

Kingdom Report

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The Word Made Flesh

Some initial remarks on the possible USA election prophetic disaster. Plus a new perspective on the coming of Jesus Christ.

As of this morning Friday 6th of November Joe Biden seems to have an insurmountable lead in the American Electoral College vote for President of America. Ordinarily as a South African I would not have any great interest in American politics to feel a need to analyze and report on to my readers. Except for this problematic fact....

The entire charismatic prophetic community in America has declared "Thus saith the Lord...Donald Trump will win re-election." As an old line Pentecostal myself and someone who respects the office of Apostle and Prophet this is important to me....important that I need to be able to trust those ministries I respect as sincere men of God who say the Lord has spoken to them. I know of at least three highly respected prophets in America who have categorically said "Jesus appeared to me and said Trump will win the election", that is apart from the numerous many others who have recognized prophetic ministries and declared prophetically that Trump would be elected.

I am going to take a week till next week's blog to analyze this situation. I am hoping by then the dust has settled, or some major last minute miracle has happened and Trump manages to pull this off. If not....then I can assure you we in the charismatic evangelical movement have some serious soul searching or Spirit searching to do because it will amount to a major disaster for the credibility of the prophetic movement. And it will greatly affect us here in South Africa where our own movement here is very much influenced by the American prophetic movement.

So...I need a week to meditate, to pray and prayerfully consider what I write next week.

But for this week.....

I thought I would share a very fascinating observation from the Old Testament about the appearance of Jesus Christ. I am busy doing a total re-write of my book "Radical Gospel of the Kingdom" and making a special expanded revelation on the entire issue of the appearance or coming of Christ. To do that I am going into the Old Testament to lay a proper groundwork about the many appearances of Jesus Christ as "Yahweh" in the Old Testament.....my point being if you want to understand what Paul and John and Peter and Jesus Himself meant when they referred to the "coming of the Lord" their theology, their frame of reference was the only scripture they knew...what we call the Old Testament. And the Old Testament is in actual fact full of the multiple

appearances of Jesus Christ in various forms. And it was these various means that Jesus appeared in the Old Testament that are all duplicated in the New Testament and the understanding they provided the writers of the New Testament.

This in actual fact is a fascinating investigation. I hope to give you some wonderful new insights and revelation that will help you to better understand the coming of the Lord and the manifestation of His presence on earth.

My real favourite New Testament writer on the coming of Christ is in fact the apostle John. He was passionate and insightful on this issue in all three of his writings:
The Gospel of John
The Epistles of John
The Revelation

I think the greatest revelations of the appearance of Jesus Christ is to be found in his writings. And I also think we greatly misunderstand what John's emphasis was in both Revelation and his gospel.

Just to give you something to meditate on:
Take the very first line in the book of Revelation "The revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave unto him....."

The word "revelation" here in the Greek is "apokalupsis" which is why people refer to it as the Apocalypse of John. Meaning the disasters and judgments of God on the earth. That is how the book of Revelation is preached. The Apocalypse! This is a gross distortion. This book is about the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world and how God plans to do that.

Here is why this shift of emphasis in your thinking is vitally important. If you don't do this shift you will get the whole "Second Coming of Christ" wrong. Your main emphasis will be disaster, destruction, judgment....instead of God's eternal purposes of revealing Himself to all the earth and thereby bringing the world and it's nations into the Kingdom of God.

I will go back to this ending that most people miss in a moment but first I want to refer you to the other great first chapter of John's gospel where once again most people miss an incredible revelation that John has on the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Before I do this I need to give you the background in the Old Testament that will allow you to read an incredible statement that John makes in that first chapter of his gospel in a new light.

In 1 Samuel 3 there is wonderful story of the calling of the young boy Samuel of his first encounter with Yahweh, the Lord God. Young Samuel was dedicated by his mother to the service of the Lord and he grew up under the care of the high priest Eli. You know the story how the Lord three times calls to young Samuel until Eli understands what is going on and tells the boy it is the Lord calling him and not Eli.

Now I want to quote to you the important part of this interaction....
The chapter opens with the statement "***The word of Yahweh was rare in those days;***

*visions were not widespread". Now in verse 10 we have this important statement...**"And the Lord came and stood and called as at other times Samuel, Samuel and Samuel answered Speak for your servant hears."***

Please note the important "the Lord stood..." The word of the Lord was rare in those days and then something happened, a prophet was given to Israel who could "see the Lord, the word of God". This was repeated in the last verse of chapter 3:
"All Israel from Dan to Beersheba realized that Samuel was faithful as a prophet to Yahweh. And Yahweh appeared again in Shiloh for Yahweh revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh through (or as) the word of Yahweh."

