Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE ORIGIN STORY OF JESUS

RLJ-1867 JOHN S. TORELL JULY 3, 2022

PART 72: DON'T IGNORE GOD'S WARNINGS

HOW DOES GOD THINK?

There is a vast difference between God and man. God is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent; there is no limit to what he can think and do. **Isaiah 55:8-9**

Mankind is created with limited knowledge and cannot see into the future. God addressed the issue of who man is in comparison to God. **Job 38:1-7; 40:1-9; 42:1-6**

There is no way that the human race can comprehend the thinking of God. We have limited knowledge of how God thinks by examining what He has done in the past as recorded in the Bible. **Hebrews 1:1-3**

THE HARDENING OF EZEKIEL

The Godhead wanted to display a show-and-tell story to the Jews and Ezekiel was instructed to use a brick as a symbol of Jerusalem and lay siege to it. **Ezekiel 4:1-3**

Then Ezekiel was told that he was to atone for the sins of the northern tribes by sleeping on his left side for the next 390 days (1.06 years). **verses 4-5**

Then he was to lie on his right side for 40 days to atone for the sins of Judah. verses 6

He was instructed to prophecy against Jerusalem. verse 7

Ezekiel was told that bands would be placed on him so that he could not move during the night. I believe that holy angels were assigned to make sure that Ezekiel fulfilled what he had been told to do. **verse 8**

FOOD AND DRINK

The time period for Ezekiel to painfully bear the sins of Israel and Judah totaled 430 days (1.2 years).

He was instructed to bake and eat a special bread. 1 verse 9

Ezekiel was told that he could only eat 8oz of the bread per day and was limited to drinking 16oz during the same time period. This was to symbolize the famine that would take place in Jerusalem during the end of the 10-year grace period. **verses 10-11**

During the second Babylonian siege of Jerusalem, the only fuel available for cooking was human excrement. Ezekiel was told to bake the bread like barley cakes and use feces as a source of heat. Ezekiel strongly protested and the Godhead changed it to cow manure. **verses 12-17**

¹ An American named Max Torres worked at a natural foods store. He read Ezekiel 4:9 in 1964 and decided to re-create the bread God instructed Ezekiel to make. He started his own company called Food for Life and today you can buy Ezekiel Bread all over the United States. Torres discovered the specific mix of grains which produces a healthy, extremely nourishing bread that will give energy to the eater.

SHAVING THE HAIR & BEARD

The Godhead continued to humiliate Ezekiel by ordering him to shave his head and cut off his beard and use the hair in a judgment illustration against the people of Judah. **Ezekiel 5:1-5**

The Godhead pronounced a severe punishment that would result in total destruction. **verses 6-17**

PROPHECY AGAINST ISRAEL

Ezekiel was given a terrible prophecy against the people of Israel. He uses this term in reference to the southern kingdom, and not the ten northern tribes, who had long before been carried into captivity.

There was no mercy or offer of repentance from the Lord; it was just a final message that Israel was doomed because they had sinned grievously and could only expect death and destruction. The only positive statement in this judgment was that the Godhead would preserve a remnant to be redeemed in the future. **Ezekiel 6:1-14**

WHEN GRACE RUNS OUT

The average Christian has no desire to read Ezekiel's prophecies because they consider them depressing, the prophetic words don't offer any hope, and they think that they are somehow immune from God's wrath.

Few pastors believe that God is capable of judgment. They preach steadfastly about the love of God, prosperity, and how their congregants don't need to worry about the future.

God sent a partial judgment on September 11, 2001. The United States was stunned for a few weeks and churches were full of people seeking God. But after the shock dissipated, people returned to their sinful living and the judgment was forgotten.

There was a second judgment that most people missed when the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) was created and Americans traded their freedom for government surveillance and protection. Flying became a laborious process and the act of purchasing a car required a document that was submitted to DHS. Bank clerks became the eyes and ears of DHS when they had to report deposits over \$500 and a simple withdrawal became a request that would be filled a few days later.

SELECT JUDGMENTS

The war in Iraq began in 2003 and would last until 2011. American losses were 4,431 killed and 31,994 wounded.

One million soldiers served in Iraq during the duration of the war and that means an equal number of families were impacted by the war.

Thousands of families were shattered by divorce and many of the affected children were emotionally damaged and will have difficulty in their adult lives.

The 20-year war in Afghanistan lasted from 2001-2021. A total of 2,448 service men lost their lives with 20,752 wounded. The CIA lost 18 of its agents and some 1,822 civilian contractors were also killed.

Some 100,000 American soldiers served during these two decades and that means that an equal number of families were affected by the war, suicide, divorce, and broken homes.

Some 30,177 veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars committed suicide after they returned home.

THE TRUMP YEARS

The United States prospered financially during the first three years of President Trump. Unemployment was low as people had money to spend on homes, cars, vacations, etc. Instead of flocking to churches and thanking God for the blessings, church attendance went down as people did not have time for their Creator.

Judgment fell three years later in 2019 when COVID-19 swept up the entire world. Everything the Trump administration had initiated fell apart and the nation shut down.

The Democrats took advantage of the fear mongering in the 2020 presidential election as blue states issued mail-in ballots with little control over to whom they were sent. Teamed up with rigged electronic voting machines, the unthinkable happened as Joe Biden was elected the next president.

THE JUDGMENT OF GOD

On his first day in office, Joe Biden shut down the Keystone XL pipeline through executive order and put restrictions on oil and gas leases. Federal funding to building the U.S.-Mexico border wall was halted and the border was opened for illegals to pour into America by the millions.

Riots broke out in 2020 all over the United States, and while Biden has stated that he opposes the "defund the police" movement, at least four of its proponents have met with top administration officials at the White House.

George Soros backed elected prosecutors refused to prosecute the rioting criminals. At the same time a no bail system was set in place. The result was a crime wave that swept across America.

Criminals are being released early from prison and this gave rise to increased gun violence in big cities that saw hundreds of people shot and killed every week. Grab-and-smash crimes are much more common and many storeowners watch as criminals boldly steal without fear of being caught.

The open border with Mexico has allowed drugs laced with fentanyl to flow in and hundreds of young people are dying from illegal drugs every week.

America is now being hit with inflation and a huge spike in gasoline and diesel prices.

CAN JUDGMENT BE LIFTED?

Can the judgment of God be lifted? Yes, but there must be repentance that begins with the churches. No political party can save America. Only God can save our nation.

SUMMARY

The Godhead handpicked Abraham to be the father of his offspring, but also the nations of the world. They loved Israel with a great passion. **Deuteronomy 7:6-11**

But when the descendants of Abraham embraced idolatry and sacrificed their own children, God sent prophets to warn them. Eventually the time of grace ended and judgment fell on these rebellious and stiff-necked people.

If the Godhead was willing to allow such judgment to their beloved people, do you think that America will be spared the same fate? The answer must be no!

As American Christians, we would do well to study the grooming of Ezekiel and start our own process of repentance.

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?