PROPHETIC 140 [rM 21.06]

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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Sanctification — the High Ground (Dream/Follow-Up)

Previously, I reported on a May 16, 2021 dream of a <u>120-foot wall of water</u> in which I mentioned a similar dream that came on May 8, 2014. In this one, as I stood on a hill far inland, high enough for me to see the ocean many miles away, I saw a huge tsunami heading toward the shore and was telling people to get to *the high ground of sanctification*. Seven years and 8 days later, I again dreamed of a huge tsunami coming, only this time I was on the shore with the arrival of the wave being imminent. There was no escaping this huge mountain of water as I commanded: *Run as fast as you can to the dunes*, that is, the highest ground along the shore. Putting the two dreams together, spiritually, the dunes represented the high ground of sanctification that was pronounced seven years earlier.

The interesting thing about the 2014 dream is that I did not know in what year this came to me and only had a vague recall of it. I especially had no recollection of the word about sanctification. When I finished a few drafts of the insight of the May 16, 2021 dream, I knew I had to find the other dream, but with literally thousands of pages of notes stretching back over thirty years, I had no idea where to look. Well, as I was proofing the 120-foot wall insight, I kept getting this thought: 2014. After a day or so, the urging remained, so I searched my 2014 notes and there it was for May 8, 2014. Honestly, at first, I felt bad that the message of this dream laid dormant for seven years. However, I believe the Lord had a reason for this blinding. All things are in the Lord's hands and His timing is impeccable and for a reason. By itself, I would have interpreted the 2014 dream differently and missed its far-reaching implications.

Further, the Lord's timing is part of the interpretation. The two tsunami dreams are bookends of the last of the three 7-year periods of a <u>21-Year Cycle</u> (2000-2021). To me, this is the Lord's way of validating this cycle. The last period runs from 2014-2021, ending in September 2021. This leads to the obvious question of what, if anything, is coming in <u>September</u>. Is it the "big one"—what many of us have been longing for? To be clear, like many others, I do believe the presence of the King and our transformation into conformity with the body of His glory will occur in line with the Hebrew fall feasts, especially tabernacles (booths typifying new bodies). This is why I am keenly interested in the years in which September 8 falls on a Wednesday. See September link above. If nothing overtly materializes that represents these dreams, are we in a wait mode, looking to either 2027 or 2032 or some other year beyond these? Will 2021 be the beginning of an 11-year period

of great disorder and intensified disintegration as <u>the structures of man's kosmos crumble</u> as never seen before in modern history? Will this run concurrent with the <u>anointing</u> of the body of Christ, starting in September?

Looking back over many years of prophetic insights, it's like the spirit of the Lord has been providing pieces of a puzzle, a few at a time, that need to be joined together, piece by piece, until the completed picture emerges. Many pieces are now in place; however, there are some still needed to complete it. This has been an ongoing process for over 25 years; one that mostly <u>looks for the signs</u>, that is, <u>signposts of the coming kingdom</u>, without getting overly caught up in the details.

Over the years, many people have made the mistake of proclaiming they had the complete picture as they claimed to have figured out the how, the what, and the exact when of the end of this age (or: to some, the world), especially in relation to the coming of the Lord. Unfortunately, many of these same ones have faded in history as their claims proved to be inaccurate, at best. It is for this reason that I remain cautious about timing while being confident about the signposts that are reported in these *prophetic insights*. Collectively, the signposts reveal various facets of the plan of the ages, as God, *through His Son*, drives history toward His *ultimate purpose of All in All*.

To put it bluntly, it's not about proving oneself right and others wrong, as if one is special and the others are not. Emphatically: No! It all comes down to expressing the heart of God as revealed by the spirit of the Lord. The true and faithful test of whether something is of God or not rests on one thing: JESUS! Does it lead to more of Christ? He increases; we decrease. Does it lead to more of His life experientially worked out in us? Putting off the old; putting on the new. Walking in light and in love. Does it lead to a maturing, to be complete in Christ, readied for His presence and transformation? Finally, does it lead to a longing for the presence of the Lord Jesus—loving His appearing? The answers to these questions lead to the matter of sanctification.

What is sanctification? There are many ways to answer this question, some of which are best left to the theologians that enjoy parsing intellectually big words together. So, let's see if we can answer the question as clearly and simply as possible.

