

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)

#04-1044

News: The Stone is Striking

April 29, 2010

It has been a while since I have offered some comments on current events, both in the realm of the natural and the kingdoms of men. There is so much happening every day that it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep up with it, let alone assess and discern the meaning of it all. It seems that the realm of the natural is being shaken from one end of the globe to the other, and the lawless realm of the kingdoms (nations and systems) of men is being shaken as well, resulting in confusion.

Listening to the news and the talk shows, it is apparent that there are enough opinions on any one event or subject to make one's head spin. Some events, or even the possibility of an event happening, seem to put fear or instability in the hearts of men and cause them to react or take action that at best is illogical or misguided, at worst is lunacy, and in between is deviously shrewd or evil. This is particularly acute in the US political realm as the leaders of the political system, along with the leaders of the banking and investment system (Wall Street), who are all in bed with one another in one way or another, are driven by **hypocrisy, lies, perverted justice, lawlessness, corruption, greed**, and an insatiable appetite for **power, control, and self-aggrandizement** ("to make self appear great; to enhance the power, wealth, position, or reputation of self"). Have I left anything out?

Stepping back from it all, it seems that the best way to sum it all up is with the word *babel*, which means "confusion," which is the hallmark of **Mystery Babylon** itself. The result is that the world has truly moved into a state of lawlessness, even as it weighs itself down with law upon law. But this should not surprise us, for the Lord Jesus Himself warned that at the end of the age **because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold** (Matthew 24:12).

Now, writing on current events is interesting, but frankly, there is no lack of reporting in this regard and there are many good sources we can draw upon to keep informed. My goal in reporting on some of the events is to reveal how they fit in with the prophetic word of God, **the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts** (2 Peter 1:19 NASB).

Here are a few verses that come to mind to explain or sum up some, if not most, of what is transpiring in our day.

"Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heavens." (Hebrews 12:26 NASB)

"Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth." (Daniel 2:35 NASB)

(9) "And the kings of the earth, who committed acts of immorality and lived sensuously with her, will weep and lament over her when they see the smoke of her burning, (10) standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come.' ... (19) "And they threw dust on their heads and were crying out, weeping and mourning, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has been laid waste!' (20) "Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her."
(Revelation 18:9-10, 19-20 NASB)

“In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever.” (Daniel 2:44 NASB)

(18) ‘But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come.’ ... (22b) ... the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom. (Daniel 7:18, 22b NASB)

Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.” (Revelation 11:15 NASB)

For further understanding of these verses, please see issues #02-0875 through #02-0877, July-August, 2008, *Babylon, The Great City*; #02-0884 through #02-0886, May 2008, *The Stone Became A Great Mountain*, as well as article #9, May 2008, *A Mystery, the Great City Babylon*.

Simply, we are living in exciting times as we witness **the fall of Mystery Babylon** and **the rise of the Kingdom of Christ**, and these verses explain the times. I strongly believe that there is not much time left on the clock for our present wicked eon (age). It is about to expire so that the kingdom of our Lord can finally be unequivocally and irrefutably manifested among the nations through the Lord’s called and chosen conquerors.

“To the one conquering, to him will I be granting to be seated with Me on My throne as I, also, conquer, and am seated with My Father on His throne.” (Revelation 3:21 CV)

In these last days, I believe it is vital we understand that the fourth or last kingdom of our age is not a revived Roman Empire that is yet to come, as so many have been taught, but is Mystery Babylon that the world is enslaved to now. In a sense, Babylon is the kingdom of men that has not ceased to exist since Nimrod first formed his kingdom of Babel (Babylon). The mystery is that Babylon has seduced all the nations by her sensuality and lust for power and wealth, and that the inhabitants of the world, especially Christians, have no clue that they are living in the midst of Babylon and are slaves to it.

Daniel’s interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream identifies the first kingdom (the head of gold) as **Babylon**, the second kingdom (the breast and arms of silver) as **Medo-Persia**, and the third kingdom (the belly and thighs of bronze) as **Greece** (Daniel 8:19-20), but it fails to specifically identify by name the fourth and last kingdom (the legs of iron and the feet partly of iron and partly of clay). Surely, the Roman kingdom followed Greece and fits the description of the legs and feet, but the last of it fell in the 15th century AD, and the Holy Roman Empire ended in the 19th century AD. Besides, John’s Revelation specifically identifies the last worldwide kingdom as **Mystery Babylon** (Revelation 18), a **harlot city** (a seductive beast system driven by the wealth of her sensuality) that reigns over all the kingdoms of men or, if you will, that sits as the king of kings, not to be confused with the King of kings.

Daniel 2:35 states that the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold, which are representative of these four worldwide empires, will be crushed all at the same time by the **Stone Kingdom**, which is **the kingdom of our Lord**. If they are crushed by the Stone at the same time, then elements of these ancient kingdoms, including the Roman kingdom, must exist in some measure at the end of our age. Given this thought, we should expect to see some indication of this by significant events occurring in the modern-day equivalents or regions of these ancient kingdoms, and we do.

Iraq (Babylon) is struggling to form a new government or else face chaos. **Iran** (Persia) is rattling the nuclear saber, creating international uncertainty and confusion over what to do about it. **Greece** is weighed down with sovereign debt and needs to be bailed out by other EU nations, which if not done could lead to a collapse of the global financial beast system and to chaos and utter confusion in the streets. By definition, *Babylon* means “confusion,” and this is what we see increasing in our day.

We could add to this list the civil and criminal investigations into **Goldman Sachs**, one of the largest and most successful investment banks in the world that some believe played a major role in bringing about the global financial crisis of 2008. It is no coincidence that the word *gold* is in its name. Prophetically speaking, Goldman represents the head of gold. It seems clear that we are witnessing the Stone Kingdom striking the Babylonian kingdom that must and will fall. Chaff it will be!