

Key Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-9

But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

From the verse above, we see that the times and seasons are spoken in response to Jehovah's day. We will attempt to make a few definitions. The word 'times' used in this passage is "Chronos" and it is used in the succession and measurements of moments. It has to do with passing moments and how one moment succeeds another. There is no reference to the moral significance of that moment, simply the succession. We need to know and have a concept of time. The word seasons is from the Greek word 'Kairos'. This goes beyond the succession of moments, but it carries the idea of the opportunity which time provides. Kairos or season is that which time gives an opportunity to do. It is basically what we do with the time that we have. It carries no idea of good or bad, convenience or inconvenience, but it deals with the import of that time, the cruciality and necessity of the time in relation to the task before us. Time opens for us an opportunity to do something and the import of that which we are to do at that time is the season. Having said this, we are told that we are not to be ignorant about times and seasons. This means we need to be familiar with divine timings and we also need to know what we ought to be doing in respect to our behaviour, this speaks of the season. Time in the verse above has been cast in the context of the day of the Lord, hence, we need to be able to know and track the character of Jehovah's day.

In summary, Jehovah's day is the day when Jehovah has determined that the work of man, the rule of man be overthrown. Jehovah's day has two components:

1. The first component of Jehovah's day is the overthrow of the rule of man. God created man and gave him dominion over the earth. He was to be fruitful and multiply, created in the image of God, Genesis 1:26-28. He was to replenish the earth with the image and the likeness of God, but before he was able to do that, evil set in. And man has multiplied evil upon the earth.
2. The second component of Jehovah's day is the divine intervention in the affairs of man. This is the intervention of God to set aside mans dominion to establish God's Kingdom.

In todays meditation, we will be considering the times and seasons we are in and the time we are in the administration of Jehovah's Day. We will examine this framework in respect to the physical Israel. Israel's loss of divine estate and their eventual restoration gives us an idea of divine timing. There are key questions whose resolution can only be in the day of the Lord. The resolution of these questions revolve around the loss of three things to the nation of Israel; the loss of three cups to the nation of Israel. Israel has lost three cups and the day of the Lord is situated by the recovery of these cups.

The questions are:

1. Why have the children of Israel lost their language?
2. Why have they lost their speech?
3. Why have they lost their nation or their nationality?

If you look at Israel's history, you will discover that these three things happened to them; they lost their language, their ministry, and their nation.

1. **Loss of Language:** They lost their language when they were in the land of Captivity for 70 years. After the rule of the Babylonians was the rule of Greece and then the Romans. Over this period of time, Israel lost their language. At the time of Jesus, it was not the Hebrew language spoken, they were speaking Aramaic. It was recently by a divine work that the

Jewish language was recovered. This is a miracle, given that once a language is not communicated for several generations, it is almost impossible to get it back.

2. **Loss of Speech:** This speaks of their ministry, *Romans 9:4* shows what Israel was intended to be from the Divine plan. They were to become God's children on earth. They were to express the full glory of God. They were to be the givers of the law. In a nutshell, they lost all these in the deportation and captivity to Babylon and the nations. The restoration of speech to Israel insinuates Jehovah's day is approaching. What time are we? The abolishment of Sin and the establishment of universal righteousness. *Ezekiel 21:26-27*.
3. **The Loss of their nation:** The Last King of Judah at the time of the Babylonian invasion was called Zedekiah (587 - 585 BC). At that time, the cup of Iniquity of the nation was full. God sent prophets to tell them of the coming invasion, which had to do with the departure from the righteous laws of God that were given to them. Remember, Israel came to full glory and dominance in the time of King David and King Solomon. Concerning that Era, it was written that Israel had rest all around, *1 Kings 5:4*. Righteousness indeed exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach, *Proverbs 14:34*. When they got into the worship of vain idols and materialism; when their military success, economic success became an idol to them and they began to depart from the worship of the true God, the Lord caused an overthrow. In the process of this overthrow, they lost their ministry, their uniqueness in the earth and their nation. At the time of Jesus, they were under the dominion of the romans. Jesus came to establish His day and the day of His own Kingdom. Jesus took *Ezekiel 21* as a point of departure of His own prophecy. In *Ezekiel 21:25-27*, we are told that the profane and wicked prince shall be overthrown because the day of his own kingdom had come when iniquity shall end. The Lord said remove the diadem, meaning remove the crown and the royal power from them. He said three times in *Ezekiel 21:27* that He would overturn, that is the complete overthrow and their dominion over the earth was no more, until He came, the one whose right it was. There shall be a restoration to the one whose right it is. The right to rule in scripture speaks of righteousness, *Psalms 45:6*. It speaks of Jesus who Israel must recognize to come into full restoration. This speaks of Christ in His many-membered body. It is Christ coming in and through His people. This is a divine timing. This is Jehovah's day.

