

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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Prophetic Voices: Straw or Wheat?

The prophet who has had a dream, let him tell the dream, saying it is only a dream. Their dreams are not messages from Me. But the prophet who has been given My word, hearing My message, let him speak My word faithfully. ***Speak My word in truth. What good is straw [chaff] compared to wheat [grain]?*** Their dreams and My truth are as different as chaff that is burned up and wheat that provides sustenance”, declares Yahweh. (Jeremiah 23:28 compilation with annotation)

If you haven't noticed, we are living in a day of great confusion and the internet has become like a beast system that spreads this confusion. Here is an excerpt from what I wrote in [Worst Year—2021](#).

It seems to me that the world's current state is nothing new, for it harkens back to the very beginning of man's downfall through the serpent's temptation. Whether a literal account, an allegory, or some combination of the two, it doesn't matter; what does matter is the underlying principle. The temptation is (still is) that ***you will be like God, knowing good and evil***. The result is if you attempt to become like God, based on your own nature, ***you will die in your knowledge***. Ever since, humanity has sought to overcome or conquer death (of all types) through knowledge. However, the deeper principle is that the human race entered into its destructive path of seeking ***independence from God***, being god-like in knowledge, which is what partaking of ***the tree of the knowledge of good and evil*** signifies. What we are witnessing in our day is the manifestation of ***the matured tree of the knowledge of good and evil***, with the internet now the repository (library) of this knowledge. In many respects, the internet has grown into this tree; it is ***the voice of the tree of knowledge***.

In 2021, the voice of the tree of knowledge is spreading so much confusion that what is true and what is false is under constant assault ([under siege](#)). Making this worse is the growing drive to ban, censor, isolate, and destroy voices that disagree with a certain agenda and ideology. So where is [the truth](#)? These are truly difficult days that, at this point, are on a trajectory to become far worse than they are now—if people don't wake up to this reality very soon. I say this knowing they won't wake up soon enough. Desperation is necessary for the masses to cry out to God for deliverance, and this comes from the council of the Lord.

As for the Lord's people, according to [the council of the Lord](#) (see first paragraph of this link), many have mistakenly put their faith in a broken system that is crumbling before their very eyes and yet they are blinded to this fact, thinking these systems can be saved with the right people in place. What they are holding to are the crumbling, carnally-driven kingdoms of men that are destined to be overtaken by the spiritually-driven [kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ](#).

In this light, let's consider Jeremiah, the prophet raised up by God, who lived in the midst of Judah during a time of great declension. Ancient prophets were raised up by God in difficult days to deliver difficult messages to God's people whose hearts had turned from God. Rather than turning hearts back to God with words of exhortation, many calling themselves *prophets* gave the people false messages of hope. Consider this in light of our modern-day prophets who kept prophesying a Trump victory and good times to follow. This is what I want to address, based on Jeremiah 23—thus, the title: ***Straw or Wheat?***

What follows is not intended to be a verse-by-verse historical analysis; rather, it is intended to highlight universal principles that apply to our day, recognizing that the conditions on the ground in Jeremiah's day were similar, yet not exact, to our day. There is historical context to the message Jeremiah was commanded to deliver to ancient Judah, as he spoke to the deteriorating conditions in his day and what it meant for Judah in the years to come. Consequently, as we read many of the prophets, we are looking in the rearview mirror to past events, as the saying goes. One of the events the prophets pointed to was the coming of the Messiah of Israel, along with all the promises attached to His arrival. We see this in Jeremiah 23:5, where the Lord declared days were coming in which a righteous Branch would be raised up to reign as king and act wisely, doing justice and righteousness. Of course, this was inaugurated through the cross and the empty tomb, as Jesus-Yeshua ascended to His Father's throne as the King of Glory over the whole earth. As we near the end of an age, we eagerly wait for the arrival of King Jesus and the consummation of what was inaugurated in the first century AD.

At the outset, the Lord made His judgment (assessment) of ancient Judah abundantly clear—they had forsaken Him and had become broken vessels that could not hold His spiritual life.

