

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)

#05-1130

February 10-11— Prophetic Dates

February 12, 2011

In the last issue (#05-1129), I noted that the dates of February 10-11 have prophetic significance in the unfolding of God's divine plan that will lead to the establishment of the kingdom of His Son on the earth.

Zechariah declared: **And the LORD will be king over all the earth: in that day will there be one LORD, and his name one** (Zechariah 14:9 WEB). This glorious day is the longing of all who love the appearing of the Lord (2 Timothy 4:8) and have set their hearts on seeking first His kingdom and His righteousness.

Why God has chosen February 10-11 as significant dates in His divine plan, I am not entirely clear, but what I do know is that they are in His plan and need to be marked on our calendars for the upcoming years.

One thought that has come to me is that the number of days (exclusive of the last date) between February 10 and September 8 is 210 days, which is a number associated with Jacob's trouble. By the way, calculating the days starting with February 11 (inclusive of the last date) is 210 days, so the number 210 appears in whichever combination one chooses. See issue #03-09126, May 28, 2009, *Jacob's Distress: 21 & 210-Year Cycles*.

I chose the date of September 8 because this appeared in a dream I had on June 26, 2003 that seemed to be of the Lord. I have mentioned it frequently in my writings, so I won't repeat it here. See issue #04-10118, September 8, 2010, *September 8, Wednesday – Dream*.

But, I will state that the year 2021 is the next year in which September 8 appears on a Wednesday. Further, September 8, 2021 will be 20 years and 7 months (nearly 21 years) from when I first heard "**little by little**" on February 10, 2001. I am intrigued by how the number 21 seems to be interwoven into what the Lord has spoken to me.

Did the nations enter into a period of Jacob's distress starting in 2000-2001? After all, 2001 was marked by the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, which led to major wars on two fronts (Iraq and Afghanistan). Then, 7 years later, in 2007-2008, the nations entered into a devastating economic/financial crisis that continues to our day, in spite of all the political hype to the contrary.

I have wondered if these 21 years are broken down into 3 periods of 7 years: 2001-2008, 2008-2015, and 2015-2022, or 2000-2007, 2007-2014, and 2014-2021, or an overlap of the two sets. This is only speculation at this point; however, if it is close to true, then we could expect another great event in 2014-2015. We can personally testify that, in our own lives, the Lord has been working in 7-year periods (1993-2000, 2000-2007), and most likely, if this continues, we will see another major turn of events in 2014.

If we consider Jacob's time with Laban, it too is broken down into periods of 7's. Jacob complained to Laban that he had served 14 years for his two daughters and 6 years for his flock, as Laban changed his wages 10 times. The extra year is accounted for in the time it took Jacob to travel away from Laban to Shechem in the land of Canaan. One could argue that Jacob's distress lasted for 20-21 years. Jacob called this period of his life a time of affliction and toiling of his hands (Genesis 31:42).

However, Jacob had another period of 21 years, another time of distress. This was the number of years that he was separated from his favorite son Joseph, who he had presumed was dead. It was a time of deep anguish of his soul: "**Surely I will go down to Sheol mourning for my son**" (Genesis 37:35).

Of course, the good news for Jacob was that his son was not only alive but also a great blessing to the Egyptian people and, ultimately, to Jacob and his sons.

Now, in the last issue, I also noted that God is taking possession of the earth **little by little** as He shakes all things that can be shaken until only **the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ** (Revelation 11:15) remains. Just as He told the sons of Israel that He would not drive out all the enemies in Canaan all at once but little by little, until they became fruitful and took possession of the land (Exodus 23:29-30), so the Lord is doing with His conquerors who are being raised up as sons of God to rule and reign with Him on earth and among the celestials in the age to come.

Simply, for those called and chosen to be glorified sons of God in the Tabernacles Age, this present period of the last days is a time of preparation. We are to be learning to lean not on our own understanding but on the Lord Himself as our very trust, knowing that He is taking possession of the earth and its nations little by little or, if you like, a piece at a time. Of course, this takes vision and understanding of God's divine plan and purpose, that is, **the eonian purpose of God** (Ephesians 3:11 CV).

I believe that this is the significance of the word "**little by little**" that the Lord gave me 10 years ago on February 10, 2001. It has been 10 years, and, as we look back upon those years, without a doubt, it has been a period of great shaking, as if the earth and its nations are in childbirth.

Interestingly, I heard a broadcaster yesterday state that it seemed that the Middle East was about to give birth to something, but he asked: "What is it?" During another broadcast, I heard him state that this was the beginning of **a new world order**, and he did not see it as a good one either. As the West, in their naivety, proclaim it is all about freedom and democracy, it may be nothing of the sort. There is reason to think this way.

After all, on **February 11, 1979**, the regime of the **Shah of Iran** completely collapsed in what is called the **Iranian Revolution**, which led to an Islamic state under Sharia law. Exactly 32 years later, on February 11, 2011, the regime of **Hosni Mubarak** has completely collapsed in what is called the **Egyptian Revolution** or the **Revolution of Rage**. Will Egypt end up as an Islamic state as well? Time will tell. However, based on Scripture, it appears that Egypt has a much more glorious destiny in the age to come. They will become the Lord's people. This is taken up in the next issue.

This cannot be a coincidence; it must be the hand of some unseen force at work. Whether it is the hand of man conspiring to gain control, or the hand of the world forces of darkness, the spiritual forces of wickedness among the celestials (Ephesians 6:12), or God Himself directly intervening, we can be sure of one thing: It is all part of God's plan to bring about His purpose in His time and in His way. God is Sovereign! **The Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth be silent before Him** (Habakkuk 2:20).

To conclude, I want to return to the question of what kind of birth might be taking place in the world-at-large. Joseph became alive to his father after 21 years and became a blessing to his family as they were all reunited. Joseph is a type of **the conquerors** who will possess the land (immortal bodies) and become a blessing to all the nations and families of the earth. The Lord has been working in what could be called the Joseph Company, conforming them to His image "little by little." You see, this word has an individual application for the conquerors. It is about taking possession of our eonian inheritance little by little, until we are manifested in the image of the Son of God.

Today, the called and chosen of God are groaning, along with creation itself, to give birth to the man child, **the immortal and glorified sons of God** (Romans 8:18-23). Are we headed toward this glorious event? Most definitely! Could the groaning continue and intensify in the next 10 years leading up to 2021-22? Most likely! Could it come about sooner? We can only pray that it will! Could it be longer? Oh, Lord, no! I would rather be transfigured into our heavenly, redeemed body and see the Lord sooner than later. Wouldn't you? Oh, Lord, come!