

THE SHAKING AND THE STORM

Joel 3:16 – “The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; and THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH SHALL SHAKE: but the Lord will be the hope of His people, and the strength of (His) children...”

Ezekiel 38:20-23 – “...ALL THE MEN THAT ARE UPON THE FACE OF THE EARTH, SHALL SHAKE AT MY PRESENCE, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground...and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the Lord.”

Isaiah 24:18-20 – “...for the windows from on high are open, and THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE EARTH DO SHAKE. The earth is utterly broken down...the earth is moved exceedingly. The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard...”

Hebrews 12:26-27 – “...Yet once more I SHAKE NOT THE EARTH ONLY, BUT ALSO HEAVEN...that (only) those things which cannot be shaken may remain.”

Shake: – Hebrew: undulate; to awe; to dread; to break; to shake terribly; make to tremble
Greek: to rock, vibrate, tremble; to throw into a tremor of fear; to move; to agitate; quake

THE STORM REVEALS THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF GOD’S MESSENGERS:

1. JONAH - He was a lukewarm, disobedient messenger; Jonah 1:3,6,12.
 - a. He heard God’s voice and he had God’s message; Jonah 1:1-2; 3:1-3.
 - b. He did not take the call of God seriously to reach the lost; Hosea 6:6; 2 Peter 3:9.
 - c. It took a great storm for Jonah to come to the place of repentance, to turn to the Lord, and fulfill his vows; Jonah 2:1-10; Ecclesiastes 5:4; Psalm 66:13-14; Ps. 119:67.
 - d. Jonah pouted even after God spared his life, even after Nineveh repented. He delivered God’s message, but was angry, without compassion in his heart; Jonah 4:1-11.
 - e. God can use the forces of nature and His creation for His own purposes: to instruct His people, to reveal His ways to them, and to change their attitudes. In Jonah’s case, God used a storm, a great fish, a gourd, a worm, the sun and wind; Jonah 1:4,17; 4:6-11.
2. PAUL - Was a faithful messenger, an overcomer, who takes over the ship; Acts 27
 - a. He is a prisoner, a spirit filled man, who hears from heaven during the storm. While the crew was toiling at the pumps (the ship was leaking), he was wrestling in prayer for the souls of his shipmates; Acts 27:9-10.
 - b. Paul knew his assignment: he would go to Rome. Worsening conditions caused all to listen to Paul, who was told by an angel that their lives would be spared. Acts 27:21-25.
 - c. Paul brought encouragement and instructions to all who were in the ship during the storm. He warned them to stay in the ship, to cut off the ropes to the lifeboat, and to eat. They listened to Paul, were encouraged, and escaped safely to land; Acts 27:30-44.
 - d. Paul, the obedient prisoner, was looked up to by the passengers as the man to direct them. God confirms His word through Paul, who ministered in Melita and Rome; Acts 28

THE SHAKING COMES IN THE STORM:

Luke 6:46-49; Matthew 7:24-27:

A. These scriptures speak of two different “foundations” of a house: Rock and Sand

1. ROCK - a firm foundation of true discipleship and genuine relationship with Jesus Christ; 2 Timothy 2:19.

2. SAND - denotes inconsistency, a loose foundation, an empty profession of faith with mere external services; Matthew 15:8-9.

B. Two kinds of “builders” of a house – the wise man and the foolish man

Matthew 7:25 Tells Us That Different Influences Are Felt In The Storm:

1. RAIN - that which descends from above; Genesis 7:4; Joel 2:23; James 5:7.

2. FLOODS - that which transpires upon Earth; Psalms 18:4; 29:10; 93:3; Jer.12:5.

3. WINDS - blow from every direction. The 4 winds described in Ezek. 37:9 speaks of the Holy Spirit’s influence coming from all directions (#4 is a universal number), denoting great activity occurring simultaneously; Acts 2:2; Jer. 49:36; Rev. 7:1. God speaks out of the whirlwind: Job 38:1; 40:6. There are false winds of doctrine; Jude 12.

LUKE 6:47 GIVES US THE KEY IN HOW TO STAND:

1. “COME TO ME” – not to a ministry, not to a denomination, not to a doctrinal emphasis, but to the Person of Jesus Christ; Matthew 11:28.

2. “HEAR MY SAYINGS” – hearken, listen to His words, pay attention to the “inner voice”; Deuteronomy 26:14. Jesus said we need “ears to hear”; Revelation chapters 2- 3.

3. “DO THEM” – obedience is the key! Do what He tells you to do; practice what He said in His Word; Matthew 7:21-23; John 14:15, 23.

If You Are A Wise Man:

a. You will build your house (life, temple) according to, and based upon, biblical principles, the truth of God’s Word; 1 Chronicles 28:10-12; 1 Corinthians 3:16-17.

b. You will dig deep (with a root system in the Word of God); Ps. 80:9; Ephesians 3:17.

c. Your foundation will be upon the ROCK, upon the strength of an enduring relationship with Jesus Christ, not upon the sinking sands of the world’s systems and the world’s values; 1 Corinthians 10:4; 1 Kings 5:17; Revelation 21:19.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE SHAKING AND THE STORM?

1. To expose and remove that which springs from man’s own wisdom, skill, devices and natural strength. Our heavenly Father knows how to bring a man to the end of himself. Everything that can be shaken or moved will be removed (the temporal realm).

2. Jesus intends to fill His House (us) with His glory. Earthly copies of heavenly things must be purified; Haggai 2:9; Hebrews 9:23; 1 Peter 2:5.

3. Shaking is a necessary part of the process in THE HARVEST OF THE EARTH.

4. The Lord’s goal for us in the storm is to bring us to His appointed place, our “desired haven”; Jonah 1:4, 15-17, 2:10; Psalm 107:23-30; Acts 27:27.

5. The Shaking and the Storm are both spiritual and literal!

ALMIGHTY GOD WILL SHAKE ALL OF THESE: Haggai 2:6-7, 21:

The Heavens – principalities, thrones and powers are coming down; Is. 13:13; Ps. 110:5.

The Earth – world systems, governments, and kingdoms of men; Isaiah 2:19, 21.

The Sea – there will be a harvest of souls from the turbulent seas of humanity; Isaiah 60:5

The Dry Land – that which is desolate and unfruitful; Isaiah 32:2, 15.

All Nations – every tongue, every race, every tribe upon the Earth; Isaiah 66:18.

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