.2-3; Psalm 29.7; Isaiah 4.4). Be assured, they too will one day come out of this spiritual fire (Romans 7.14) of judgment and enter into the joy of the Lord. We are not told how long such ones will be in this state of judgment, but we do know that one day it will end, for we know that the last enemy, death, will be abolished (1 Corinthians 15.26).

Some claim that this refers only to believers raised from among the dead at the end of our present eon. But how could this be if there are a vast throng of people experiencing a second type of death during God's day? Death is death, even if the first death (of the physical body) is different from the second death (of works of the flesh). In other words, death in all its forms, even the second death, must be abolished.

Until such time as all liars make full restitution for their evil works, they will reside outside of New Jerusalem; but this is not for eternity, because even the second death must one day be abolished, and until it is, Scripture is not fulfilled and Christ will not have fulfilled His mission.

The good news is that a day will come when all types of death will end, and all mankind from Adam to the last human born on earth will be made alive in Christ, **for in Adam all are dying, thus also, in Christ, shall all be vivified** (made alive) (1 Corinthians 15.22 CV). In Christ, no one is a liar! Praise God!