The Sword of Judgment

The angel said:

"Judgment is coming to the lovers of the world. Those unrepentant and cripplers of the children, fear."

This he said as he touched the housetops with his huge sword.

Unlike the angel of war, this rider conquers through judgment; His judgment is not war. The judgment this rider brings will be described throughout this chapter.

In addition, he was depicted to me as carrying a sword. Thus, the Lord was through the angel further relating a two-fold revelation to me. Number one - He was giving me the call of the watchmen. Ezekiel 33:2b-3 states it like this:

When I bring a sword upon a land and the people of the land take a man from among them and make him their watchmen; if he sees the sword coming upon the land, he blows the trumpet and warns the people. (Amp.) (emphasis added)

When is the watchmen called? When he sees the sword coming upon the land. Then he is to blow the trumpet. Or in today's vernacular, he is to cry the word of warning to the people - all the people. This is what each of the angels commanded me to do; warn all people.

The second revelation I received by seeing the sword was that the judgment the angel was bringing was from the Lord, and it would be fully brought to an ultimate conclusion, yielding to the coming of the red horse.

Further -

For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God; and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the Gospel of God. (1 Peter 4:17)

Everything that I will be sharing will be the "Household of God" first, to the world second. The Bible not only specifically stipulates that it's God's way to deal with His own first then the world; but we seat in living color throughout His Word. So let's see what He is saying to us today.

I will bring [the curse] forth, says the Lord of hosts, and it shall enter into the house of the thief, and into the house of him who swears falsely by My name; and it shall abide in the midst of his house and shall consume it, both its timber and its stones. (Zech. 5:4 Amp.)

That is exactly what was happening at the hand of this angel. Every house he touched received the sword of active judgment. Judgment started at the head of the house and worked its way down to the least of the household. Whose home qualified? Lovers of this world, liars, thieves, and cripplers of the children. It will not be enough to be born-again today. Those who say they love Jesus and are even cleansed by His blood, will come under the same judgment as the world, if it's the world they are living for, and if their actions say it is the world they love.

In the last chapter, I spoke about the Separator, the sword of separation, and that it will be separating all the souls in the world either into the Kingdom or judgment of various degrees. In this chapter, the point will be judgment and what to do about it. We will however, be talking more specifically about the judgments of individuals as the judgments of nations" will be dealt with in a later chapter.

~Lovers of This World~

How can I emphasize strongly enough the need to come out of the world? The angel cried like a town crier,

"Babylon is falling! Come out from her my children. Take nothing with you only the clothes on your backs. A judgments coming at midnight and the hour is now 11:55 (p.m.) Don't mourn the loss. Only come away, come out!"

Like a muddied fountain and a polluted springs a righteous man who yields, falls down, and compromises his integrity before the wicked. Prov. 25:26

He cried with such authority, such pleadings, such absolute understanding of the consequences for the disobedient. Jesus Himself said so many times and in so many ways that if we loved the world, we hated God. Yet much of His church still has a love affair going on with the world. The Lord's name is not going to be like a lifejacket we cling to while we dip around in the ocean we call the world and expect it to save us. It won't! Jesus said it will be all or nothing.

First, we find in the scriptures He said the curse would fall on the house of the thief. Why? Because it puts that soul in the category of greed, which is idolatry. When the heart is filled with greed, it is given to every evil work. One Bible translation says, The love of money (greed) is the root of all evil. (I Tim. 6:10) When the saint doesn't pay tithes, he's robbing God. (Mal. 3:9-10) When we have a family member in need and it's within our power to help, and we don't the Bible says we are worse that a nonbeliever. (I Tim. 5:8) We are robbing God. If we don't care for the poor and needy, we call

upon ourselves a curse. Why? We're robbing God. If we steal five minutes a day in time from our boss, we are stealing money. That's greed. This chapter however, is not on greed, it's on judgment. If it were on greed, I'd go into great depth to show how much that spirit permeates the church.

If we would all simply seek God and ask Him to reveal to us how greed is being manifested in our own lives, He would show us and help us to put it under our feet.

Secondly, the scripture says, "Those that swear falsely by My name." It's a mockery of all God holds dear to say I'm a Christian while living for the world as though Christ's blood were in vain. The writer of Hebrews says that we are once again putting Him to open shame. How precious the blood of Jesus is to the Father. God so honors it that heaven is filling up with souls bought by it. Conversely, we dishonor it by using it to fight for everything from the protection of our material goods to claiming a new house and neglect its power to enable us to live holy, loving, and God honoring lives.

