

UPWARD CALL

Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but this is my one aim: to forget everything that's behind, and to strain every nerve to go after what lies ahead. I press on toward the finish line, where the prize waiting for me is the upward call of God

IN KING JESUS.

(Philippians 3:13-14)

#13-1909

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July 20, 2019

Message for the Nations

Praise God; the glorious day of our Lord is on the horizon and soon will break forth like the light of dawn that shines brighter and brighter until the full day (Proverbs 4:18). Soon, the governance of the kingdom of the Son of God's love, along with the many sons of glory, will overtake the nations, establishing the reign of the heavens on earth. With this glorious vision in view: What is our message to the nations today? There are many ways to answer this, but this is where we must start.

First, **God is the creator.** This is the most essential and fundamental truth. *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth* (Genesis 1:1). This is where it all starts. Simply, God is the creator of all things. If we don't start here, then everything that follows has no firm foundation. All things have their beginning in God, and His rights as the creator must be established and acknowledged.

Second, **God is a living and active God.** He is not dead, and He is not found in idols of wood, stone, gold, or silver, or in idols of the heart, or in what men call *gods*. The nations must turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and the all that is in them (Acts 14:15).

Third, **God is the sovereign landlord of His creation.** He did not create and then walk away from His creation as if to have nothing to do with it. The earth belongs to Him and He maintains sovereignty over all the earth, a fact confirmed when He made a covenant with Abraham and his descendants (Genesis 13:14-15), which was confirmed when Abraham's descendants were called out of Egypt to begin their journey to the promised land. *For all the earth is Mine* (Exodus 19:5). God has the right of ownership and does not share this right with the governments of men that act as if they own the land and can take it at will through deceit, war, or whatever means they so desire.

Fourth, the **Most High is ruler in the kingdom of men**, and He gives it to whomever He desires, for heaven rules (Daniel 4:25, 26). God is the king of all the earth (Psalm 47:7). In this capacity, He alone sets the law of the land, and He alone judges according to His law. At one moment, He might build up or plant a nation or a kingdom that turns from its evil ways, and, at another moment, He might pull down or uproot a nation or a kingdom that disobeys His commands and follows its own plans, acting according to the stubbornness of its heart (Jeremiah 18:7-12).

Fifth, **God the Father fixes the times or epochs by His own authority** (Acts 1:7). *It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men and knowledge to men of understanding* (Daniel 2:21). God gives wisdom and understanding of His appointed times, what they mean and what the nations are to do during those times.

Sixth, **God created through and for His Son, the one named Jesus**, and all the nations must answer to Him. It is vital that the nations know that they are not dealing with some generic god that has been secularized by men who seek not to offend anyone through their political correctness. There is a name attached to creation, and it is the name of the Son of God, the Lord Jesus, who is the word of God and the

King of kings and the Lord of lords (Revelation 19:13, 16). He is the creator of all things, and it is His kingdom that is coming to earth.

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. (Colossians 1:13-18 ESV)

All things are related to the kingdom of God's Son; there is need to be transferred into His kingdom. He is the firstborn of all creation and is before all things, and He is calling all things into His kingdom.

Seventh, this **Jesus God raised up** (Acts 2:32). He is the firstborn of the dead, and He alone must and will call forth all mankind from the grave, delivering them from the last enemy, death (1 Corinthians 15:26). Immortality rests with the firstborn of the dead, for **He is the resurrection and the life** (John 11:25).

Eighth, **God's Son is the heir of all things**, through whom He made the ages. He is not only the creator of all things; but the inheritor of the nations and the possessor of the earth from one end to the other, and the ages, which include the appointed times, belong to Him.

"I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You. 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession.'" (Psalm 2:7-8 NASB) ... In these last days He spoke to us in *the* Son, whom He appointed heir of all; through whom He indeed made the ages [eons].... (Hebrews 1:2 LITV [CLV])

Today the name of Jesus is reviled by many, but in the age to come, His name will be revered. We must be diligent to lift up the name of the very source of life and the one in whom God is summing up or heading up all things in the heavens and on earth (Ephesians 1:10). All nations must be brought onto this one foundation, which is Jesus *the* Anointed [*the* Christ] (1 Corinthians 3:11). He is the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning (origin or source) of the creation of God (Revelation 3:14), so that in all things He might have the preeminence (Colossians 1:18).

Let us be abundantly clear that Yahweh of the old covenant is Yeshua (Jesus) of the new covenant. He was the spiritual rock, Christ, that followed the sons of Israel in the wilderness (1 Corinthians 10:4), and He is the incarnate God (*Immanuel*, "God with us") that appeared in the flesh and died for the sin of the world over 2,000 years ago, and He is the risen Lord and King who is coming again to openly manifest His kingdom over all the nations of the world. In that day, the will of God will prevail over the nations. Heaven will rule on earth as both heaven and earth come together as God has always intended them to be.

Ninth, God declares: **I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain** (Psalm 2:6). Mountain speaks of God's kingdom. **God's king is King Jesus**—*at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father* (Philippians 2:10-11). The day is fast approaching when *the kingdom of the world becomes the kingdom of King Jesus, and he shall reign unto the ages of ages* (Revelation 11:15). *Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water* (Revelation 14:7). Amen!