Isaiah 32:1 showed this, saying princes shall rule in Judgement. In *Luke 21*, Jesus made certain declarations. People came to Jesus to show Him the glory of the temple, but he said no stone will be left standing. He was saying that they were a mere vassal state in the hands of the romans and that even the symbol of their nation will soon be taking over. He said when you see Israel surrounded by armies, their desolation is near, *Luke 21:20*. It said they shall fall by the edge of the sword till the time of the gentiles are fulfilled. This was a clock showing that Jerusalem will remain under the influence of the gentiles.

Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that showed these times of the gentiles. *Daniel 2* showed various kings and kingdoms on the earth. However, a stone was cut without hands and it smote the image. The image is simply the rule of natural man, that began from Babylon to the modern era. This image is still standing. It simply speaks of when the world is ruled and controlled without recourse to the righteous rule of God. However, a prophetic stone is coming from the mountain. This stone represents those who have known the power of Christ. Jesus Himself set a Kingdom that will have control of the World, not necessarily a control over the economics of the world, but a control in righteousness. The stone is coming from Mount Zion. The present world order will be smitten, shall collapse to powder and the wind of the Spirit shall blow it away; it shall not be restored. This stone of God's truth, His Word and Righteousness grew to a great mountain that shall cover the whole earth.

Returning to the previous thought, the beginning of the end of the gentile power began to be evident in 1948, when the Jewish people were given a right to go back to their homeland and the nation of Israel in the physical was reborn. This is an important clock in divine timing. This means from that time, the world will continue to know spasms until the time of the gentile rule comes completely to an end. The stress and process of full recovery is still ongoing. *Zechariah 12:3* says that Jerusalem will be a burden to all people and people shall go against it. The restoration of Israel cannot be complete without the church, the Children of God, coming into their fulness. There shall be a full recovery of the church of Jesus Christ, in the fulness of Divine power and life to complete the emancipation of physical Israel. God is using physical Israel as a clock to show His timing of divine intervention.

Romans 11 speaks of the role of the Church, God's people in this day. Paul spent *Romans 9-11* talking about God's program for Israel. The Israelites will remain blind until the lease of the gentiles expires. It is written that the period of their struggle for full rebirth shall be a period of the emancipation and glorification of the church. This shall in turn lead to the full emancipation of Israel and their glorification. This is not an emancipation to Judaism, but they shall experience full emancipation when they recognize Christ as the true hope of Israel. Jesus said Abraham rejoiced to see My day, *John 8:56*. The day of Christ is the emancipation of Abrahams Children to full freedom from sin and captivity. Out of the church is coming the deliverers, who are the sons of God. They are responsible for turning away ungodliness from Israel, *Isaiah 59:20*. Natural Israel is blind, but there is an ongoing revolution amongst them called the Messianic Jews. Many of them are turning over to Christ. The Lord said He has a covenant with them when He shall take away their sins, *Romans 11:27*. This is the sin of unbelief. The instrument of this is the church, Zion the sons of God. These are the times we are in, the times when the gentile power is coming to an end.

