

# THE WOODLAND HILLS PROCLAIMER

"how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you"

## SERVICES

Acts 20:20

## ELDERS

### SUNDAY

9:30 AM — BIBLE STUDY  
10:30 AM — A.M. ASSEMBLY  
6:00 PM — P.M. ASSEMBLY

*Woodland Hills church of Christ*  
410 Woodland Hills Drive  
Conroe, Texas 77303  
Telephone: 936/756-9322

WAYNE REED  
STARR

HARROLD

## DEACONS

JAMES COST  
JIM COOK  
VERNON RIEHL

### WEDNESDAY

7:00 PM — BIBLE STUDY

VOLUME 2 WEEK 36

To our visitors — "WELCOME" - Thank you for choosing to visit with us

SEP 6, 2009

# The Second Coming of Christ

## There Is a Difference — Part 1

By O.C. Birdwell

### Introduction.

- Through misunderstanding and misapplication of scripture, especially Old Testament prophecy, there is much false teaching about the second coming of Christ.
- Often there is a general mixing of God's promise to Abraham, bondage prophecy that related to Israel, restoration prophecy that also related to Israel, Messianic and kingdom prophecy, and second coming prophecy.
- There is a difference in these promises and prophecies. If one will clearly note the difference and get them in their proper place, much confusion will be avoided.
- The purpose of these articles is to look at some of these misunderstood passages and see if we can determine to which event they refer.

The outline and study references are from a book titled "Preach the Word" published by Guardian of Truth Foundation. Permission to use this material in these studies was obtained from Andy Anderson of the Guardian of Truth Foundation.

### I. God's Land Promise to Abraham.

- God said, "I will make of thee a great nation" (Gen. 12:2).
  - The land and people to receive it are specified (Gen. 13:15).
  - The promise is restated (15:18; 17:8).
- The land promise God made to Abraham has been fulfilled.
  - If one applies it to the future, and looks for a restoration of national Israel based on this promise, he is looking for that which has not been promised.
  - Stephen stated that the promise God made to Abraham drew nigh when the Israelites were in Egypt (Acts 7:17).
  - The land promise was fulfilled when the Israelites possessed the land of Canaan (Josh. 21:43).

### II Bondage Prophecy That Relates To Israel.

- The Bondage of Israel was foretold by Moses (Deut. 29:25-29; 30:1-10).
- It is described by the prophets (Zeph. 1:12-18).
- Amos points to the bondage of the northern kingdom and call it "the day of the Lord" (Amos 5:18).
- Hosea states that the Assyrians would take Israel captive (Hos. 11:5).
- This was their "day of Jehovah." Consider the use of this phase.
  - It is "Day of the Lord" in the KJV
  - It is used to refer to judgment of one kind or another upon people, cities or nations.
  - As noted already, Amos applied it to Assyrian bondage.
  - Joe speaks of the devastation of the land and calls it "the day of Jehovah" (Joel 1:15).
  - Obadiah spoke of the Judgment of God through some means upon the nations. He called it "the day of Jehovah" (Obad. 15). He was not talking of the final judgment.
- Let people not use the bondage and tribulation prophecies that related to Israel, that have been fulfilled, to try to prop up false "rapture" and "tribulation" theories.

### III. Restoration Prophecy.

- Not only did the prophets tell about the bondage of Israel, they told about the restoration.
  - They were to be brought back to the place from whence they had been driven (Jer. 29:13-14; 30:3).
  - The book of Zechariah tells about the rebuilding of the city and the temple. This is related by Zechariah as a type of the new kingdom which is the church. The restoration, however, is misapplied when it is related to "final events".  
It is easy for one who is careless to take these prophecies out of context and apply them to yet future events. They will be misapplied if so used.

3. Zephaniah told of God's wrath on Judah, but also spoke of their restoration and security. This has been fulfilled.
- B. It is easy for one who is careless to take these prophecies out of context and apply them to yet future events. They will be misapplied if so used.