In Greek, the word for *sanctification* is *hagiasmos*, which means "holiness" or "a separation; as in being set apart for a purpose." As believers, when we were first given the faith of the Son to believe in Him and His work on the cross, we were justified by faith through His shed blood and set apart and made holy unto God; that is, we were sanctified. This is what's called *objective*, *positional truth*. In Christ, this is a fact. However, as we all know by experience, we struggle to live as such in a world of great temptations, driven by the spirit of the world that wants to keep us from being separated unto God and to keep

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us caught in a cycle of behavior contrary to God's specifications for what it means to be human. The world wants our full attention and devotion.

We see a good example of this in Paul's opening to his first letter to the Corinthians: **to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling**. Paul acknowledged the objective and positional truth of sanctification at the first and then proceeded, throughout his letters to Corinth, as well as letters to other *ekklesia* localities, to highlight some of the behavioral issues each faced that were contrary to sanctification.

Simply stated, we are sanctified and are called *saints*; it is a given, but this must be progressively worked out in us. It is a process, not a one-off event; and when we first believe, we are placed on the road that leads to being fully set apart unto God, that is, fully sanctified. Paul intimates this in his letter to the Philippians: *For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to His good purpose* (2:13). Right before this, Paul said *to work out your salvation*, which could be reworded as *work out your sanctification*. But notice that it is God that does the work. On our part, we are called to cooperate with and obey the spirit that is at work in us.

Stated another way, we must recognize that all that is going on in our lives—including and especially the fiery trials—has its source in God; and we must recognize it as such and not grumble to God or doubt that He loves us or has forsaken us, no matter how trying and difficult things might be in our life. Trust Him! He knows how to sanctify you, so yield to Him and His ways with a willing heart. Abide in God. This is the process of sanctification.

We could say that Paul's writings are filled with examples of sanctification being worked out. Yet, as recorded by John, the Lord Jesus is the one who set sanctification in motion for His disciples, including you and me.

I have given them Your Word, and the world hated them because they are not of the world, as I am not of the world. I do not pray that You take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. *Sanctify them in Your Truth; Your Word is Truth*. (John 17:14-17 LITV [bold italic added])

Jonathan Mitchell expands on verse 17.

"Set them apart within the midst of the Truth (or: in reality). Your Word (Logos) exists being Truth. (John 17:17 JM-NT [bold italic added])

Jesus asked His Father to sanctify His people in a very specific way—in the truth (or: reality), which, as we know, by His own words, is Jesus Himself. *I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life*. In this light, John wrote to his "children" that they had this truth within them through the anointing from the Holy One, that is, the *Set-Apart One*.

And **you have an anointing from the Holy One**, and you all are aware." I write not to you seeing that you are not acquainted with the truth, but that you are acquainted with it, and that no lie at all is of the truth." (1 John 2:20-21 CLV [bold italic added])

And the anointing which you obtained from Him is remaining in you, and you have no need that anyone may be teaching you, but as His anointing is teaching you concerning all, and is true, and is no lie, according as it teaches you also, remain in Him." (1 John 2:27 CLV [bold italic added])

You see, our sanctification is in Christ who is the Truth, and the Truth asked God the Father to sanctify His people in Himself. As He is set apart unto His Father, so are we who are in Him. John makes it very clear; we are called to remain and abide in this Truth, for this is the most secure place in all of creation where we not only know but also experience the truth that sets us free.

What is most relevant to our walk in the Lord is that sanctification refers to our practical, everyday experience of separation unto God and our coming to know Him as the only true God and His Son Jesus, whom He sent. This makes sanctification progressive and experiential in such a way that it impacts our daily life with a goal in mind. Paul best describes this goal. I've taken the liberty of adding some thoughts to these verses based on other thoughts given to us by Paul.

This will continue until we arrive at that state of oneness, the true unity of the Faith of the Son, and of the full, experiential and intimate knowledge of the Son of God; then we shall be a mature company of people, having reached the height of Christ's full stature; measuring up to Him as the pattern, fully perfected and matured as a one new man, a new creation. (Ephesians 4:13 [expanded compilation of several translations with other verses added])

We proclaim Him, cautioning (reproving gently) and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature, that is, perfected and complete in Christ. (Colossians 1:28)

Paul saw a point in time when the saints would be fully sanctified that would manifest as oneness or unity of the Lord's body; clearly, in fulfillment of Jesus' prayer: *May they be completely one as we are one*.

