

The End and The Beginning are One

(MURDOCK)

otherwise, he must have suffered many times, since the commencement of the world; but now in the end of the world, he hath once offered himself in a self-sacrifice, to abolish sin. -Hebrews 9:26

26 ואין לא חיב הוא דזבנתא סניאתא נחש מן שוריה דעלמא השא דין בחרתה דעלמא חדא הו זבן קרב נפשה בדביחותה דנבטליה לחשיתא (PESHITTA)

If His first coming was at the end of the world, when is the second coming?

This is a question we should consider in the light of this scripture, for I believe these things are written to provoke thought and inquiry.

The answer would seem to be obvious; He will appear at the beginning of a new world, after the end of the old one! Yet how many have considered this possibility and truth?

Let us retrace our steps and His, to His birth. According to the text, His life and death were at the end of time (Remember, the universe consists of space, matter and time). Some teach that we are still in the last days, even two thousand years after these things were written. That is a long end!

The great truth we need to realize and hold fast is that The End is not a time; The End is a Person! This same Person is also The Beginning. We must stop studying the times and start learning The Christ! See Rev. 1:8, John 11:25-26, and all the "I AM" statements of Jesus. His first sermon was from Isaiah 61:1-3. He read the scripture and said: "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your hearing."

Jesus is the fulfillment of all prophecy. Revelation 1:19 says "write the things you have seen, the things present and the things to come".

Rev. 1:4 and 1:9 say:

Revelation 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

Revelation 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

"The things you have seen, the things present and the things to come" are a revelation of "Him which is, and which was, and which is to come".

The book starts of with the words "The revelation of Jesus Christ". Elsewhere in the book is written: "*The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy*".

We should be getting the picture by now that prophecy and scripture in general is about this Person, The Messiah, Jehovah Christ, Alpha-Omega, First and Last, Beginning and End, The Almighty God. We cannot understand it otherwise.

The End is the Beginning; The First is The Last; The Alpha is The Omega.

Let us look at time and the world through this lens of Christ, “Who was , and Who is, and Who is to come”. Is not Jesus Who was ,the Jesus Who is?

Is not The Christ Who is, The Christ Who is to come? – “Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever .” Hebrews 13:8

The answer is, “Of course He is!”

Well then, prophecy is a revelation concerning Him. Most think of prophecy as a revelation of the future. Prophecy is a revelation of the past, present and future, or it cannot be truth!

“Tomorrow never comes”, goes the old song. If prophecy is about tomorrow only, it can never come true. Yet that is what the churches think prophecy is, and it never comes to fulfillment in its eyes. Revelation is fulfilled in all ages before all people or it is never fulfilled, because it is a look at “Him Who is”.

God told Moses His name is “I AM”. If He is not, He never will be. The Truth is there is no existence apart from Him; He is existence itself!

In Him we see the past and the future, for Who he is changes not. We know what shall be if we know Who He is, for He shall be the same Lord over all , in whose hand are all things , and Who works all things after His unchanging will and nature of Eternal Love , mercy and truth.

The major fact and message of all prophecy and gospel is His Divine death, burial and resurrection for all souls of all time and eternity.

The Christ of the cross is The Message of prophecy. His eternal suffering and death filled all things; His resurrection fills all now. What a consummation of all that was we see in His death, Who is and was THE LIFE of all living: “I AM THE LIFE” – Jn. 14:6; Jn. 11:25.

We shall never exhaust the wonder and mystery of this greatest and most profound of events of all time and eternity :(Indeed it was too immense for time itself to contain; Eternity and The Eternal Deity Itself were rent asunder by it). Angels have desired to look into these things; we who love Him also will want to see more of this greatest Soul and Spirit offering Himself up for us all in an unspeakable sacrifice and death. Here is Love defined and illustrated in a blinding revelation of The glory of The Triune God, burning itself into a supernova explosion of extinction and re-creation all at once!

It is as if all of God , eternity, heaven, earth, time and space were focused at once in one focal point on the Christ of the cross, where all fullness dwelt- and died! Every death deserves to be mourned, even the death of a sparrow; here is the death of all things living, yea, the death of the full Godhead and all Heaven-angels and saints, cherubim, seraphim, archangel and holy innocents. Here was the end of all things with the death of Him Who is the End of all things; the Life and Light of the world was going out, and of necessity, with Him Who was their LIFE and Heart, The Spirit of Holiness and The Father of our Lord also died!