I want you to see something here. Yahweh stood before Samuel and revealed himself to Samuel as "the word of the Lord". This is important. Let me give you another example from Abraham.

In Acts 7:2-4 Stephen says ***"The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was in Mesopotamia before he settled in Haran...."*** Abraham's first encounter with God before he moved to Haran was a visible appearance of the Lord to Abraham.

This was repeated in Abraham's life...the visible appearance of the Lord. In Genesis 12: 7 Abraham has already left Haran and traveling through Canaan and this verse says ***"And the Lord appeared unto Abram and said To your offspring I will give this land..."*** Again an appearance of the Lord to Abraham...not just a voice from the sky!

Now look at Genesis 15:1-6

"And after these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision saying, Don't be afraid Abram I am your shield an your reward will be very great" (vrs 1). Now look at verse 4 ***"And the word of the Lord came to him saying this person shall not be your heir but your own son will be your heir. And he brought him outside..."***

Again the, ***"word of the Lord"*** appeared to Abram spoke to him and then took him outside and showed him the stars.

Here is what you will see throughout the Old Testament....

"The word of the Lord" was a person that appeared to the prophets and patriarchs. This "person" was God made manifest. Whenever you read in scripture that a prophet says "and the word of the Lord came to me" don't think here some voice in someone's head. It is a person coming to that prophet, it is God manifesting Himself!

John the apostle was well read in scripture. He knew who that "word of the Lord was". Now look again at those well known verses that John opens his famous first chapter with....

"In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God"!

Can you see that anyone in John's time who had studied scripture like any well read Pharisee like Paul knew immediately what John was implying by that opening statement. He answered an ancient theological dispute among the rabbi's..."Who is this Son of Man in heaven, who is this angel of the Lord that spoke as God to Moses

in the burning bush saying I am that I am; who was The Word of the Lord that appeared to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all the prophets?"

But here is the clincher, the incredible revelation that John makes in verse 14...

"And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory the glory as of the only begotten of the father full of grace and truth,"

This is incredible! In ages past only special "seer prophets" could have their spirits activated to see "the Word of the Lord" and hear Him speak. But God had this incredible plan that all the world must see and hear "the word of the Lord". So the "word of the Lord" was made flesh to dwell among us in order to reveal the Father to all mankind.

That is what the coming of Jesus Christ is all about. It is about the revelation of Jesus Christ. Jesus said if you have seen me you have seen the Father. The Holy Spirit was sent to the earth and poured out to all His disciples to reveal Jesus Christ. And if the Spirit is to be poured out upon all flesh then the purpose of that outpouring is to reveal "the word of the Lord" to all flesh.

That is what the coming of Jesus Christ is all about. That is what His first coming was all about, the Word made flesh so that all mankind could have a revelation of the Word of the Lord. That is what His second coming is all about. It is not about "apocalypse", it is about "the Revelation of Jesus Christ".

Now I am going to say something very controversial but you need to ponder this. I know there are all these many theories out there of what are the signs of the coming of the Lord, is it before or after the Great Tribulation, what about the Millennium? What about Armageddon etc.

All these are "apocalypse" centered ideas and all miss the point of Revelation. John tells us the ending of the book. It is still about the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world, not about how Jesus destroys the world. It is about how Jesus will be revealed and where Jesus will be revealed to the world.

John tells us exactly where and how Jesus will appear and for what purpose. Read Revelation 21 and 22 again. He says "the tabernacle of God is with men". That is, God has prepared a place of residence on earth where he will dwell again on earth and manifest Himself to all mankind. John describes it as a tabernacle of God, a temple of God, a city of God, a Bride of Christ. It is the church of Jesus Christ, which is His body and His Bride, His temple, His City, New Jerusalem.

Once again the Word will be manifested in the flesh for all the world to see. But this time "the flesh" will be the people of God who will be filled with the Spirit of God sent into the world to manifest the presence and power of God to all peoples and to heal the nations and disciple them into the Kingdom.

That is why Paul who knows all this that John is writing and knows about the coming of the Lord in His saints says the greatest mystery of all time that is now revealed through His saints is "Christ in us, the hope of glory". We are only at the beginning

of the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world. I expect still a greater outpouring of His Spirit in the Church to truly reveal "the word of the Lord" to all the world.