The Seasons

Having looked at the times, we will Explore the seasons. We had used just one indicator, Israel. 1948 is just a few years ago. The seasons we are in is a time when there shall be a worldwide attempt of satanic forces to control the earth. We find that model in scripture in *Genesis 11:49*. There is a move presently going on in the world to bring the world under a central control. The bible shows us clues on how to recognize these seasons. *Genesis 11* shows a clue to watch out for; alignments in the nations, when the World is of one language and one speech. There is a strong move going on to get the world in one language and one speech. This took place in Shinar, where the empire of Babylon took a rise. They built with Brick for stones and slime for mortar. Bricks speak of the work of man, Stones speak of the work of God. This is an attempt to build the order of this world by setting aside the precepts of God. This is why there is a strong pressure for people to be aligned to the LGBT movement. Being of a different opinion often means a person may be persecuted. In *Genesis 11:4*, the tower was meant to get to the heavens, which speaks of the realm of rulership, *Daniel 4:26*. In essence, it is a strong satanic attempt to rule the world.

However, there is a divine move also, to see that city and tower that the sons of men are building. The Lord spoke to me in 1990. I heard clearly that the Lord is coming down to see the city which the sons of Men build. This 'coming down will continue'. The Lord will continue to come down until the fall and final collapse of civilization. What happened when the Lord came down in this Babel project? *Genesis 11:9* says the Lord confounded their language so they shall not understand one another. There will be a confounding of a common language. Never mind the rise of the Big tech increasing their economic influence, having more power than the government. All these alignment is to fight against the Christ. There are a lot of shakings, but amidst all this is the quite grand take over of systems by lucifer. All these have been prophesied, Daniel 3, Psalm 2.

What are we required to do at this time of the end? How are we to relate to this momentous time in History? How do we relate to a raging pandemic on the earth and the more to come?

With all of these successive crisis: Ecological crisis, Nuclear threats, the refugee crisis, health crisis, economic recessions, it is strategic to bring the world under more control by the antichrist forces. The charge for us is to be in the secret place of the most High and to abide under the shadow of the almighty, *Psalm 91:1*. This is where the Lord will begin to build our capacity. How? The Lord will secure our place in His presence: Our security is in His presence. Healing of our minds and bodies are in His presence. Supply is found in His presence. Wisdom to deal with the times is from His presence. Spiritual direction is guaranteed in His presence. Eventually a complete building for offensive spiritual warfare is His presence, the Elijah metaphor. This is a time of intense Spiritual conflict in the place of Prayer. In the place of prayers, prophetic grace will be given unto us. We will see Kingdom collaboration birthed on our knees, coming up with offensive weapons in the open against the enemies in these times.

As the nations align and realign to constrain God's people. Three Key things are necessary:

For Survival, we need to be in the secret place. We need to get acquainted with the voice of the Lord and we will experience victories until the Lord gives us the ability to address the influence of

Baal over out territory. The fraternities, social and moral decadence that rule this world through the entertainment, media, etc. shall all be burnt up by the fire of the Lords jealousy. The Lord is instructing that we begin to prepare along some lines:

1. **Prepare for the underground church.** A time shall come when meeting together to worship God shall be disallowed.
2. **Learn the grace of Subsistence living.** Research about it and find out what it means to live subsistent. This simply means we need to be ready for existence outside the economy. We will need to find out how to provide for our energy needs. We will need learn contentment,¹
timothy 6:6.
3. Homeschooling our children.
4. **We should be ready to cross Jordan:** Prepare for the worst. Be resolved in your mind to die for righteousness.

In the midst of all this, understand that a nation of righteousness shall arise to overturn the kingdom of darkness. The Kingdoms of this world shall become the Kingdom of our God.

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

The Grace of the Lord be with your spirit. Maranatha!