We have seen such frivolity throughout Christ's body in this Laodicean Church Age that the world no longer has respect for God. I hear Christians say, "Why doesn't God show Himself strong? "I say, "Why doesn't the Church show Him strong by living for Him and not for themselves?" The Bible says the name of God is maligned and blasphemed among the Gentiles because of us. (Rom. 2:24)

I was awakened one night to a vision and I heard a voice crying, "Church, stop sinning. You're killing the sinner." Why can't we see what Paul say? "You are not your own, you were bought with a price." In seeing the great price Christ paid, why don't we feel a need to honor His commitment to us by taking responsibility for our lives and living to bring Him glory?

Why is it that we, as blood bought saints, desire the baseness of sin? How is it? How can it be? Do we really think that the Lord will withhold His dealing against a people who have trampled the blood of His dear Son under foot in such an irreverent way as His church has today?

It is true that the blood of the lamb saved Israel that night the death angel swept over Egypt, but may we be reminded that only two men of that entire first generation made it into the promised land. The rest, all of whom had been protected the first time, ended up strewn in the dessert dead, because of rebellion.

Church, precious souls are being lost because of our blatant lifestyles. The Lord would be unjust if He continued to withhold His dealings with this rebellious generation when He has judged others. As a consequence, true repentance resulting in contrition of heart and subsequent fruitfulness in one's life, is the only answer.

So God in sending the sword of judgment, removing his protection from even the saints "who are lovers of this world", thus allowing heavy enemy attack. Some will die under it, others will turn to vile sin as that is where their hearts are. Destruction will be the result.

Some will lose families, others health, yet others perhaps millions of dollars, losses brought on by bad decisions incurring judgment.

Hebrew scholar Michael Brown says the Hebrew text shows God taking full responsibility for His plagues and judgments. No where in the original language does it leave room for us to think God arbitrarily lets Satan do his own thing just because the Lord is displeased. As I saw the angel and he spoke, he had no difficulty letting me know the actions being taken in these hours are directly orchestrated by God to bring judgment on the rebellious.

~Cripplers of the Children~

- Whether it be:
- 1. Parents that are cripplers of their children through abuse, sexual, physical, or emotional.
- 2. Those in pornography, running child prostitutes.
- 3. Drug pushers, pushing drugs on children.
- 4. Those into some kind of occult worship that is destroying the lives of children.
- 5. Those involved in some form of work that was set up to help children, but in fact, are part of the mushrooming problem lending to further devastate already traumatized children.
- 6. Those who are instrumental in the murdering of the unborn through abortion procedures, regardless of the role they may play.

The Lord's sword of judgment is coming down. If you fit into any of the preceding categories and you do not repent, it will come down on you.

Moms and Dads know what they are doing to their children. If there is misconduct, it's time to get help. If the responsible parent doesn't deal with it, God will be forced to. Pornography that is made available to children or that leads to violation of children because of the unbridled lust it excites, or child pornography - all of these lead to utter depravity to those who indulge. As for the children, except for the intervention of God, they are destroyed for life by the violations of their little persons You cannot molest the body of a child without also molesting their minds. The damage is permanent and leads to multiplied problems affecting ever area of their human existence. Schools that are now using curriculum such as "Mission Soar" which involves not only hypnotizing the children, but also teaching them "necromancy", supposed talking to the dead, and other such destructive "New Age" materials, are coming under judgment.

How many minds are being blown right out of the heads of children and young people through drugs? Our newspapers are full of the cataclysmic effect of drug abuse. It's no longer a secret about the horrors of the occult in America: Children being used as sacrifices; youth being driven to suicide, in some instance leaving behind a good-bye letter containing the lyrics of heavy metal rock music. It's a disgustingly sick picture, isn't it!

Still there is more. The courtrooms are handing children over to their abusers in the name of justice. The judge of the bench is a man, not a machine, and the Lord knows if he has done all within his power to protect a child that needed protection. He also knows if he was lax in his job, or if in fact, there was sick reasoning that led him to knowingly turn that innocent child over to his/her violator. He too, will be judged accordingly

The list is endless, juvenile workers, foster care parents, C.P.S. workers. The Lord is blind to nothing. He sees all, and He is going to lift Himself up on behalf of the innocent. Today is the day to turn from the sin that offends and be healed before the Lord's judgment begins. In repentance, there is restoration and protection by His grace, so yield to Him today.

