

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)

#03-0953

A Hammer Which Shatters A Rock #7

April 5, 2009

“Is not My word like fire?” declares the LORD, “and like a hammer which shatters a rock?” (Jeremiah 23:29)

“Thus saith the Lord, ‘I have lifted up a hammer over the United States and I am about to strike at the very heart of the nation,’”

Well, it is time to bring this series to a close. As I reviewed the previous six issues, I sensed that it would help if I summarized the series simply by listing some of the main points of what has been presented, along with some further thoughts. Perhaps, this will be useful in the coming days as the will of God is done on earth as it is in heaven. As you consider what has been presented, please bear in mind that this interpretation might require some adjustment as events unfold and the Lord gives more light.

1. The hammer is the word of the Lord spoken from the throne of God, which is the throne of judgment.
2. The heart of the nation is the capital of the US, Washington, DC, which is representative of the government and all that is associated with it. The seat of government directs the life of the nation in practically every sphere imaginable through its laws, regulations, and policies. The founding fathers of the Federal government did not intend the government to intrude into every aspect of the lives of its citizens, but, unfortunately, this is what has happened. This is why the Lord must strike at the heart of the nation, which can be likened to the head of the nation as well. The whole head is sick, and the whole heart is faint; from the sole of the foot even to the head, there is nothing sound in it (Isaiah 1:5-6b).
3. The government is driven by many things, but, most notably, it is driven by a political system that has become a cord of falsehood (corruption) that has been attached to the American people. The cord of falsehood is being exposed through the current so-called economic crisis. In particular, the crisis is exposing the immorality, hypocrisy, lies, arrogance, injustices, greed, and hunger for power that permeate the system(s) that directs the lives of Americans every day. The proof of this has become more and more apparent in what we have seen come out of Washington and Wall Street in the last few months.
4. The word of the Lord has spoken against this falsehood. It has been judged and will be shattered. It does not mean that the nation per se is going to be shattered. It means that the sickness of the nation is going to be removed in order for healing and revival to come.
5. The heart of the nation is a reflection of the condition of the church-at-large, so healing and revival must come to the church as well. In fact, it must start with the church, especially that which has not been holding to the true Head of the ecclesia, which is His body.
6. A day is coming when the Lord will send forth His conquerors (overcomers) to proclaim His word to the leaders of America, not only to the political leaders but also to the Christian leaders, especially those who have been preaching **the leavened word of the kingdom** and have been wed to the very system that is being shattered. All that is false that has had the name of the Lord attached to it must be shaken, along with the rest of the world, until what remains is of the character and nature of the kingdom that cannot be shaken. If it is not of Christ, it will not stand in the days ahead. After all, judgment begins with the household of God. The sending forth of the conquerors will be similar to when the Lord sent forth His disciples (Matthew 10:5-23; Luke 10:1-20). By the way, this will not be restricted just to the US, for surely the Lord is raising up a worldwide company to go forth to the nations.

7. A major crisis is coming that will finally bring mankind to its knees, especially the leaders of the US. This crisis will reveal that they have no wisdom or knowledge to resolve the crisis. It will be beyond man's ability to solve. It is the midst of this crisis that leaders will hear the word of the Lord and begin to repent and turn to the Lord for answers, which the conquerors will have. This crisis could be an extension of the current one, only on a much more dramatic level; it could be an off-shoot, which is triggered by the current economic crisis; or it could be an entirely new type of crisis. Regardless, we can be assured that it will be a crisis tailored to accomplish the word of the Lord that will not return to Him empty.

8. In the midst of the crisis, the word of the Lord will go forth to shatter all the lofty thoughts and intentions of hearts that have stood against the knowledge of God. Every stronghold and fortress will be shattered so that the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ will begin to take root among the nations.

9. The Lord's plan is to change hearts through the sword of His word. His plan is not to destroy physical flesh through the sword of man that kills the body. This does not mean that there will not be any bloodshed along the way, but the real work of the Lord is in hearts.

10. There is another dynamic or force at work in our hour, and that pertains to mystery Babylon, which, in its own right, is likened to a hammer. During ancient times, Babylon was a hammer to the nations of the world as it overtook them and brought them under its control. The most notable example is the Judahite nation that was captured and deported to Babylon in 604 BC. Actually, the whole world was brought into Babylonian captivity with Nebuchadnezzar and has never been released. It may have changed names over the centuries, but the very heart of Babylon has not changed, so that, at the very end of our age, we are told that mystery Babylon is in power. This is confirmed in Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the great statue that is struck by the stone that becomes a great mountain and fills the whole earth. Of course, this is the stone kingdom or the kingdom of Christ (Daniel 2:31-35), and Revelation 18 is about the demise of this statue, the counterfeit to God's kingdom. Babylon is described as a harlot and the great city that has seduced the whole world through wealth. The heart of this great city is filled with immorality. It is driven by **the spirit of the world and of antichrist**.

11. Although the Lord is going to strike the heart of the United States, we must realize that, over 95 years ago, the US was yoked to the global financial banking system that is part of the financial beast of mystery Babylon that is being shaken across the globe. In 1913, President Wilson signed into law the Federal Reserve System, a private banking cartel. When the word of the Lord goes forth, speaking to the heart of the nation, it not only will deal with the heart of man but also with the heart of mystery Babylon, which, when its final day comes, will fall swiftly and decisively, never to rise from the ashes.

12. Some might ask: If what you state is true, then what about the tribulation, the antichrist, blood flowing up to the bridles of the horses, etc, etc? Well, I believe that we are in the tribulation, and we are close to the end of the age. For far too long, Christians have been taught the Bible, especially the book of Revelation, with a physical sword in hand rather than with the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God. In other words, Scripture has been interpreted as if the Lord needs to wield the physical sword that man uses to kill. Paul wrote to the Corinthians that they were babes in Christ; they were looking at things through the natural mind and not the mind of Christ, which is spiritual. Paul protested: **But we have the mind of Christ** (see 1 Corinthians 2:12-3:3a). The Corinthians were still fleshy, like the flesh of a baby. Unfortunately, this is the condition of much of the church-at-large in these last days. We must know the things of the spirit of God, and this requires that we appraise all things, combining spiritual with spiritual. As such, there are other ways to interpret the book of Revelation, and one way to appraise it is **spiritual to spiritual**, that is, to interpret it for what it symbolizes. When it is approached in this manner, along with the history of, at least, the last 2,000 years, it becomes apparent that we are closer to the end than most realize, and Revelation 18 takes on much more prominence.

Well, I conclude with this 12th point, which seems to be most appropriate considering that the number **12** refers to **divine government**. The Lord's hammer will bring God's divine government to the nations of this earth. Praise God! May the Lord's "about" be sooner and not later!