

HAS AMERICA CROSSED THE LINE OF NO RETURN?

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There is a path that an individual or a nation can take which leads beyond the point from which he or it can turn back, whether it be on the road of good or of evil. There are many scriptures which bear this thought out.

Ezekiel 28:18, "Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thy iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee."

Isaiah 14:12-15, "How art thou fallen O Heylel (bright one), son of the morning (Venus, or morning star)! How art thou cut down to the ground, which did weaken the nations. For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit."

These two scriptures represent the most classic example of a being who passed the point of no return. In reading this account in Ezekiel 28, we see the passage begins with the Lord speaking to a man named *Cyrus*, who in Verse 2 is described as "*the PRINCE of Tyrus*." However, in Verse 12 there is a shift so that now the Lord is addressing the past experience of this man's king, who is referred to here as the "*KING of Tyrus*," and who obviously is *Satan* himself. As an object lesson, this man (*Cyrus*) is being told of the fate of his king, *Satan*, who destroyed all the sanctuaries which a loving and merciful God had provided, and what his end would be:

Verse 18, "*Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.*"

God is longsuffering, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy, and I am sure He has always been this way. We must understand that if God casts someone into hell, then there was absolutely no other way out. It is like casting trash into the trash can and then into the dump. This saves the whole

house from becoming a dump. This being had deliberately overcome every sanctuary or barrier that God had put in his way. *Hell*, therefore, is the extreme of God's mercy.

Human beings can find themselves in this position also, as Scripture declares that some persons are already spiritually dead or lost, even while they are alive in the flesh:

"But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth", (1 Timothy 5:6)

This passage in 1 Timothy 5 speaks of a general rule, with particular reference to a woman who defiles her body with sensual pleasure. It suggests that there is a degree to which this sort of thing could be carried, to where the soul would be lost before death.

There is another scripture that speaks of the sudden destruction of the stubborn:

"He that being often reproveth hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy", (Proverbs 29:1)

The words, "*without remedy*," add a certain amount of fatality to the utterance, and elevate it to the status of a legal pronouncement such as what a judge would pronounce against a condemned criminal.

We are dealing with this subject, both on the national and on the individual levels, because it is the individual that makes the nation, and national trends are as the result of spiritual movements upon individuals. Let us look at a scripture, where God makes a pronouncement made long ago against a nation.

"And I will bring again the captivity of Egypt, and will cause them to return into the land of Patros, into the land of their habitation; and they shall be there a base kingdom. It shall be the basest of the kingdoms; neither shall it exalt itself any more over the nations; for I will diminish them, that they shall no more rule over the nations." (Ezekiel 29:14-15).

Way down there in time, 589 years before Jesus, God pronounced by His prophet that Egypt would never rule over the nations of the world anymore as it did in the time of the Pharaohs, and that it would be the "*basest*" kingdom of all the kingdoms of the earth. Today, we see this still holding true, because the Word of God works on the *natural* plane as well as on the *spiritual*.

NATIONAL TRANSGRESSION

In the heat of the day, *Abraham* sat in the door of his tent, possibly by divine appointment. Suddenly, there were three men standing beside him. He immediately discerned them to be God, and quickly "*bowed himself*" before them. Thus begins the story in Genesis 18 of the destruction of *Sodom* and *Gomorrah*.

We can see that this was not just the visitation of an angel of God, for the only angel that would accept worship is an angel of the devil, and there is no scriptural record of any angel eating meat. We know, therefore, that Abraham was dealing here with *Jesus Christ* Himself, for He both accepted Abraham's worship and He ate with him.

After the meal, the Lord revealed to Abraham His plan to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, but Abraham pleaded with God to save the cities if there were even ten righteous people. The result of this is that there were not even ten righteous persons in the two cities. They were large cities, even if we judge their size from our modern standards. Although we see the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah as God's judgment, we should understand that it was His mercy in intervening at this time to save humanity.

It is important to note that if sodomy and all the masochistic brutality attached to it was not arrested in that early stage, then the diseases which are peculiar to that sin would have been much further advanced by now, and the whole world would be in imminent danger of annihilation at this time. This means that the stage of infection that diseases like AIDS have reached in our time cannot continue much longer, for with another ten years at the rate the disease is advancing, half to three quarters of the whole world population would be affected. The measures that are presently being applied to control the disease are contributing to its spread, rather than to its eradication. For instance, the disease, as a killer, had been exercising its own control, because all those who had it would die within a period of time. Medical science has now found ways to prolong the lives of the victims, and to keep them sexually active. The result of this is that more and more people are being affected. In Florida, recently, some patients were allegedly infected with AIDS by their dentist. In other cases, a doctor was infected by a contaminated needle that was carelessly abandoned. One can have the disease for up to ten years without knowing, so in a promiscuous society such as ours the rate of contamination can easily be geometrically multiplied.