Surely the scripture says Christ died. Surely it says He is God; therefore He Who is God died. “I and My Father are One”, said He. If the Son died, then

The Oneness was destroyed (“Jehovah thy God, Jehovah is One” Deut. 6:4). Then was the Godhead ended in Christ’s death.

Another way of verifying this most radical truth is from the vantage of the love of God.

According to Jesus, there is no greater love than this : That a man lay down His life for his friend.

If God The Father never gave His life , then every man who has done so has greater love than God The Father !

Can this doctrine of God standing and requiring the death of His only Son stand? I say , “Never!” John 3:16 gives one side of the picture of God’s love; 1 John 3:16 gives the other: *“In this we see the love of God: He laid down His Life for us...”*

You see, God went with Jesus. He said, “I am never alone; My Father is in Me, and I in Him.” We know God never left His Son. “God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto His Majesty.” And what is His majesty, if not this Love of God that surpasses knowledge? If He has all power, knowledge, dominion and Worship and has not love, He is nothing! (See 1 Cor. 13)

Our Lord cried out on the cross :”My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me”? Where was His Father? Where was the answer? What did the Father say?

There was no answer. How could a loving Father not answer His beloved Son? It cannot be so. “Forsaken me”- How could a loving Father Who is by nature and from eternity One and inseparable from His eternal Only Begotten and beloved Son, how could He forsake Him? It were impossible for Him to do so, by nature and by love. So what could possibly wrench such a cry from the lips of Him Who spoke Life and Light , Joy , Hope ,Love and Glory into the cosmos? He Whose mighty word created and upholds all worlds- He roared from Jerusalem to the ends of time and space and into the infinite reaches of The eternal Heaven of heavens; it shook the pillars of existence; whatever existed heard that cry from Him Who said ,”If these should hold their peace, the very rocks would cry out.”

All who heard, if any could hear that and live, must have wondered as do I: How can this One pray so with such despair and not receive answer?

Why and how could God forsake Him, of all persons? He could not. There is only one conclusion to draw. Draw it!

God was dead! The Son also was not. The Spirit had breathed His last breath. The prophecies of the end had all come upon us. Isaiah and Amos had written of this dark consummation and despair that would crawl over the whole world like black death; the earth would quake to its foundations; the sun would darken at noon; all joy would die; Jehovah would roar out of Jerusalem; the earth and Heaven would dissolve and fall apart.

All Death deserves mourning, yet is it nothing to you that pass by? Our God , The Triune Glory and Desire of all nations is dead! Bow down and mourn and weep, for the Light of all is gone out! Life is dead! The Father hath gone down to the grave mourning His Only One- His darling Jesus, the Beauty and Glory of Heaven and creation! All was lost and gone! O, My God, where are You? Where are You?

In this cry, all the souls of the world are heard; every man woman and child that ever lived or will live, cries out to our God in His casket. “O Daddy, come back! Get up!

Here is the heart of man alone and lost, expressed from the holy lips of Him Whose Name is Holiness: “He made Himself to be sin in our place, Who knew no sin...”

I give to you this highest vision of the Highest Himself , Father, Son and Spirit of Holiness- All as The One, in The One Central Lamb and Son, bleeding out The Eternal blood of The Eternal LIFE of Heaven and earth forever. How can it be?

We don't know; but when we consider it, we know it must be so, for it is a vision worthy of Him who is higher than all we can ask or think.

And He came back again, we know not how any more than we know how He died. He said he would, and he did.

'Tis finished!

“Father, into thy hands, I commend My Spirit”

There is atonement! There is the resurrection of the Triune God.

One more thought and evidence that these things are so.

“Go and disciple all the nations, *baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of The Son and of The Spirit of Holiness.*” Matthew 28:19

Baptism is a picture of death, burial and resurrection. Romans 6 says we are buried with Him by baptism into death; raised up in resurrection.

Why in the name of The Father, The Son and The Spirit?

I leave that for you to answer.

Amen.