

Your message burns in my heart and bones, and I cannot keep silent. (Jeremiah 20:9)

The testimony of JESUS is the spirit of the prophecy. (Revelation 19:10c)

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Groan of Creation (Thought/Commentary)

For the Creation fell into subjection to failure and unreality (not of its own choice, but by the will of Him who so subjected it). Yet there was always the hope that at last the Creation itself would also be set free from the thralldom of decay so as to enjoy the liberty that will attend the glory of the children of God [or: sons of God]. For we know that ***the whole of Creation is groaning*** together in the pains of childbirth until this hour. And more than that, we ourselves, though we possess the Spirit as a foretaste and pledge of the glorious future, yet we ourselves inwardly sigh [or: groan], as we wait and long for open recognition as sons [or: awaiting the sonship; i.e., adoption as sons] through the deliverance [or: redemption; rescue; salvation] of our bodies. (Romans 8:20-23 Weymouth [added])

As most who read my material know by now, I look for signposts that tell us we are on the road to the kingdom of our Lord openly manifesting on earth as it is in heaven. But a signpost can be more than just events; it can be a sensing in our spirit. For many months I have had a sensing that something is going on in the natural world around us that, in itself, could be affecting the human race. Recently, it hit me as if a light had been turned on. The answer is found in the opening verses: ***the whole creation is groaning***.

2020 could be characterized as one big groan! But the good news is what comes after the groan—the manifestation of the sons of God. As Paul would remind us, ***the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us*** (Romans 8:18). In suffering, we can rejoice that ***when Christ, who is our life, is revealed we will be revealed with Him in glory*** (Colossians 3:4). This is why ***we eagerly wait for our Rescuer, the Lord Jesus Christ—King Jesus—to come from His Father's realm to transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself*** (Philippians 3:20-21).

Dear saints, we, along with God's creation, are groaning, likened to pains of childbirth. The good thing about childbirth is that it only lasts for so long until the child comes forth into the light of a new world outside the womb. But here is more good news: all of creation, including the entire human race, is in the ***womb of God***, meaning God is getting ready to give birth to something entirely new that is called ***new creation (in Christ)***. God is pregnant with glory, and it won't be long until the glory of His Son bursts forth into our world and the earth fills with ***the knowledge of the glory of the Lord*** as the waters cover the sea.

This is what I have been sensing. Creation itself is groaning and we, as part of God's creation, are groaning with it. But going beyond this, the groan of creation is affecting our bodies, not just our spiritual senses. In other words, the groan is leading to changes in our natural bodies. I can't prove this is so through the metrics of man; all I can do is report based on spiritual intuition. What I can tell you is that, in early December, the council of the Lord revealed to me that this sensing is true.

The earth itself is groaning in ways we cannot fathom. I suspect part of the groan involves the electromagnetic disposition of the earth. Stated another way: we are bathed in energy and this includes electromagnetic radiation (EMR) from creation itself, such as our earth and sun. Add to this manmade

EMR from the countless inventions of man, and the potential for altering our bodies is quite possible, if not presently doing so.

The latest EMR invention is the 5G network. Some have been warning of the unknown, potential dangers of some of the wavelengths associated with 5G. Just like mRNA vaccines have not been studied for long-term health effects, so has 5G not been studied. Of course, the establishment considers such concerns as part of *conspiracy theories*, but we should not be so quick to discount such concerns, especially since global big tech corporations are sending thousands of satellites into orbit around our planet in order to bathe the entire globe in 5G for the internet of things and whatever else they come up with to make more money. What about the seeding experiments that have been conducted in the earth's atmosphere in an attempt to cool the planet (i.e., stop global warming) by reflecting the sun's energy away from the earth? Based on my science education and professional career in evaluating and controlling substances that are harmful to human health, there are far more issues than these few that should cause us concern.

