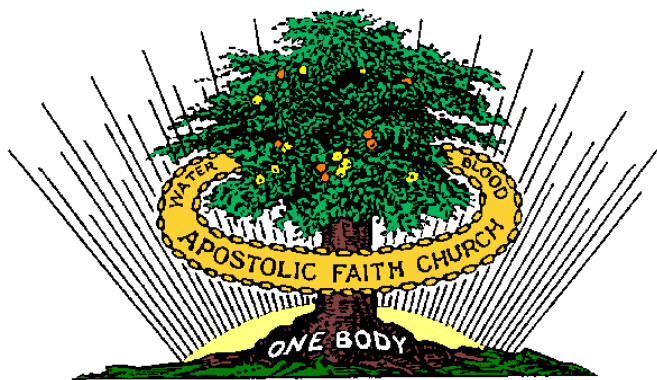


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Showers of Blessing

No. 5475 18/4/24

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The Womb Of The Morning

When we read with reverence and wonderment the story of God's Plan as it has taken place thus far, we do not stop to ask ourselves, what would have happened had there not been present those ancient worthies through whom the Almighty was able to take His divine purposes a stage further.

What if there had been no one available to fulfil Noah's role, would it have mattered, or would the Plan have been held up? In Genesis 6:9 we read that "Noah was perfect in his generations". All the ten generations of his parents, from Adam, had been wholly of pure human stock: none of his forebears had been polluted by fallen angels, who, until the Flood came, had not been restrained with chains of darkness, from materialising natural bodies at times. Those angels who have kept their first estate of perfection are still permitted to appear clothed in flesh, at God's command, when there is a need for a special communication. This fact is illustrated in Genesis chapter 18, where it tells us that Abraham entertained three angels unawares, because they appeared as men. Another example is found in Judges chapter 13, where an angel appears as a man to Manoah and his wife, who were the parents of Samson.

Moffatt's translation shows plainly that there was procreated a hybrid race of beings, neither angels nor men, which was not in accordance with God's intention; for the earth hath He given to the children of men (Psalm 115:16). "Now when men began to multiply over all the world and had daughters born to them, the angels noticed that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any one of them that they chose. So the Eternal said, 'Human creatures are but flesh; my spirit is not to be immortal in them; they shall not live more than a hundred and twenty years'. (It was in these days that the Nephilim giants arose on earth, as well as afterwards whenever angels had intercourse with the daughters of men and had children born to them: these were the heroes who were famous in the days of old.)" (Genesis 6: 1-4). The existence of this hybrid race was an additional reason for the Flood.

What a tragic loss it would have been to all mankind and our posterity, if Noah had scoffed at the possibility of water falling out of the sky, because until then God had not sent rain on earth, and man had only experienced mist rising from the earth and watering all the surface of the ground (Genesis 2:5,6). Nevertheless, at what then seemed against reason, this man who walked with God, believed His Word; and moved with fear to prepare an ark. True to the Word, the same day that the faithful entered the ark, the fountains of the great deep were broken up (underground water bursting to the surface) and the windows of heaven (the upper atmosphere and beyond), were opened to cause rainfall.

Without Noah having acted out his belief, no flesh would have been saved to replenish the earth; and those who had already gone to the grave, could never hear Christ's voice, and come forth at the resurrection of the dead. Likewise, faithful Abraham brought the Plan a stage further on when he staggered not in unbelief at the Word, that he, whilst yet childless, should be the father of many nations.

All these walked by faith and obediently with others took the many essential steps leading, in the fullness of time, to the Lamb of God, who by the finished work of Calvary, was able to take away the sin of the world. How much would have been prevented from developing if persons like Simon Peter, on being told, "We have found Him who is called Christ", had just shrugged their shoulders and passed on their way. There would have been no Acts of the Apostles, and no epistles to read, but for certain ones valiantly overcoming all unbelief, embracing for the first time an entirely new gospel message, which heralded a different conception of the Kingdom of God. What a dearth there would have been in the earth without the New Testament's power and vision!

In all the foregoing steps taken, the persons involved found in their love and hold on the Word, the strength of conviction to leave behind the former way of life and worship; and launch out undaunted to test a new dimension of experience.

Living now at the end of an age, and the opening of a new one, the challenge is all-demanding upon those awakening to its revolutionary character. The fulfilment of the Scriptures concerning this requires a cataclysmic change to come upon the world; which will result in all things being made new.

Great is the need to enter a plane of faith that will carry us through the events to come, wherein we may not only understand their meaning, but be found walking with God and participating in their progress.

Today, we should work to study while we have the opportunity, and wait upon the Lord to reveal to our understanding the coming work to be done by the Word through us: lest events overtake us and we find we do not have enough light of understanding to guide us on our way. The nature of the coming times will be such, that unless we have taken into our vessels the understanding available to each one of us now, the light sufficient for our present needs will not be adequate to explain to us the changes to come.

The understanding of the Word really demands applying ourselves to years of diligent preparation, to obtain enough oil of understanding in ourselves, so that we may have sufficient to draw upon and remain enlightened as the Lord moves forward.

The revelations stored up in one's understanding take too long to explain and teach over a short period; and it may mean that those who have neglected to prepare themselves, cannot be given the necessary attention then, to bring them on to the place where they are able to receive the oil of enlightenment from those who will be at that time too busily engaged in the work of the Bridegroom.

We are surely being both counselled and warned in the Lord's parable of the wise and foolish virgins, to avail ourselves of the light from those who sell (teach) the Word of revelation in this time of waiting, so that we are not later left in darkness with the unprepared. We are now in the stage of being prepared in the womb of the morning of the Lord's new Day!

Article written by the late Pastor R. Pain, first published in Showers number 3575, 1/12/83.

