

## **Quickly and with Finality His Judgement Comes**

I could truthfully tell the following story, except for the final detail, but someone else said: ‘Back in high school, my teacher asked me to interview a family relative who had served in the war. I approached my father. He had served in the Korean War in the 1950s. After a few gentle questions about his regiment, I very gingerly asked, “Did you ever kill anyone?” My father went quiet. Then, in a soft voice, he said, “Probably. I was the cook”.’ // I think that most of us, all of us who eat regularly, that we are most appreciative of cooks! For without them, many of us would wither away, dying of starvation! Something not quite so dire was on the disciples’ minds as they advised the Lord to send away the huge crowd to buy their supper before it got too late and all the shops closed and they go hungry until morning. Many might weaken and faint along their way home, end up spending the night out in the wilderness! Some might fall prey to wild animals while sleeping on the countryside hills. Horrible thought! So, they pressed the Lord to dismiss the people now while there was still time.

How human of the disciples! You know, they’re just like us. Looking all around with worldly eyes, seeing things only in the natural, while practically blind to the fact that the God of All the Universe was right there, their very own Teacher. So He told

them in Matthew 14:16: “You feed them”. What?! How absurd! They had already rounded up all the food there—five loaves of bread and two measly fish! In the face of their silent protest at such futility, He ordered them to bring them. He thanked Father God for this food, blessing it, and then broke the loaves and fish into pieces for the disciples to distribute to the people now sitting on the grass. They kept coming back for more and more and the bread and the fish just wouldn’t run out. Everybody ate their fill, and there were twelve whole baskets full of leftover bread and fish! And let me tell you, those folks had never had such a delicious meal! For Lord Jesus, perfect He was in every way, by perfect infinite power, created out of thin air perfect bread and fish. Those five dusty, somewhat dried out loaves of bread, and two fish, starting to get a little smelly from being carted around in a lunch basket all day, multiplied into the most wonderfully smelling just-baked fresh bread and just-caught, just-cooked fish imaginable. Here was a “Cook” Who’d win every culinary and gastronomical award the world could conceive, forever! But it was all just the teeny tiniest foretaste of what will be the ordinary, normal, commonplace, everyday life in Christ Jesus’ coming Kingdom of Heaven. If for no other reason, for us who enjoy great food, we should be clamoring for all we’re worth to get into Christ’s Kingdom to enjoy such “heavenly” gourmet deliciousness!

But we know, this is future, and it will come at exactly the perfect time. Isaiah 54 is just one prophecy of it. In fact, this

chapter prophesies both the nearer future for earthly Jerusalem and all Israel, as well as the far future which is just a little over a thousand years from now! In the meantime, in order to get to that wondrous, awesome, everlasting perfect union with our loving, Creator Father God, Savior and Holy Spirit, we'll have to endure, stand and persevere through all the trials and tribulations this world via its occupying devil power throws at us, until the end of this age. He, through the serpent, usurped us rightful rulers, through deceit way back in Genesis 3. And just as God's Chosen People have had to face calamity and judgement over and over, we, the ones God proclaimed in the prophecies of Hosea, quoted by Paul in Romans 9:25-26, "those who were not My people, I will now call My people", so, we, the Christians, will also have to face the trials and judgements of God that refine and purify us for the unimaginable, inconceivable glories that await us.

As I mentioned last week, America is unique among the nations of the world, even including Israel, established solely to propagate the Gospel. Because of our special status as a nation to be used of God to spread the instructions of how the world can be saved through Lord Jesus, we are in such trouble today. As our Lord and King Jesus pronounced in Luke 12:48: "When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required", we've been so blessed, we must be that much more a blessing to the world. But as many missionaries as we've

sent out, as many disciples we've made, as many teachers and preachers we've trained, we've also spread all over the globe some of the most vile, depraved and sin-ful acts and media the debased human mind has imagined. Our beginnings back with the Puritans—they were called "Puritans" for a reason—many Americans now are the exact opposite. Filthy and obscene are too many young white millennial women rioting in our streets these days. Their hysterical screaming obscene curses emanate from black hearts and empty souls. But it's not just some people out there. So far has America fallen, so apostate so much of even what used to be called the Church has become, that governors, mayors and bureaucrats from coast to coast now think they're doing a good thing by shutting down churches and treating Christians as second or even third class citizens, below even illegal immigrants, treated worse than even avowed terrorists by many so-called judges in warped and perverted systems of justice where the guilty go free and the innocent are incarcerated. But why? What has been the church's role in all this?

Like the proverbial frog that doesn't notice the water oh-so-gradually getting hotter until he's boiled alive, the church for the last hundred years has slept and snoozed while prayer, then Bible readings, then the Ten Commandments, then Christian holidays, then the very language of the Church, have been one by one excised from our culture. But the Church has not only been asleep, in many cases it has been complicit, even a willing accomplice to

its own self destruction. For huge parts of the Church are now cancerous, decaying and dying from willful sin. As the prophet Ezekiel in his eighth chapter was shown by God acts of idolatrous depravity beyond description taking place in secret in back rooms of the Jerusalem Temple itself, in the very building supposedly the most holy place on earth, similar things and even worse have been going on in many of America's churches, and by not only the rank and file laity, but by the clergy themselves. Is it any wonder that Father God is continuing to sound the alarm that we must repent? Many of us have repented; for ourselves and on behalf of the rest of the Church. But it hasn't been enough. For too many Christians in too many churches, indeed whole denominations have compromised with the world and live behind a facade of respectability while insatiably consuming the pornography and filth of perverted, licentious minds, and committing the same immoral acts as the world. How is it that so much of the American church is now no different from the worst of the world?

Does God see? You bet, which is why He is warning us all, ever louder, to repent. Like a siren, God has given to one relatively small church pastor, Dana Coverstone of Burkesville, Kentucky, a series of prophetic dreams of judgement coming on America. The first one from last December predicted the current pandemic followed by riots across the land. Two more dreams the last few weeks show our country overwhelmed with violence all across the land. What we're seeing now in Portland, Oregon,

but everywhere. But this is not the worst of it. Another pandemic with hospitals overflowing arrives this fall. He saw Washington, D.C., practically deserted, with Chinese, Russian, and UN peace-keeping forces patrolling the city. This November! Do you not sense the gathering storm? People, if we do not now double down and seriously pray, fast, and pray, this is what's coming! Holy Spirit is telling us what will otherwise come. As Paul in Romans 9:28 quoted Isaiah prophesying "the Lord will carry out His sentence upon the earth quickly and with finality", so shall it be.

But we have the authority from Lord Jesus to turn away much of God's judgement against the nation. Which is why Holy Spirit specifically singled out this September to Pastor Coverstone as a whole **month** for repentance. He didn't know, but many of us previously knew that September 26th was already declared to be a day of Solemn Assembly for the whole true church, to assemble in Washington, D.C. in figurative sackcloth and ashes, to repent for the sins of our nation, and to turn back, return, to God. Which is why that day is called, "The Return"! Believers, if you love this country, brief daily devotions will no longer cut it. We must get serious and devote real time in gut-wrenching prayer. Starting now. Pray for Tuesday's primary election, and the general election on November 3rd. Repent for our national sins. Beseech God for His immense mercy, and He will yet save this land and unleash the greatest revival this land will ever see. For the end of this age is coming fast. Praise the Lord!!