Shouldn't we all be concerned over anything that alters or changes the way God created this earth and our bodies to operate? Emphatically: yes! Years ago, my mother-in-law, who had little knowledge of technology as we know it today, often said: ***We are destroying ourselves through technology.*** It was a prophetic statement. So, I suggest that the groaning we all are experiencing is not simply from a virus but from a whole host of things that we are exposed to each and every day, both naturally and manmade. And, collectively and possibly synergistically, all of creation is in the pains of childbirth. If God does not birth us soon, there is no telling the harm that will come upon the human race.

Well, enough said along those lines. Now, I want to return to Paul's word in Romans 8 and consider it in its historical context. Far too many times, commentators take scripture as all written directly for our time, when most of the time it was written for the recipients who first received it, which means we need to understand the context and, from this, glean God's principles for us today.

Interestingly, Paul clearly stated that creation's groan was in progress in his day, that is, *until this hour*. This is a rather curious way of putting it. Why until this hour? Why not until the end of the age when Christ comes? What is the significance of *this hour*? Contextually, the hour was the period between the cross/resurrection and the end of the era of Moses, which lasted for about forty years. In 70 AD, as Jesus warned the Jews of His day, God sent the Roman army to destroy everything for which Judaism (or: Moses) stood up to that point—the destruction was massive (the city of Jerusalem and the temple) and the killings were many (over a million Jews killed during the Jewish Wars). Some say this event was a coming (*parousia*) of Christ Himself to judge the Jews and set the true children of God free from being considered a sect of Judaism. In a sense, it was a *parousia*. In this respect, for forty years, there was a dispute over who were truly the rightful sons of God. Until *this hour*, the Jews considered themselves the rightful heirs of the kingdom as the sons of God, based on their bloodline. However, with the death and resurrection of Israel's King, that all changed as the wall between the Jews and the nations (i.e., gentiles) outside the commonwealth of Israel were broken down and all of humanity was now invited into the kingdom and glory as one new man, one new body, with one spirit, one Lord, and one Father who is all in all. No longer was entrance into God's kingdom based on man's blood, for now it is entirely based on the blood of God's Son, namely, Jesus. All who have been given His faith to believe are now of a new bloodline based on His blood. All believers have the blood of Christ!

Another point about what Paul has left us to consider is a claim made by some that Paul's creation is confined to humans alone, not to everything else around us. However, the Greek word *ktisis*, translated

as *creation* (including variants), has broad applications, to include God's creation (Revelation 3:14), the world (Romans 1:20), creatures (Hebrews 4:13), and buildings (Hebrews 9:11). However one interprets creation, we can be sure of one thing—it definitely includes all humans, and many within the Roman empire of Paul's day were groaning under the weight of the tyranny of Rome. To make the point, here is an excerpt from James Stuart Russell's work titled *The Parousia*, in which he quotes from *Life and Epistles of St. Paul* by Conybeare and Howson. (Parts have been highlighted for emphasis.)

'The social condition of the Greeks had been falling, during this period, into the lowest corruption;. . . but the very diffusion and development of this corruption was preparing the way, because it showed the necessity, for the interposition of a gospel. The disease itself seemed to call for a Healer. And if the prevailing evils of the Greek population presented obstacles on a large scale to the progress of Christianity, yet they showed to all future time the weakness of man's highest powers if unassisted from above; and there must have been many who groaned under the bondage of a corruption which they could not shake off, and who were ready to welcome the voice of Him "who took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses."