There are agencies in this country which have totally capitulated to the homosexual lifestyle, and are openly propagating the spread of homosexuality in the community and among the children. This must have been the case in

Sodom and Gomorrah, because if God's only cure for the situation was fire, then it must be that nothing else could be done. *Below, I will give you some excerpts from a paper put out by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, a Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide (4 Cols., 888 pages) released in August 1989.*

"IT'S OKAY TO BE GAY"

"Gay youth face rejection and abuse from family members...."

"...Families should accept their child, and work towards educating themselves about the development and nature of homosexuality."

"Families should be educated about the positive nature of homosexuality. They must be able to accept their child as gay and lesbian."

"Parents should know that homosexuality is a natural and healthy form of sexual expression. They do not need to feel bad about something that is good."

"Existing youth programs, such as the Boy and Girl Scouts should incorporate gay youth into their activities. Youth programs such as Big Brothers and Sisters should enlist gay and lesbian adults..."

These are five of fifteen excerpts from this awful paper, and I would hate to take up any more good time and space in this article to give the rest of them. This is like a writing from the "*Sodom & Gomorrah Daily Star*." One can hardly believe that the Government of the United States would subscribe to anything so absolutely repulsive as this, but it shows the depths of the moral depravity of this nation and the modern world in general.

The Maker of the human body says that when it is abused to a certain degree, it will eventually break down and produce awful physical maladies such as AIDS. It does not really matter how one interprets the Scriptures because the handwriting is on the wall for all of us to read. Let us look at Romans 1:24-27.

"Wherefore God also gave them up unto uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves: who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature

more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause, God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, AND RECEIVING IN THEMSELVES THAT RECOMPENSE OF THEIR ERROR WHICH WAS MEET. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a REPROBATE MIND, to do those things which are not convenient."

The homosexuals and many doctors would like to have us believe that the disease of AIDS has nothing to do with homosexual behavior, but this passage of scripture is clear that the participants in homosexual practices will receive "*in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet.*" This could only mean that they will be hit physically by a breakdown in their bodies. Any misuse of the organs of the body will bring some adverse results, especially when one takes bacteria from the elimination system and puts it in his bloodstream. It is like taking the refuse from the garbage and mixing it back with our food. A government that encourages this sort of thing must be totally under the leadership of Satan. Revelation 16:14 says that three spirits of uncleanness would lead the nations into destruction at a certain point of time in the history of the world. If Sodom and Gomorrah and all five cities of the plain had reached a point of no return from this abomination, then America must be very close to that point because it would seem to me that the iniquity of this nation is beyond even that described in Scripture of Sodom and Gomorrah.

We must note that the pleading of Abraham could not save Sodom and Gomorrah. God our Savior does not desire the death of the sinner, and as a loving Father He explores every avenue of hope for humanity; and there is no man who will ever be able to face God and say, "You never gave me enough of a chance." God is in the saving business, and anyone who can be saved at all will never be lost, because God will find some way to save him. Consequently, those who are eventually lost could never be saved, even if God gave them a thousand years to repent.

When Jonah came forth from the belly of the fish and was vomited out upon dry ground, he found cause to run with all his might into Nineveh. I do not think he stopped to clean up himself, or to comb his hair or anything of the sort, but that he ran with the fear of God in him and cried out the message of God with a most agonizing shout, so that Nineveh repented. I believe the message was so frightening mostly because of the condition of the messenger, such that the king put all the animals on fasting as well as all his domain, and man and beast alike cried to God, and God gave them mercy.

Looking back in history, we can see that each great empire before it fell, it went into moral and spiritual degradation. In Daniel 5, the kingdom of

Babylon deteriorated spiritually and morally under *Belshazzar* to the point where God had to intervene, and He wrote its doom upon the wall of the palace. That very night, the enemies of Babylon came in and overthrew the kingdom.

Alexander the Great was next. His kingdom was even bigger than that of Babylon. His horsemen were as swift as leopards and the nations trembled and fell before him, but homosexuality and all the brutality that goes along with it was the order of the day. The evil spirits promoted every form of divergent and unclean sexual behavior, and this was spread over the whole of his kingdom, which even included Egypt, Asia, India, and all of the Mediterranean coast. His death in a drunken stupor came at the age of thirty-three and one half years. The hallmarks of his kingdom were war, sexuality, and debauchery.