Has a nation changed its gods, which really are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which does not profit. "Be astonished, you heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid. Be very desolate," says Yahweh. "For my people have committed two evils: ***they have forsaken me, the spring [fountain] of living waters***, and cut them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water. (Jeremiah 2:11-13 WEB [bold italic added])

With this backdrop, we come to Jeremiah 23:9-40, where both Jeremiah and the Lord judge (assess) the adulterous, wicked, and polluted prophets and priests (shepherds, i.e., pastors) in the land of Judah.

Jeremiah is the epitome of the heart of a true prophet of God, as he cries out: ***As for the prophets: my heart is broken within me, all my bones tremble; I have become like a drunken man, even like a man overcome with wine, because of the Lord and because of His holy words***. He was so in union with the Lord and His word that his heart was broken over the condition of his countrymen, especially that of the prophets and the priests. He was so close to the heart of God that his words and the Lord's words became as one. This is not unusual, for reading the prophets, there are times when we must pay close attention to when the prophet's words end and the Lord's words begin. Jeremiah was the voice of the Lord. He was representative of all that the Lord stood against in that day—for this purpose Jeremiah was appointed a prophet to the nations (1:5).

The reason for his brokenness was due to the falsehood prophesied to God's people by *polluted, wicked* prophets, as they faced the onslaught of a coming storm (i.e., invasion from the north). Instead of turning the heart of the people back to the Lord, *they prophesied by Baal and led My people Israel astray*. They had become like Sodom and Gomorrah, and for this reason a foreign army was soon to devour Judah.

Thus says the LORD of hosts: "**Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain (false) hopes (illusions)**. They speak **visions of their own minds (hearts), not from the mouth of the LORD**. They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, 'It shall be well with you (you will have peace)'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster (calamity) shall come upon you.'" **For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened? Behold, the storm of the LORD!** Wrath has gone forth, a **whirling tempest**; it will burst

upon the head of the wicked. The **anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart**. In the **latter days** you will understand it clearly. (Jeremiah 23:16-20 ESV)

The people didn't understand the message, but the Lord made it clear that a day was coming when they would. The Lord called it the *latter days*. This was not a direct reference to the end of our age or the end of the world (as many see it). There was a latter day for Judah in which they were cast out of their land and taken into bondage in a foreign land. There was also a latter day for the era of Moses that ended in 70 AD, as Jerusalem and the temple were totally destroyed by the Romans at the behest of God Himself.

However, based on the council of the Lord, in principle, we are in the latter days of our present age, as well. We too are at an end of an age, with many parallels to ancient "latter days". We are in the midst of the [great storm in which "Our God Reigns"](#), a whirling tempest ([greatest trial; whirling fan](#)), [the perfect storm, great deception](#) (for more links along these lines, see: [prophetic insights](#)).

It appears we have just witnessed a parallel to Jeremiah's day. Consider the many prophecies that were declaring Donald Trump would prevail and be inaugurated for another four years, leading us into great prosperity and greater religious freedom, as he would continue to drain "the swamp". To this, we could add the Q-anon phenomenon that many have embraced as reality over the last four years, as whoever is behind Q offered hope after hope along the same lines, without this hope ever materializing. And, there have been other voices out there doing the same things, often claiming they, too, had inside information. All of these could be likened to prophets, both spiritual and secular. The sad part in all this is how many Christians wasted so much of their time and energy following and believing all these falsehoods with their false hopes. For this, they need to repent, for they have turned from the spirit of the Lord, the spirit of truth, to listen to the voices of men, some of which are the voices of lying, demonic spirits.

Is this not similar to what the prophets in Jeremiah's day were saying to God's people: ***You will have peace; calamity will not come upon you***? Have their visions, dreams, and words come from their own imaginations? Didn't they lead people to continually remember Trump's name, along with his MAGA slogan? Was Jesus central to their message, or was He on the fringes, even if for only an election season?

