



The kingdom of politick is like unto a man who hath been hooked to an IV of heroin. Campaign months straight...every play of every day is a blitz. Election night of peaking...the morning after an (s)election, a whirlwind of emotion. The authority, the power... the addiction. Beware, another election is coming. Must always know a guy who will know a guy to get your fix.

Watch your step. Careful, one bad move, and you're done. The addict always, all ways, plays the game. One more hit. One more dose. "I promise."

Daniel Series, Seven: It Is Time... Time To Stand

And it gets worse.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." -Ephesians 6:12-13

The Roman Government, like all governments, consists of flesh and blood, of people. But the apostle states we war not against flesh and blood but against "principalities," "darkness," "spiritual wickedness in high places." Caesar and the authorities of Rome may have spilled many a martyr's blood, but it was at the behest of the whispers of devils. The body politick is but a cesspool of the abyss.

Despite this, three young Jewish politicians rebelled. They would not bend, they would not bow, they "loved not their lives even unto death."

The writings of this prophecy are circa 603 BC, but we travel back about 100 years to another ancient prophet by the name of Isaiah. Let the prophets be subject to the prophets, "line upon line" they build the case. The man of God is speaking of the transfers of dominion. Kingdoms rise and kingdoms fall.

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them." -Isaiah 11:6

He speaks of the golden age. The curse will be lifted, the ecological system will change, the animals will no longer be carnivorous. The sights of time are cloudy to him, he will see things near and far. Not knowing the chronology he writes the timeline backward. In Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the image and the interpretation, the final epoch is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus. Isaiah records it first. Then as we progress to chapter 13 he references Babylon.

"The burden of Babylon, which Isaiah the son of Amoz did see. Lift ye up a banner upon the high mountain, exalt the voice unto them, shake the hand, that they may go into the gates of the nobles. I have commanded my sanctified ones, I have also called my mighty ones for mine anger, even them that rejoice in my highness. The noise of a multitude in the mountains, like as of a great people; a tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together: the LORD of hosts mustereth the host of the battle." -Isaiah 13:1-4

All the armies of the world are gathered together. God has assembled them. Battalion after battalion rattling the sword. He has stated the reference to Babylon, but remember the words of Peter as he referred to Rome as the city of Babylon. Be advised, Isaiah is certainly speaking of future events but if we advance in word we find a leap even further.

"Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall



not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.” -Isaiah 13:9-10

These words Jesus quotes in the Olivet Discourse and He quotes them as future events, so we confirm He is not referring to the Babylon of Mesopotamia, but rather the “spirit” of Babylon that lives on in nations that invoke the wicked Babylonian system; a blood lust greed for money. Isaiah then digresses back to the destruction of the Babylon of Mesopotamia.

“Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them, which shall not regard silver; and as for gold, they shall not delight in it. Their bows also shall dash the young men to pieces; and they shall have no pity on the fruit of the womb; their eye shall not spare children. And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees’ excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.” -Isaiah 13:17-19

The Lord is speaking through the prophet’s writing in a seeming obscure tone; mixing different points of time. This is purposeful for the reader to induce thought, to contemplate as the wise, on both, to make connections in the mind. This may be history in the making, but it never ceases to be a prophetic voice.

“That thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased! The LORD hath broken the staff of the wicked, and the sceptre of the rulers.” -Isaiah 14:4-5

The prophet is shocked by such happenings. The glory of victory and the agony of defeat. He is overwhelmed in thought. Then immediately is moved to a hasty glance of triumph.

“The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing. Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, and the cedars of Lebanon, saying, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us.” -Isaiah 14:7-8

It is the golden age, the 1,000 year reign of Christ. The Millennium. But then quickly another flash of the demolition of the king.

“Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations. All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become

weak as we? art thou become like unto us? Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee. How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.” -Isaiah 14:9-14

The prophet writes of the destruction of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, but then slowly transitions to another figure, pulling the curtain back to see the reality, that of Lucifer. In the narrative of Nebuchadnezzar setting up an image, that whosoever, of every tribe, tongue, and nation that will not bow down to worship at the sound of the musick, says more than meets the eye. It “appears” that it is the edict of Nebuchadnezzar, but it is the very work of Satan. “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” The swamp...it is deep. And it is dark.

Only a fool thinks of the devil with a pitchfork. But rather he “poses as an angel of light,” delivering with whispers, giving “blessings.” Be advised, he is called the “son of the morning,” so very close to a title of Jesus Christ “the bright and morning star.” (See Revelation 22:16.) The usurper, the counterfeiter, the deceiver is more subtle than any beast of the field. “He that hath an ear to hear, let him hear.” -Jesus.

The Image is set up. The musick begins to play summoning all to bow and worship, but there are a few that resist and disobey. And there come the Chaldeans. Acting as the accuser of the brethren. Naturally the upper echelons of academia with such arrogance are the ones to bring the infraction to the ears of Nebuchadnezzar.

“They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for ever. Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image: And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these



men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.” -Daniel 3:9-12

They are not informing the king of something he doesn't already know. These three men are his top advisors, appointed by Daniel. The Chaldean rehearse back to him his own decree including the required punishment. They are in position to advise and assist the king. Notice they list the indictments as transgressing and offending the king personally: “Not regarded thee” and “Serve not thy gods,” not they have “Broken the laws of the land.” The corrupt cabinet members are backing him into a corner... and the faint sounds of demons whispering: they disrespect You, they are making You look bad, making You look weak. The demons know the pride of life, and the ego is the kryptonite of men. They goad him. The Apostle Paul new full well the weakness of men concerning the devil, “They are taken captive at his will.”

“Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up? Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound...and worship the image which I have made; well...” -Daniel 3:13-15

Notice: The king questions them concerning the matter. Again, not that he does not know, he does. And then gives them another chance to obey. He is trying to give them an out. These men along with Daniel were the men that helped him in his time of distress when no one else could. They have served him with integrity for near twenty years. One can hear the sound of benevolence in his voice. But the pressure from accusing Chaldeans, prodding him publicly. He is like unto Pontius Pilate, “I find no fault in him at all...shall I crucify your king?” Yet capitulates beneath the pressure. Nebuchadnezzar is looking to release them, but the men reply:

“...O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the

golden image which thou hast set up. Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed...” -Daniel 3:16-19

Satan stands clinching his talons, and “takes him at his will.” Like Judas Iscariot, the devil entered in to him.

“Therefore because the king’s commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king. He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.”
-Daniel 3:22, 24-25

We have a reincarnate appearance of Jesus Christ the Son of God walking in the flames. One would question why He chose this method. Why must He appear? “Just speak the word, and thy servant will be healed.” The question is why? The answer...Grace. It is not for the sake of the men in the fire, but for the wicked king to see. He is revealing Himself to the king. Grace to the vilest offender, the one guilty of attempted murder, in the very act. “And the form of the fourth is like unto the Son of God.” How does he know this? How does he know God has a son? But by Him revealing Himself.

There is one thing the counterfeiter will not imitate of God...he will not let the people go. So a close look at the inside of a very criminal man, is that he is coming to Christ.

“Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king’s word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.”
-Daniel 3:28-29

When you have done all to stand, Stand.