The fourth kingdom, which was the Roman Empire, followed this kingdom. When Rome began to fail, the Holy Roman Empire took over and it has contaminated the whole earth with a form of godliness, but with a denial of the power and the glory of God. The modern church systems all claim to be serving God, but at the same time they are fostering all the ungodly behavior of the heathen by instituting in their systems of worship various heathen practices which were designed of Satan for his own worship.

Take, for instance, the Halloween observance. Most of the churches observe Halloween, and the Roman Church and many of her daughters even try to hallow it by calling it "All Saints Day." Halloween, however, is one of the highest feast days of the witches. The only day they count to be greater is Beltide, which is celebrated each year on May 15. The Supreme Court of America forbids the reading of the Bible in schools, but has no law against Halloween and other occult practices like the Ouija board, etc. Our educational system has been handed over to witches and homosexuals. In the past, women would be ashamed of abortion and legally it was a crime, but now the Supreme Court has sanctified abortion and now the whole sordid affair is out of the cupboard and on the streets. In order to be elected to office these days, one only has to say that you are for abortion. The shame of a nation has become its glory. Murder is at an all-time high. Serial murderers are roaming the country, almost at will. One man confessed to murdering over 300. The serial murderer Ted Bundy lost count of how many women he murdered, and they executed him on the basis of forty. He claimed that it was pornography that led him down the path to masochism and murder. The "Night stalker," a murderer caught in California after terrorizing a neighborhood for a long time, says he murdered because he is a Satanist.

All this and more has come upon this nation. Could it be that the judgment of America has long begun and that these are the final days of America? It would seem that this nation, which commenced with at least outward godly tenets, is about to end in fire and brimstone. I said "outward"

godly tenets, because some of the men whom we thought were godly were serving other gods, with only an outward cosmetic embellishment of godliness. It is said, for instance, that Benjamin Franklin was a Rosicrucianist, and many of the other early leaders were somewhat less than Christians.

If then, we must judge from history concerning the imminent fate of America, we would readily come to the conclusion that it is too late to save her. But can it ever be too late to pray? The answer is, "No!" The only problem is, "Pray what?" Let us read the Word of the Lord in 2 Chronicles 7:14:

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will heal their land."

THIS SCRIPTURE LISTS FIVE "IFS":

- (1) If they who are called by My name.
- (2) If they will humble themselves.
- (3) If they will pray.
- (4) If they will seek My face.
- (5) If they will turn from their wicked ways.

The majority of Christians do not know the difference between worldliness and Christlikeness. If the word Christlikeness means to be like *Christ Jesus*, the Son of God, then worldliness should mean to be like the *world*. If you think my judgment is harsh or impaired, then read 1 John 2:15-17,

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

"...*which are called by my name*" simply means those who have taken the nature or attributes of God. The whole church system is indicted, and those who say they are not in the church system should sincerely examine

themselves in the light of the Spirit, because it might well be that the church system is in them.

I think we have come to 2 Thessalonians 2:3,

“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away (rebellion) first, and that man of sin (lawlessness) be revealed, the son of perdition”

Rebellion has become such a way of life in the Church that the Church can no longer see the Church. This Church, therefore, will not meet the qualifications to heal the land, especially because when they pray, many pray that their land (whether it be America, Africa, Europe or Asia) be restored to its former condition, which condition never did please God anyhow.

I have succeeded in painting a very gloomy picture. I have done this for the main reason that the picture is gloomy and should not be whitewashed. The question is, however, “WHERE IS THE HOPE?” He who paints a gloomy picture without giving his readers hope is digging his own grave.

OUR HOPE IS IN THE FACT OF GOD’S PROMISE TO US, THAT THOUGH “DARKNESS SHALL COVER THE LAND, AND GROSS DARKNESS, THE PEOPLE,” THAT HE WILL BE A LIGHT TO US. IN REVELATION 3:10, HE PROMISES TO KEEP THOSE WHO KEEP HIS WORD FROM THE HOUR OF TRIBULATION, WHICH WILL COME UPON ALL THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

I have been told of the Lord on many occasions that there will be great destruction in this land, but that those who obey the voice of the Lord will be delivered (not out of it, but like in the story in Daniel 3 of the three Hebrew children in the fiery furnace).

The Lord taught me one prayer that I will give to you:

“LORD, SAVE YOUR PEOPLE.”