Here is a sobering thought: What if the political system of our day (and, we should add the global system), that has taken on cult-like status, as if an idol of man, is not much different from Baal in Jeremiah's day? Consider the result: ***Who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal*** (Jeremiah 23:27).

What happened? Why were there so many prophets claiming a Trump victory? Could it be they failed to stand [in the council of the Lord](#), as the Lord declared through Jeremiah?

"I did not send *these* prophets, but they ran. I did not speak to them, but they prophesied. "But ***if they had stood in My council***, then they would have announced My words to My people, and would have turned them back from their evil way and from the evil of their deeds. (Jeremiah 23:21-22 NASB [bold italic added])

"The prophet who has a dream may relate *his* dream, but let him who has My word speak My word in truth. What does straw have *in common* with grain?" declares the LORD. (Jeremiah 23:28 NASB)

As an aside, I recently heard one of today's prophets, who got it wrong about Trump, make a distinction between dreams, visions, and words, and standing in the council of the Lord, as if the council were something entirely different. He had his explanation (I don't recall the details), but I thought how odd this was considering that, through Jeremiah, the Lord made no such distinction. In fact, He placed a much greater value on His council.

According to the Lord, a word from His council has far more value to His people than dreams that can be misinterpreted or, worse, come from one's imagination. Mind you; I'm not taking a stand against dreams and visions from the Lord, for I too have them. However, they must be joined with or interpreted through the council of the Lord. Dreams and visions have no power unto themselves, but **no word from God shall be void of power.** **It is the difference between straw that feeds animals and wheat that feeds people. God's people need wheat, not straw!**

Let's not forget that the grain of wheat—our Lord Jesus who is the WORD—fell into the ground to die in order to be raised up to produce a great harvest called a **new creation in Christ.** Straw burns up, but wheat raises up and nourishes! It is for this reason, I strongly believe all modern-day prophecy that is of true value to the Lord's people must point to God's Son, for He is the very center of God's heart and His plan.

It appears that the ones prophesying of a Trump inauguration on January 20 got it wrong, at least as far as the inauguration. (I wouldn't be surprised if some of these same ones claim Trump will rise up from the ashes and be victorious. Maybe he will; but that's for another day, isn't it?)

So, what happened? The answer could be approached from a number of angles, but let's start with what I call *performance, ministry-driven prophets* that thrive on reputation. Those who prophesied a Trump presidency the first time got caught up in the deception that he was God's man to deliver America. Not to be left out, others got on the same bandwagon. They missed the reason entirely for why God placed him in office (i.e., to expose **the corruption and darkness,** bringing it into **the light.**) They failed to seek the council of the Lord—thus, leading the Lord's people into falsehood. To be sure, many probably meant well, but it doesn't take away from the fact that they, too, were deceived. It's quite likely some of them read Q and others and these voices influenced their thinking, even their dreams. The mind is tricky business, as it is prone to all sorts of external influences. As Paul reminds us: *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect* (Romans 12:2). Instead of having their eyes on the Lord, they were looking to a man to be the savior of America. More than likely, they were blinded by a conservative, Christian narrative that says we must be part of the political system and process as nationalistic patriots. Again, what if this is more akin to Baal worship?

Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, declares the LORD, **who steal my words from one another.** Behold, I am against the prophets, declares the LORD, who use their tongues and declare, 'declares the LORD.' Behold, I am against those who prophesy lying dreams, declares the LORD, and **who tell them and lead my people astray by their lies and their recklessness, when I did not send them or charge them. So they do not profit this people at all, declares the LORD.** (Jeremiah 23:30-32 ESV [bold added])

Are these words from the Lord too stern for us today? Do we want to soften them and make excuses for leading the Lord's people into things that do not profit them? What profit is there in looking to a broken,

political system that will keep [crumbling](#) until it is no more? What profit is there in ideology now led by demons?

Another answer to what happened is discovered in what is called **group think** or **institutional mindset**. Some prophets run in the same circles and appear on the same circuit of conferences and talk shows, meaning they talk among themselves; and those with common views on certain topics reinforce one another. There's even a group on the internet that pulls together many prophetic ministries. Consider that the prophets in Jeremiah's day were stealing words from one another. Is this not a sign of group think?