But notice that in proclaiming Christ there was a caution to the people, which brings us back to Paul's exhortation to the Philippians to work out your salvation, for it is God who is at work in you. Taking from Mitchell's rendering, Paul continually encouraged all the saints to be constantly or habitually producing the wholeness and well-being which are the outcome of the rescue and salvation of yourselves (Philippians 2:12). In other words, live as one who has been rescued from sin, the world, and the devil. Grow up to be a mature, complete saint in Christ; one who is perfected into His image. Be sure your deportment matches your sanctification.

A few more verses pull all this together, starting with Paul's prayer recorded in First Thessalonians 5:23: May the God of the peace Himself sanctify you wholly (set you fully apart; make you perfectly complete), and may your whole spirit, and soul, and body, be preserved unblameably (faultless) in the presence (coming) of our Lord Jesus Christ. The ultimate goal of sanctification is glorification—Many sons brought unto glory (Hebrews 2:10); Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27); When He is revealed (appears), you also will be revealed (appear) with Him in glory (Colossians 3:4); When He appears, we shall be like Him, for we will see Him as He is (1 John 3:2); Transformed into conformity with the body of His glory (Philippians 3:21).

This leads back to the dreams. The high ground is the place of sanctification, and God is going to have a fully sanctified people, a people fully matured, having been made complete in the pattern of His Son.

Could it be that the last seven years have been about God completing the work of sanctification in a people who are being readied to gush forth from their innermost being the rivers of living water? Could it be that the call especially went out seven years ago, and the spirit of the Lord has been at work in those who are going to gush forth in this manner as the great tsunami of God? Could it be that the call was about God placing these ones on an accelerated path to maturity as this present age comes to an end? Could it be that with the end of this seven-year period, the call has now gone out to those who are called and chosen to completely separate in heart from the things of this world?

Could it be that sanctification is like a race and, in running to the high ground, we are now in the final stretches of this race to reach the goal for the prize? Think of Paul who ran straight (pressed on) toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ (Philippians 3:14). As he approached the finish line of his life, he proclaimed: *I have fought the good fight*, *I have finished the race*, *I have kept the faith* (2 Timothy 4:7).

In bringing Paul into the picture, given our tendency to look inward, it is safe to say that some will say: "Well, I am not like Paul. I'm a failure. I won't make it. I'll be disqualified."

Dear saints (yes, you are a saint), since you have come across this writing, perhaps it's by the spirit of the Lord. I encourage you; don't focus on your life over the last seven years, especially what you might see as failings and struggles of the flesh. Simply lay these things at the foot of the cross; the shed blood has already dealt with them.

I am reminded of a word that came to me in 2010. I was struggling over a matter and sort of bemoaning how imperfect and flawed I was, when the Father spoke to me: I don't look on your imperfection; I look on your perfection! It is the life of our Lord in us that is the perfected life. It is Christ perfected in us that matters to God and what will manifest when this race is over. Sanctification is the process of we decreasing and Christ increasing until we are fully matured. What we see of ourselves is not the reality God sees. Get your eyes off yourself and onto Jesus. As Paul did, let us do likewise: I have kept the faith!

Don't debate with yourself or with God whether you are going to be part of this great wall of water. Simply run to the higher ground, and here is the clue as to this higher ground. It is discovered in one name—<u>JESUS!</u> ... Run to Jesus, He is our higher ground. He is the one who will safely deliver us from every wicked (evil) work, and shall preserve us, making us whole, maturing us for His heavenly kingdom.

Finally—and here is what is most important—we need heavenly vision, meaning we need vision that sees the big, panoramic picture that God sees—His view, not our view. This vision is of the fully matured, glorified body of Christ, the sons of glory. For 2,000 years, the King has been building His *ekklesia* in preparation for the day in which His heavenly kingdom will be openly introduced to the nations of the world, when heaven manifests in the earth and the glory of God fills it. To reiterate; the tsunami represents the mature body of Christ—the saints rising up in the anointing of the spirit of truth to flood the earth, manifesting the new creation and leading to the knowledge of the glory of the Lord filling the earth as the waters cover the sea. From their innermost being will flow rivers of living water that will cover the sea, which is a reference to the nations.

The final preparations are being made to fully mature the King's corporate body. We who are alive today are part of a long procession of saints; it was not possible for them to be complete without us. Since the beginning, the spirit of God has prepared those from each generation that will be part of the matured body of Christ. The process of each member of the body being sanctified results in the collective sanctification of the entire body of Christ. We are of the last generation to be sanctified; the generation in which the corporate body of Christ is made complete, to the measure of the stature that belongs to the fullness of Christ. This is the ultimate purpose of sanctification.

This is the high ground. The sprint is on! Run to Jesus!