

Fall On This Stone Matthew 21 verse 44

Mt 21:44; 42 "Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? 43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. 44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."

What does **Mt 21:44** say to us? It gives us a contrast of those who will fall on the stone, and those upon whom the stone will fall. Who is Jesus speaking to? Jesus is speaking to the chief priest, the scribes, and the Pharisees, as well as all those present. He is admonishing them for their unbelief in John the Baptist and himself.

Jesus is telling the chief priests, the scribes, and the Pharisees, what they are doing in rejecting him. Look at what he has already told them in: **Mt 21:32** "For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him." We notice that Jesus says, "for John came unto you in the way of righteousness." Jesus is telling them; they are rejecting the way of righteousness. Jesus told the chief priests, the scribes, and the Pharisees, that those whom they have despised have believed the truth. The publicans and the harlots believing gives us the picture of what Jesus tells us in: **Lu 5:32** "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." It is a lesson for us to not be like the unbelieving and fall, under the delusion of our own self-righteousness. A reminder that we are to believe our righteousness is in Jesus Christ, only.

Jesus is telling the chief priest, the scribes, and the Pharisees, in: **Mt 21:42** "Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?" you are the builders, who have rejected the chief corner stone.

Let us go back to the Old Testament to get some roots of prophesy, which can be applicable here. Before his death, Jacob called all his sons to him and gave them a prophesy of their future. **Ge 49:22** "Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall:" Bough means son. Thus, we have the prophetic picture of coming of Christ Jesus, who will fulfill the sacrificial law, and provide salvation to both Jew and Gentile. "whose branches run over the wall" Branches means daughter. The prophetic picture of the church, of salvation by grace, the daughter, which will come into existence, after the fulfillment of the sacrificial and ceremonial law. The **branches**, plural in form, speak prophetically of both Jews, and Gentiles, who will be saved by the grace of God, in the coming age of salvation by grace.

Understand, the ceremonial sacrificial law had a wall of separation, which concealed the ark of the covenant, the representation of salvation by grace; seen within the veil in the most holy place. This veil separated the ark of the covenant in the most holy place, from everyone but the High Priest.

Joseph's branches, going over the wall (*over means beyond or past*), was made possible by the death of Jesus on the cross. Remember, when Jesus gave up the ghost; the veil of the temple was rent from top to bottom. With this rending of the veil, the mercy seat, Jesus, was revealed, and salvation by grace was manifested. Thus, we see; Joseph's **branches** are the prophesy of the inhabitants of the New Testament church, which includes both Jew and Gentile.

Jacob's prophesy of the "**stone of Israel**" speaks to us of the coming of Jesus Incarnate, seen in: **Ge 49:24; 23** *The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him: 24 But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the stone of Israel:) 25 Even by the God of thy father, who shall help thee; and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb: 26 The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren."*

The "**stone of Israel**" is prophetic of Jesus being the foundation stone upon which the church of Salvation by Grace is founded. Jesus tells us this plainly in: **Mt 16:18** "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." This does not tell us that Peter is the rock, but rather, that Jesus is the rock because of Peter's answer earlier: **Mt 16:16** *And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" Wherefore, we have a warning of unbelief of

the Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and his finished work. Jesus warns us to not be like the chief priests, the scribes, and the Pharisees, who in their unbelief fell in the trap of the antichrist.

What does all this have to do with **Mt 21:44 "And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."** Falling on this stone, which is Jesus Christ, is made possible by the new birth, which was made possible by the fulfillment of these Old Testament prophesies. How can you fall on the stone? What happened to all those who ever met Jesus preincarnate? What does the scripture say will happen to those who meet Christ at his return? We will fall on our faces. Wherefore, when Christ comes to you in the regeneration, the new birth, you fall at the feet of Jesus, in recognition of his Lordship, and you should yield your life in discipleship to him.

But it says that "**shall be broken.**" That is right. Understand, you must be broken; from believing that you can save yourself eternally. You must be broken, from your self-righteousness. You must be broken; from pursuing your own will and be humbled, to the point of doing the will of Christ, before you can fall on this Stone, of salvation by grace. Your confession of faith, in the finished work of Jesus Christ, is a sign of that brokenness, which was caused by the new birth, and being given eyes that see, ears that hear, and hearts that understand.

Well then, what about "**but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.**" This tells us; when Christ returns the second time, this Stone, Christ Jesus, will fall upon all, who are not saved by God's grace, with the condemnation of eternal death, and he shall cast them into the lake of eternal fire. "**Grind him to powder**" is an expression of taking an object and reducing it to nothingness, an unseen existence. We have an example of this in: **Ex 32:20 "And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strawed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it."** This text is when; Moses came down from the mount with the two tables of stone and found that Israel has made a golden calf, which they were worshiping as their god. Moses ground the golden calf to powder, put the powder in the water, and made Israel drink of it. This is exactly what your existence will be in the eternal lake of fire. You will be drinking the waters of your own idolatry, and your rejection of obedience to Christ, throughout eternity. You will not be viewed from the eternal heaven, the place Jesus has gone to prepare for all of God's people, who are saved by God's grace. You will become nonexistent to God's people.

We can substantiate this from the prophesy of Jacob about Judah, seen in: **Ge 49:10; 8 "Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. 9 Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? 10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be. 11 Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes: 12 His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk."**

Ge 49:10 "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." Shiloh is the prophesy of the second coming of Christ. The sceptre, held by the King, shall be revealed at the second coming. How do we know this? This prophesy tells us; the scepter shall not depart until Shiloh come. Understand, Christ, at his first coming in incarnation, established the church of salvation by grace, and he finished the work of eternal redemption of sins. The church is representative of the gathering unto Judah here in time.

What is a sceptre? It is the staff held by the King. People are allowed to come into the presence of the King, only, if the sceptre is held out to them. "**Until Shiloh come;**" has, therefore, to be prophetic of the second coming of Christ. How? When shall the sceptre be extended no more? When Christ comes again. Explain, you say. When Christ returns the second time; what will he do? He will gather all of God's people to himself, as one body, and carry them to their eternal home. Salvation by grace will be ended. The sceptre will be forever withdrawn, and there will be no more entrance into the eternal heaven.

Wherefore, we declare unto you today, if you have come to know that you are saved by grace, please fall upon the Stone, Jesus Christ, and confess, and profess, that Christ is Saviour and Lord in your life. Be not deceived by the spirit, of the antichrist, of unbelief. What a wonderful blessing we have been given in the new birth, which is, the ability to fall upon the Stone, while the time of salvation by grace exist on earth. Glory, and Praise, to Christ for his finished work, and our eternal life and salvation. Hallelujah! Amen!