Consequently, if one is in a pro-Trump prophetic group, there is a group think that influences what each of the prophets sees through their dreams, visions, or "thus saith the Lord". Go to any assembly that majors in prophetic ministry and you will hear the group think over and over again, which is further influenced by visiting prophets that speak the same language. Some of these assemblies even train their people how to be prophets and to prophecy only good things, nothing bad or challenging. (I have witnessed such a thing.) They fail to see that the Lord alone raises up and makes prophets. To put it bluntly: it's not your call. By the way; some base this on Samuel's schools of the prophets, but these prophets were trained to disseminate religious knowledge and to chronicle religious history. They were academic prophets that degenerated into false prophets. Don't forget: Jesus is [the spirit of the prophecy!](#)

What is the purpose of a prophet (or: apostle, evangelist, pastor-teacher) in our day? Well, Paul tells us; and it isn't to lead people into a political system or to look to man for national salvation.

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, by which they lie in wait to deceive: But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, who is the head, *even* Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body to the edifying of itself in love. (Ephesians 4:11-16 Webster)

This is a major topic unto itself that is beyond the topic at hand, but the point is that the body of Christ is to be built up into maturity through love, to grow up in Christ, which means Jesus is central, supreme, and preeminent in all and to all ministry. One of the prophet's roles is to equip people to hear the voice of the Lord and not to lead them into a bunch of fanciful, false expectations. We have one hope, and it is **Christ in you, the [expectation of glory](#)**. How does leading the Lord's people to look to the kingdoms of men, or to idolize the past and a document called the *Constitution* (that is good, but still flawed), or to look to a flawed man to set things right, or to look to any number of earthly matters equip the saints for the building up of the body of Christ in love? We are to be *Christ-centric* and *Kingdom-centric*.

Aren't you tired of all these Christian sideshows that exalt others and their ministries? It is time to put aside all this foolishness. It is time to live as true, matured sons of God and not babes. **The Lord's people must be broken of (weaned from) listening to the voices of straw. God's word is like fire, and we know that straw cannot withstand fire.** It is time to come out of such dangers to hear the spirit of the Lord for one's self. The day of big ministries with big names (so-called *leaders*) is over. The Lord is not allowing His

name to be associated with these anymore, so why associate with them? This, too, is from the council of the Lord.

What will the Lord's people, who are addicted to the internet, do when it is no longer available (at least as far as it being an open forum)? What will they do when there are no more voices out there to listen to (including mine)? We all need to seek the Lord and His council *now*.

This is why the Lord said to [pray for the anointing](#), meaning join hearts with what is coming. God has set it in motion. Soon the anointing will rise up from within the Lord's people, at least within the ones that have truly come out of the world and are ready to cross over to the Lord's kingdom. This goes along with the word [Come Out! Crossing Over!](#).

The anointing is vital to the destiny of the entire human race, which is destined for extinction if the Lord does not intervene; and He has called a people to come out of the world system to be part of the final battle that He has entered, just as He personally did from 66-70 AD. See: [Fog Lifted](#); [Final Battle for Humanity](#). Good news: Jesus and His conquerors win because He has already won!

To repeat the declaration of the Lord through his prophet: "For my people have committed two evils: **they have forsaken me, the spring [fountain] of living waters**, and cut them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

When we put our faith and hope in a system of the world—in this case, a corrupt political system (and so much more)—we are forsaking the Lord. We are to come out of all this corruption that is now under the judgment of God, so that we can stand in the midst of great upheaval, the [gale wind](#), as the fountains of living waters, not as broken, useless empty vessels. We are to be [the quashing fountains](#). This could be likened to the mythical horse [Pegasus](#); except Jesus and His fountains of living waters are not myths—they are God's reality and His way of ushering glory into the earth until [glory fills the whole earth](#).