Oh, Church, that we might weep for the children. God's heart is breaking for the helpless innocent. Seek His face for the power and wisdom to save the children.

In this hour of God's outpouring of revival, He is going to anoint the children with great power and wisdom far beyond their years. He is going to restore the places laid waste by humanity's depraved acts against the children. It will be a child who will set a captive free, pull back the raging storm, and calm the troubled sea. A child shall be a counselor and a healer. Is there is anything too difficult for Jesus to do? The people will see, and they will marvel. Rejoice oh Zion! for the children will once again dance in the land.

Even so, in judgment He will look with tender mercy on the righteous who are pure. While the pangs of judgment grip the rebellious, Jesus will be nurturing a mighty and militant army to reek destruction on Satan's house and pour out one of the greatest outpourings of love and miracles through His church that the world has ever seen.

~The Cycle of Judgment~

According to the scriptures, they are his chastisements. The Hebrew word for chastise means to train by disciples, as one would train his son through spanking. The Word states:

Those whom I [dearly and tenderly]love, I tell their faults and convict and convince and reprove and chasten- discipline and instruct them. So be enthusiastic and in earnest and burning with zeal, and repent - changing your mind and attitude. (Rev. 3:19 Amp.)

God's first dealings are always by His Word and His Spirit. He won't revert to the following unless one is in a settled place of rebellion, unwilling to respond to the former. In the book of Leviticus, the 26th chapter, we get a good picture of how He chastens. Next, He says if you won't hearken to Him, He will do the following:

- 1. He'll send sudden terror
- 2. He'll send sickness
- 3. He'll send financial loss.
- 4. Your enemies will rise up against you and win.

If you still won't repent, He will chastise you further:

- 1. He'll break your pride in your power.
- 2. He'll not answer your prayers.
- 3. He'll send no blessings.
- 4. You'll work for nothing.
- 5. Everything you touch will rot.

Third time around - if you still won't repent:

- 1. You'll have loss of children.
- 2. You'll have a loss of ability to work.
- 3. You'll experience pestilence.
- 4. You'll live under the voke of your enemy.
- 5. You'll not have enough food to eat.
- 6. You'll face untimely death.

Some believe that since we are in the dispensation of grace, God will not deal in this manner today - at least not with His church. Read the second and third chapters of Revelation, and you'll see that His punishments are just as severe. We must understand that while our Heavenly Father is loving and merciful, He is also rigidly righteous, a holy God, who unlike us, will not compromise who He is.

We see a profound but simple principle regarding the ways of God throughout the Word. The Lord will bring salvation to a man, cleanse him with His blood, and begin the process of sanctification. Yet all the time, He'll leave the decision of whom we will serve at any given moment up to us. If we continue to make the decision to serve Satan more than Jesus, He will allow the aforementioned calamities to begin to work their process. Who is the direct author of these? Satan, of course. So we are now beginning to reap the harvest of seeds planted to sin. The cycle will continue until one day Jesus will say, "If that man still wants that life so bad, let it consume him."

In that very hour, the destructive forces of Satan are unleashed to lord over us to our utter destruction. In other words, we chose our master, and Jesus let us have him. Up to that final point, all the trouble that came our way was designed to bring us back to the

Lord and into a place of safety. Once we cross over that line, the door of mercy is closed, and Satan is allowed free access to devour.

By the sword of judgment, God is releasing all mankind into the above-mentioned process. Those who are truly His and choose to walk in godly fear and pure holiness will be kept from judgment in a place of refuge. Those who don't fit in that category will begin to experience the course of chastisement ascribed in Leviticus 26.

The Bible says today is the day the salvation. Let the healing hand of God's grace touch your home instead of the sword of judgment. You have full say as to where you stand with the Lord. Gird yourself with strength by walking in purity and see in the dynamics that can be yours in Christ through these difficult times.

To those who are pure, those who love the Lord and live a life of obedience to Him - His mercy is a covering standard of protection. To those who love and serve people, bringing honor to the Lord, He is a hiding place from the storm. The Bible says His saintly ones are like precious jewels in the crown of their God, which He wears like a zealous Father.

God does not delight in the suffering of humanity. These warnings are designed to stir the readers into evaluating their lives. We can turn judgment into mercy and blessing if we will alter or forsake anything not agreeing with God's Word, and instead embrace God's way. So let us encourage one another in the Lord, draw close to Him and to one another, that we may be held secure and at peace in His name in troubled times.

- PREPARE -