'It would be a delusion to imagine that **when the world was reduced under one sceptre, any real principle of unity held its different parts together. The emperor was deified because men were enslaved.** There was **no true peace** when Augustus closed the temple of Janus. The Empire was only **the order of external government, with a chaos both of opinions and morals within.** The writings of Tacitus and Juvenal remain to attest the corruption which festered in all ranks, alike in the Senate and the family. The old severity of manners, and the old faith in the better part of the Roman religion, were gone. The **licentious creeds and practices** of Greece and the East had inundated Italy and the West, and the Pantheon was only the monument of a compromise among **a multitude of effete superstitions.** It is true that a remarkable toleration was produced by this state of things, and it is probable that for some short time Christianity itself shared the advantage of it. But, still, the temper of the times was essentially both cruel and profane, and the apostles were soon exposed to its bitter persecution. **The Roman Empire was destitute of that unity which the Gospel give to mankind. It was a kingdom of this world, and the human race were groaning for the better peace of a "kingdom not of this world."** 'Thus, in the very condition of the Roman Empire, and the miserable state of its mixed population, **we can recognise a negative preparation for the Gospel of Christ. This tyranny and oppression called for a Consoler as much as the moral sickness of the Greeks called for a Healer. A Messiah was needed by the whole Empire as much as by the Jews, though not looked for with the same conscious expectation. But we have no difficulty in going much further than this, and we cannot hesitate to discover in the circumstances of the world at this period significant traces of a positive preparation for the Gospel.'**

Do you see the parallels to our day of tyranny, oppression, and corruption of government (i.e., the kingdom of this world), the lack of unity (divisions along many lines, not just political, but social, cultural, etc.), no true peace, chaos of morals and opinions (i.e., ideologies), licentious creeds (again, ideologies) and practices (based in amoralism), superstitions, and so much more? The Roman empire was on a course of the crumbling of all its institutions. There was a groan for something better, something that would bring healing to the body and soul.

Paul's contextual day was not much different from our day as we see the *institutional structures of man crumbling* and as we are coerced into wearing masks, socially distancing, and locking down life itself (none of which are supported by true science), which more people are now recognizing as symbols of tyranny. In that day, the known world was reduced to one scepter (of tyranny) that could not provide true unity.

Like those in the Roman empire over 2,000 years ago, so are we in the 21st century. They groaned then for someone to rescue them and so do we in this day of moral sickness, as well as literal bodily sickness. Added to this is the fact that global elitists have longed for a one-world governance, and they have now come out and openly proclaimed they want to unite the world under a one-world economic system that on close examination reveals they want to control every aspect of human life, even to change humans into something post-human (i.e., *transhuman*).

Jesus to the rescue! The whole world needs the Savior to manifest once again, not only to destroy what stands in rebellion against God's kingdom but, more importantly, to raise up all that is of God's kingdom.

Just as there was a negative preparation for the Gospel of Christ in Paul's day, so is there in our day. All that is transpiring is leading the way for the Gospel of Christ to once again rise up in great power and anointing to speak to a world that has lost its way and is groaning under the weight of many trials, some of which are yet to come.

But there is one more similarity to Paul's day. Just as there were two camps (non-believing Jews and Christians) claiming the right to be called *sons of God*, so do we have camps in our day that call into question the true sons of God.

On one level, the Jewish and the non-Jewish distinction exists in our day, just as it did in Paul's day. Unfortunately, what could be called *Christian Zionists* have maintained and propagated the same distinction, claiming the unbelieving Jews of modern Israel are God's chosen people. I have written about this *elsewhere*, so I'll leave this. However, this has blurred the lines once again as to who are the rightful heirs of the kingdom.

On another level, the world today does not recognize the true sons of God. Unfortunately, the world looks at the outwardly visible *church*, but this is not necessarily the *ecclesia* (church) Jesus is building—a *dwelling of God in spirit*.

Oh, thank God; the appointed time for God's Son to manifest and set things right is drawing near.

The parousia is coming, only this time it is not to destroy; it is to reveal (or: manifest) the true sons of God, the ones brought unto glory. The lines will never ever be blurred again!

So, although we, most likely, will continue to groan on many levels throughout 2021, let us rejoice in our Lord's victory and, like Him, endure for the joy set before us. What is that joy? It is Jesus Himself!

Our groaning is a signpost on the way to the open manifestation of the *kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ*. It won't be long.