

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)

#02-0872

JULY 4, 2008

THE END HAS COME?

The following was actually written in April of this year, but I have hesitated posting it out of a concern that it might be a premature word. Sharing on the end has come is a very serious matter and one that can be easily misinterpreted. However, from the start, let me be clear that this is not about the end of the world or Armageddon. The end is about a great new beginning. It is good news!

Since January 2, 2007, I have heard on at least four different occasions the word **“the end has come.”** I have previously testified that the first time I heard this was in connection with a dream about people buying and selling running shoes, specifically Nikes. With this dream, which came around 2.52 am, I heard, “It is finished; the race is over.” On **August 8, 2007**, I heard the specific word “the end has come,” and then on **September 27, 2007**, at 2.45 am, I heard it again, only with slightly different wording: “It has come, the end.” I have hesitated to share on this matter in a direct way, since the Lord does not always reveal the depths of what He has spoken, at least initially. I have learned that His words can mean something we had not considered or that His timing can be quite different from what we expect. Events can be something manifested in heaven, waiting to be manifested on the earth; they can also progress over time, being manifested in part until all the parts fall into place. Also, we can be tempted to misinterpret the word. Simply, when we believe we have heard from the Lord, we must proceed with some measure of caution.

Nevertheless, I am sharing this word at this time, for, perhaps, there will be a witness to it through what others have heard. But there is another reason to share this now. **On March 27, 2008**, at 2.45 am, I was awakened with the word again: “The end has come.” This came exactly 6 months after and at the exact same time in the morning as the last word I heard on September 27, 2007. The number *six* is the number of man, as well as man’s wisdom and labor. I am not sure why the exact hour of 2.45 am, except that the number *two* can refer to “division” or to “a witness” and testimony”; the number *45* refers to “preservation,” that is, “the power of God in preserving His saints.” Division most assuredly will come at the end of our eon, and the testimony of God will go forth through His saints. Also, a good indication of the meaning of the number *45* is found in Joshua 14.10, where Caleb declared that the Lord had kept him alive for 45 years so that he could enter the land of promise. It seems appropriate in light of “the end has come,” for God will preserve His saints through whatever transpires as the end unfolds so that they will be prepared to enter into their land of promise, which refers to being transfigured into new celestial, glorified bodies in fulfillment of the Feast of Tabernacles. Interestingly, September 27, 2007 was the beginning of the Feast of Tabernacles.

When I first heard the specific words “the end has come,” I questioned: Is this word found in Scripture, and if so, in what context? The answer is yes, and it is recorded in Ezekiel in reference to the land of Israel. Part of this section of Scripture is presented with the relevant parts underlined.

Moreover, the word of the LORD came to me saying, “And you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD to the land of Israel, ‘An end! The end is coming on the four corners of the land. Now the end is upon you, and I will send My anger against you; I will judge you according to your ways and bring all your abominations upon you. For My eye will have no pity on you, nor will I spare you, but I will bring your ways upon you, and your abominations will be among you; then you will know that I am the LORD!’ “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘A disaster, unique disaster, behold it is coming! An end is coming; the end has come! It has awakened against you; behold, it has come! Your doom has come to you, O inhabitant of the land. The time has come, the day is near—tumult rather than

joyful shouting on the mountains. Now I will shortly pour out My wrath on you and spend My anger against you; judge you according to your ways and bring on you all your abominations. Behold, the day! Behold, it is coming! Your doom has gone forth; the rod has budded, arrogance has blossomed. Violence has grown into a rod of wickedness. None of them shall remain, none of their people, none of their wealth, nor anything eminent among them. The time has come, the day has arrived. Let not the buyer rejoice nor the seller mourn; for wrath is against all their multitude. Indeed, the seller will not regain what he sold as long as they both live; for the vision regarding all their multitude will not be averted, nor will any of them maintain his life by his iniquity. They have blown the trumpet and made everything ready, but no one is going to the battle, for My wrath is against all their multitude.” (see Ezekiel 7.1-14 NASB)

I have no doubt that some will immediately focus on the wrath and see it in light of what many hold to be the great tribulation that they see coming upon the world at the end of this age. Of course, many Hollywood movies, as well as the Left Behind series, have done a great deal to cement these literal images in the minds of many believers. They see the book of Revelation as being literally fulfilled, rather than seeing John's Patmos vision as he saw it, *in spirit*, which is seeing it as symbolic of spiritual truths. At one time, I accepted the Left Behind theology, but no longer do. It seems that John's vision is symbolic. In particular, we are not waiting for mystery Babylon to arise; we are living in the midst of it at this very moment, and we might be witnessing its very downfall as John saw. I *suggest*, which means that I am open to correction from the Lord, that the end that is coming is most likely the end of mystery Babylon, which refers to the system of commerce that has united the nations of the world and which has placed the nations in bondage to a system of greed and usury.

All we must do is look at the financial turmoil that has been brewing in the United States. The Federal Reserve has been pumping billions of dollars into the system to stave off a complete collapse of the financial system of the US that would ripple across the entire globe. But what if the Lord Himself places His hand of judgment or wrath on this system? Whatever the Federal Reserve or any other entity does will not be able to stop the collapse. In fact, some experts on the matter are predicting that a global financial collapse, the likes of which has never been seen, not even during the Great Depression, is inevitable. So I ask the question: Does "the end has come" refer to the end of mystery Babylon? Compare Ezekiel's prophesy with John's prophesy.

After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven.... And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird. For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality. ... Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come. ... "The fruit you long for has gone from you, and all things that were luxurious and splendid have passed away from you and men will no longer find them. The merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand at a distance because of the fear of her torment, weeping and mourning, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, she who was clothed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls; for in one hour such great wealth has been laid waste!' (see Revelation 18.1-19 NASB)

The twin towers of the World Trade Center, the symbol of the economic might of the world, fell to rubble in one hour nearly seven years ago. Perhaps by September of this year, as the seventh year is completed (*seven* is the number of completion or spiritual perfection), mystery Babylon will fall. If it does, it is good news, for it means that the end of this present wicked eon has come and the glory of the Lord is about to be manifested as the trumpet of the first resurrection sounds and the sons of God are revealed to the nations. Please understand that I am not stating emphatically that this will happen tomorrow or even this year.

But then again.... I present this for your prayerful consideration.