

Like the Days of Noah

I would like to share something quite serious that is on my heart. It's something that has affected me for many years and the Lord has brought it around again this season of the Coronavirus - during a time when many are asking, "Is this God? Is this the devil?" I really believe that God drew me back to the scriptures in Genesis 6 recently to give me more of an understanding of the heart of God rather than of the circumstances we find ourselves in right now with the Coronavirus.

And Yahweh saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of His heart was only evil continually. And He was sorry that He had made man on the earth and it grieved (pained) Him at His heart. Genesis 6:5-6

We are thinking about what this Coronavirus is doing to US. We are thinking about what this is costing US economically. We are worrying about getting sick. We are thinking about losing days of work. We are thinking that we can't go on with our life as it was. Yet in Genesis 6, God is turning all of our attention TO HIS HEART.

Recently I've been having a sense of how amazingly sensitive our God is. In fact in the New Covenant it says that we can grieve the Holy Spirit. We don't often talk about this. We don't often hear messages about this. I think it's hard to grasp that God Almighty could have such deep pain in His heart and feel sorry that He had made man.

In the English Bible it says that God repented that He had made man, but in the Hebrew it's the word, 'yinachem'. It's a word that has to do with sighing. It's a word that has to do with God going, "Achh." His whole being was sighing and it wasn't a sigh of relief. It was a sigh of grief. During this time, it says that the Lord found a man named Noah. In the Hebrew it's the word 'Noach' which has to do with rest and giving comfort. Noah's father named him Noach saying, "he will comfort us from our labor (pain)." This is the same root word as the sorrow/ sighing in God's heart in Genesis 6:6. Noah's father was prophesying the life of his son in part. Little did he know that his son Noach was going to comfort the pain in the heart of Elohim!

I believe that God is trying to say something to us at this time. God said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the ground, both man and beast and creeping things and birds of the heavens for I am sorry or 'it repents me' (the same verb, yinachem) that I made man." Genesis 6:7. It deeply affected me as I read these verses again, seeing how much "power" we have to affect God's heart. It made God sigh in grief that He had made us. When was the last time we thought about God's heart being filled with pain because of the human race, or because of our sin? He allowed me to experience a bit of the pain in His heart 35 years ago when He opened His heart to me through these scriptures one day. The experience was so intense, I felt like I would die.

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God. Genesis 6:8-9

One man found favor with God in his generation. This sounds very similar to Genesis 17, where the Lord spoke to Abraham and said, "walk with me and be perfect." There is very similar language here and also throughout scripture when God finds a righteous man in the midst of a generation of violence, wickedness and idolatry. The Word says that God's eyes are going to and fro throughout the earth looking for a man whose heart is <u>perfect</u> towards Him. The Hebrew word for perfect here, 'shalem', has to do with someone being WHOLE towards God and not divided, giving God what He created us to give Him and being a reflection of Him on the earth.

Beloved, ONE man or woman can comfort the heart of God when the Lord has reached His absolute limit upon seeing the corruption and the sin on the earth that He created to be good and to be a reflection of who He is. Beloved, Noah caused God to alter His plan and it changed the course of history. His righteousness caused God to save a family and a generation at a time when He was ready to wipe out every vestige of humanity from the face of the earth. That's the kind of "power" that God has given to each one of us to affect His heart, both to wound Him and to comfort Him.

Beloved, God is not looking for masses of people for He can change the history of the earth with one person. In fact, His greatest act of lovingkindness was demonstrated through His only begotten Son for whom He said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." All the judgment and wrath of God fell on His only begotten One so that it wouldn't fall on those of us who believe in Him.

God calls Noah into the ark which is a picture of Jesus, the place of absolute safety.

And Yahweh said to Noah: Come, you and all your house, into the ark for you have I seen righteous before me in this generation. Genesis 7:1

Therefore come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you. And I will be a Father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty. 2 Cor. 6:17-18

Beloved, God is calling us to build an ark in our generation, to warn the world, to preach the gospel. He's calling us to draw people into His ark of rest and safety when the rest of the world is being judged. God's heart is grieved. He is looking upon the earth and seeing only violence. God is looking upon the earth and seeing once again that all the imaginations of the thoughts of man are evil all the time. The last days are going to be like the days of Noah. *Genesis 6:5;11-12; Math 24:37*.

God is calling His Body, those of us who call ourselves "the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus" to be truly RIGHTEOUS in this generation, to comfort the Lord by standing for what is right, to comfort the heart of God by showing the difference between good and evil, sin and righteousness.

Lord, teach us to comfort You before we focus on ourselves. Make us like Noah in our generation so that You will be comforted... that You will find a righteous man, a righteous people, a righteous remnant in this generation and call us to build Your ark of safety. Lord, when the floods of judgment come, raise up the ark, like You did in the days of Noah, above the flood, above the judgment. Raise us up as a Body to a higher dimension of intimacy, a higher dimension of authority, a higher dimension of unity with You, Lord.

Let's take this time, beloved, that we are shut up in our rooms, seriously. Let's worship Him, let's praise Him! Let's comfort His heart! Let's come out of this, like they came out of the ark on top of Mount Ararat above the judgment. Let's come out more like the Lord than when we went in! Let's come out showing forth His righteousness! Let's come out being able to speak a present word to our generation! Let's warn, let's encourage, let's draw people into the place of communion and union with God.

God can be moved by one righteous person. Will you be that man or woman? In Jesus name. Amen.

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