

Notes for bible study 2-8-22

Comments on **allegory** – a story in which people things and happenings have another meaning- as in a fable

Metaphor – a figure of speech in which one thing is likened to another by being spoken as if it were that other.

Literal – following the exact words of the original- based upon their actual ordinary meaning.

We would do well to error on the side of **literal** rather than the other two.

Jonah was actually swallowed up in the belly of a whale – Peter actually did walk on water – **Samson** really did kill 1,000 Philistines with the jawbone of a donkey- all of the animals on earth at that day fit on the ark of Noah – The red sea really did part so the children of Israel could walk across on **dry ground**. And on you go with it.

Every jot and tittle of the Word of God is true. 66 books written over 2,000 years by 40 people who did not know one another- had to have an understanding outside of what we know as time. Had to have an author who knows the “end from the beginning” whatever that means.

OK – now on to the lesson at hand.

We are studying the Rapture of the Church –

It must be noted at this point that we are not studying this marvelous issue for the sake of more knowledge. We know knowledge puffs us up – and none of us needs that.

We are studying this issue so that we can grasp the importance of the times in which we live. We are studying this issue in order to understand just how close we are to His 2nd coming. We are studying this issue to remind ourselves of how short the time is to bring the message of salvation to our loved ones and our neighbors.

Time is short – time for us to get out of the stands and on to the playing field. The harvest is ripe, and the workers are few...

Got it?

Before we go to the charts I have sent you, I would like to introduce you to two (maybe new, maybe not) concepts necessary in our study and understanding of scripture.

The first is – **the law of 1st mention**

The first time a word, idea or doctrine is used in scripture , will be the simplest more understandable reference for which the others will build.

Example – the word “**blood**” in Genesis 4:10 – for reference sake, Cain had just killed he brother Abel (because he was jealous that Abel’s offering was accepted by God, and

Cain was not- Abel brought a sacrifice from his flock and of their fat – and Cain had brought an offering from the fruit of his labor)

B.P. one was of his own labor, the other at the sacrifice of another – Great spiritual principle here.

Anyhow, look at God’s response to Cain – Gen 4:9&following.

From this we begin to learn some things about blood. – life is in the blood Gen **9:5&6** Blood would be required as a “hiding place’ for the Jews as they placed it on the lenthil and door posts of their homes for the death angel to pass over their place- we begin to understand the importance of blood sacrifice with the animals the Jews were to offer, and eventually the importance of the blood of Jesus Christ on the cross – etc.

Further we note in **2nd Corinthians chapter 5** Read it - Paul mentions the “**house**” not made with hands” that we groan eagerly to leave and take up a new residence.

Word is used only 2 times in scripture -

The same word is used in **Jude 6** when (King James uses it as “habitation”) the angels that were in heaven before being “cast down” failed to enjoy or even have any desire to remain in their first place of abode.

Believers are looking forward to their new home, unbelievers are not – couldn’t care less.

The second law (if you will) I want to introduce us to is the **law of imminence**. The word is only important to those of us who are Pre-tribulation rapture folks. We are looking forward to the imminent call of the “trumpet of God” coming soon for us at the rapture.

Not the Post Tribulation folks or the Mid tribulation folks can or are looking for this to happen.

We are instructed to “look up” for our redemption is drawing near....

OK, now just a few more things before we go to the charts.

In **Genesis 22** – we have the story of Abraham being given the command to take his son -his only son(-even though he also had Ishmael) and offer him as a sacrifice to the Lord God.

Now Abraham is a picture of the Heavenly Father – Isaac is a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ – the unknown servant – a picture of the Holy Spirit – as the story goes on.

Interesting to me that on the 3rd day Abraham “looked up” and saw the place for the sacrifice to take place.

In **Hebrews 11:19** Abraham considered his son dead – “for God is able to raise him up, even from the dead”

So as they set out – Abe knew his son was to die there.

B.P. we tend to believe that Isaac was a kid – however he was **30** something years old when this happened.

So back to **Genesis 22** – Abraham said to the two servants “stay here with the donkey, the lad and I will go yonder and worship and: WE WILL COME BACK TO YOU”

Great statement of faith.

You know the story – Isaac says “we have the wood, we have the fire, but where is the lamb for the offering?”

Abe’s answer – God will provide. However, look at verse 8

God will provide for “HIMSELF” the lamb for a burnt offering. Who? Himself.

Of course, we know that God the Father provided the substitute for Himself with the offering of the Lord Jesus to be crucified. - MARVELOUS HOW THIS ALL FITS TOGETHER.

And of course, God did provide as they discovered in the thicket a ram caught by his horns.

Now we know the story, but let me ask you something. We know that Abraham returned to his young men (vs 19) but what is not mentioned?

Where is **Isaac** in all of this? Oh, we know he must have come down with ‘Abraham, but nothing of this is mentioned.

We do not hear from him again until **Genesis 24 vs 64**

However – Genesis 24 vs 1 & following is Abraham telling his unnamed servant (picture of the Holy Spirit) to go and find a bride for his son Isaac (picture of Jesus Christ)

B.P. Abraham told his servant to go find a bride from “His country and His family”- (speaks about the sovereignty of God in choosing us) anyhow the servant was to

Find this bride – give her gifts (as we have gifts given to the bride to be- today)o

So today we have the Holy Spirit seeking a bride for the Son Jesus – pointing to the marvels of the bridegroom when he finds **Rebekah (a picture of the Church)**

Traditional Jewish wedding- Bridegroom proposes – she accepts – he departs to his fathers home – builds on a room or two – she awaits His presence for she knows not when he is coming – he usually comes at night with a shout and then he shows up.

In the meantime, the bride is making herself ready. All discussed in **Matthew 25** for your information.

You then have the wedding, the consummation of that marriage, as the bride and groom spend the night together, which would then lead to the marriage feast that would last or 7 days.

Don't you love it?

One short note now concerning "**replacement theology**". This has to do with those who believe that God is done with the nation of Israel – and is only concerned with the Church of Jesus Christ. At least some say, until the church age is over.

This kind of thinking only leads to **the hatred of the Jews**. It leads to **antisemitism**. It makes us indifferent today about what is happening in the Nation of Israel. With this understanding we take the wrong sides concerning the Palestinian Issue – God gave that land to Israel (and much more if you study what was given to Abraham and draw out the boundaries)

Much of the "Middle East" has been deeded to the Nation of Israel, and one day they will occupy all of it.... Period, end of discussion.

Even though I see no prophetic scriptures concerning the Church toward Israel, it is true that we should witness to them concerning the gospel and becoming part of the church, but irrespective of this they are still the "apple of God's eye" and He has not forsaken His people.

6% of all the Jews were killed in the second world war. According to **Zechariah 13:8&9** 2/3rds of them will perish. With only 1/3 remaining.

OK, lets look at the charts I sent you 3 weeks ago.

Notice now that this is a crude drawing – our only objective here is to place the scriptures in the proper place.