Please hear this: America, as well as the entire world, is in grave danger as the [antichrist spirit](#) is in full swing, as the powers of darkness aim to bring the entire human race into bondage and, ultimately, to bring about countless deaths. Many have yielded (sold) their souls to this evil spirit and taken on a persona that is best described as *subhuman*, meaning they are no longer humans created in the image of Elohim.

Our [Engedi Moment](#) has come. The only one who can and will rescue us is our Lord Jesus. But it is time for the church to repent of its waywardness as broken cisterns and return to the very source and fount of life that resides in all of us through the spirit of God, along with the love of God that has been poured out in our hearts by the same spirit.

We are at the end of the age. Wake up from your sleep! Lay hold of the mind of Christ. Be led by the spirit of the Lord. Hear the voice of the Lord. Enter His council! Know [Jesus as your Trust!](#)

I leave you with one final word based on Jeremiah, one that came to me nearly twelve years ago: [I Have Lifted Up a Hammer!](#) The Lord has released His hammer and is pounding the fortresses. God is a consuming fire, and He will consume all carnal flesh, especially that which is subhuman.

"Is not My word like fire?" declares the LORD, "and like [a hammer which shatters a rock?](#)" (Jeremiah 23:29 NASB)

Postscript

Before posting this insight, the thought came to me to check the number of days from when I first heard Trump would win (May 7, 2020) to when I heard he would not be inaugurated (December 2, 2020), meaning Biden would be. Interestingly, the number of days (inclusive of the end date) is exactly **210**, which refers to ***a time of distress***.

This meaning is based on what is called ***Jacob's distress***. Jacob experienced two periods of stress in his life, each of which lasted for 21 years. Then Jacob's descendants, after the reign of Solomon, experienced a period of stress for 210 years. This is explained in [Jacob's Distress – 21 & 210-Year Cycles](#).

Given that we are in the 21st century and now in the 21st year of this century, and January 21 is the first full day of a Biden presidency, we should not lose sight of the biblical meaning of the **number 21**, which signifies ***exceeding sinfulness of sin***. This is explained in [Number 21](#).

To be sure I did not miss the message, I was woken at 12:13 am and then at 2:13 am on the 21st with two words, respectively: ***world in declension*** and ***earth teeters in war***. In some respects, this follows the theme of many of the posted insights, except the word *declension* is a new one. *Declension* means *a gradual sinking away or deterioration, often in mind and body*. It appears the world as we knew it is sinking away and it is affecting both the mind and body of humans, especially those without the spirit of the Lord.

(In the first version of this posting, I used the word *distress* instead of *declension*. My mistake; *declension* was actually the word that came to me.)

The **number 13** caught my attention, as well, for it signifies ***depravity and rebellion***.

To round this out, add [the number 46](#) to the mix, for this speaks of ***man without the holy spirit***, which is the source of all humanity's problems. As shared in [Fog Lifted](#), according to the council of the Lord, failure is written across the 46th president. I also shared that I had a gnawing feeling about Biden-Harris as leaders of this nation, as if they are like ***ghostly figures***. After watching parts of the inauguration, I continue to have a sensing that something is dreadfully wrong that goes beyond seeing leaders all masked up and the obvious mental decline of an elderly man. Failure might manifest sooner than later. We'll have to wait and see how the Lord works this out, according to His plan to bring this age to a close.

I recognize that, for some, these words are tough to handle. Please don't be dismayed, for they are simply signposts on the highway to the kingdom. Don't ever lose sight of the good news we have in Christ. Our Lord Jesus, the Rescuer of the world, is this highway, and He will not and cannot fail to bring heaven to earth, establishing the kingdom of God among the nations. He is the good news!

In some respects, He is also standing at the end of this highway of glory, beckoning us to keep pressing on. We must patiently endure a while longer and not give up the [expectation of glory](#). As Paul would tell us—[through many tribulations](#) we must enter the kingdom of God, and suffering leads to glory.

Set your sight, your hope, your trust, and, most of all, your love on our beloved Lord, Savior, and King—JESUS!

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