#### IV. Messianic Prophecy.

- A. God went far beyond the land promise that was made to Abraham.
  1. He said, "In thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:3).
  2. It was to be done through Abraham's "seed" (Gen. 22:18).
  3. Paul shows that God used the word "seed" in the singular, and spoke of Christ (Gal. 3:16).
- B. This promised blessing was for all the families of the earth, or all nations.
  1. As shown above, the promise was fulfilled in Christ.
  2. The gospel of Christ is for all (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15-16; Rom 1:16-17).

#### V. Kingdom Prophecy.

- A. It is impossible to separate Messianic prophecy and kingdom prophecy.
  1. The Messiah was to be a king. The kingdom was to be those subject to Him. We have the king, the new kingdom, and the passing away of the kingdom, related together in Old Testament prophecy.
  2. Mistake is made when people take Old Testament prophecies of Christ and the kingdom He was to set up and apply them to some future date.
- B. Consider some of the Old Testament kingdom prophecies.
  1. Joel 2:28-32; Isa. 2:2-3. Peter made direct reference to Joel's statement (Acts 2:16). Discuss passages that show the day of Pentecost in Acts 2 as the beginning day for the promised kingdom.
  2. Daniel 2:44; 7:13-14).
    - a. A radio preacher said, "We now live in the days of the fourth kingdom of Daniel 2." He then affirmed that the establishment of the kingdom Daniel prophesied about is imminent.
    - b. The kingdom of Daniel 2 has already been established. Read Matt. 3:1-2; Lk. 10:9; Mk. 9:1; Lk. 24:49; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:1-4. The kingdom was to come with power. The power came with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came on Pentecost of Acts 2. The kingdom came at that time.
- C. Consider some New Testament statements concerning the kingdom.
  1. When Hebrews was written an unshakable kingdom had been received (Heb. 12:28).
  2. Paul and others had been translated into the kingdom (Col. 1:13).
  3. John was a partaker in the tribulation and kingdom (Rev. 1:9).
- D. Notice some facts and logical conclusions relative to the kingdom.
  1. Daniel said God would build a kingdom that would stand forever.
  2. The Hebrew writer stated that there is now in existence a kingdom that cannot be shaken (moved, KJV)
  3. If the kingdom of Daniel 2 is not the kingdom described by New Testament writers as being in existence, we then will have two kingdoms when Daniel's is set up. One is "eternal," the other "unmovable." Who can believe it?
  4. No, my friend, the kingdom of Daniel 2 is the one Jesus came to establish and did establish.
  5. We enter into it by a birth of water and the Spirit (Jn. 3:5); or as described elsewhere, by being converted (Matt. 18:3); or as described elsewhere, by doing the will of the Father (Matt. 7:21).

#### Conclusion.

- A. When we see the difference between the promises and prophecies we have read and discussed, there will be less false teaching about the second coming of Christ.
- B. Also, people should want to be a part of the kingdom or church Jesus purchased with His blood (Acts 20:28).

Edited by Gerald Hodges

### WOODLAND HILLS NEWS AND NOTES

**Martin Billeri's** father is back in the hospital.

**Mindy Blackstone** is now on steroids in an effort to combat the severe pain she has.

**Bill McCarty** had not been feeling well

**Jane Zeitz** continues to struggle after breaking her leg

**James Webb** is having trouble with his leg.

**PRAYER LIST:** Ruby Goad, Jane Zeitz, Jerry Harrell, Jerri Scott, Bertie Strokos, James & Lou Ann Webb, Bill & Jo Ellen McCarty, Leola Pence, Nelva Peyton, Jennifer West, Mindy Blackstone, Janice Billeri, Haskell & Doris Butler, and Cindy Kirkwood (from Southside)

### SCHEDULE TO SERVE - Sep 13th

#### AM - Service

**Announcements:** Harrold Starr

**Song Leader:** Jim Rains

**Lord Supper Bread:** Ty West

**Asst:** Sam Laird

**Cup:** Lynn Farrell

**Asst:** Mark Billeri

**Prayer Open:** Gerald Hodges

**Close:** Mike Burk

#### PM - Service

**Song Leader:** James Cost

**Lord Supper:** Ty West

**Prayer Open:** Jim Cook

**Close:** Eric Isenbarger

### PROVERB OF THE WEEK

Proverbs 16:25

**There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.**