

An End, The End Is Come Ezekiel 7

Eze 7:1 ¶ "Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 2 Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land."

We point out that this end that is come is the pronouncement that Israel's possession of the land of promise is coming to end. When God says: "***the end is come upon the four corners of the land.***" God means Israel, as a nation, will be dispossessed of all the land of promise.

Prophetically, there is an end that will come to the land of promise for us on this earth. It will come to an end when the four corners of the earth are destroyed at the end of time.

As we go through this chapter, I want you to think of "***the land of promise***" that Jesus has given to his people, which is the Church of the age of Salvation by Grace.

3 "Now is the end come upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations. 4 And mine eye shall not spare thee, neither will I have pity: but I will recompense thy ways upon thee, and thine abominations shall be in the midst of thee: and ye shall know that I am the LORD."

God tells Israel: I will not have mercy upon you nor allow you to continue to possess the land of promise any more. Why? Because Israel has continually turned from God to idolatry. God is telling Israel: I have been patient and merciful, and I have forgiven and restored you many times. However, my mercy is now withdrawn. You want Idolatry, and you are going to get idolatry until you are drowning in it.

"***and ye shall know that I am the LORD.***" God is telling Israel: you are going to be like those, who were not in the ark, when the flood of my wrath brought destruction upon the earth. You will understand that there was safety in the ark, but you rejected that safety when you turned to idolatry. You will realize that God, in times past, had in love, and mercy, granted you pardon, and blessed you in the land of promise. Now, as this mercy and blessing is being withdrawn, you will realize that you had those blessings by the mercy of God. As you drown in your idolatry, you will know that I am God, and your idols are nothing.

Think about what is happening to the church, that Jesus Christ established, as it is infiltrated by willful sinfulness and idolatry. We see, in organized, and denominational, religion many orders and churches are now accepting, and promoting, idolatry in their vilest forms. The proliferation of the gay and lesbian movement, and other abominations to God, being integrated into the church is the picture of Israel turning to idolatry, and a picture of how the wrath of God will be poured out, without mercy, upon all things abominable to him. When organized religion accepts, and promotes, people living and continuing in sin, they are dispossessed of the land of promise. They have left "***thus saith the Lord***" and become idolaters.

Idolatry seems to have penetrated all religious orders, even among the Primitive Baptist. What do you mean? How many of you celebrate Christmas? Christmas is rooted in and is nothing but a pagan idolatrous tradition. How many observe Easter? Easter is rooted in idolatry. I do not think there is any, known religious order, which can say "we do everything just right," even though some of God's people are trying to adhere as closely to the word of God as possible.

5 "Thus saith the Lord GOD; An evil, an only evil, behold, is come. 6 An end is come, the end is come: it watcheth for thee; behold, it is come. 7 The morning is come unto thee, O thou that dwellest in the land: the time is come, the day of trouble is near, and not the sounding again of the mountains. 8 Now will I shortly pour out my fury upon thee, and accomplish mine anger upon thee: and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense thee for all thine abominations. 9 And mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: I will recompense thee according to thy ways and thine abominations that are in the midst of thee; and ye shall know that I am the LORD that smiteth."

God is saying to Israel: as you see my judgments coming upon you, you will see that "***an evil***" is come upon you, sent by God in righteous judicial judgment. You will realize that this evil that has come upon you is the end of your possession of the land of promise, which is a picture of the end of the ceremonial and sacrificial law service.

"The morning is come unto thee," God tells Israel: my poured-out wrath is now beginning. Just as the sun rises in the east and morning comes upon the earth, when you see this **"an only evil"** I am bringing upon you beginning, you will realize that this is the beginning of the day of God's wrath upon Israel.

As we see more and more, ungodly abominations to God, accepted in churches; we understand that **"An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land."** And we also recognize **"An evil, an only evil, behold, is come."** We already see the organized religious orders and churches turning from God. This is a warning sign to us, that the morning sun of God's wrath is rising to bring the day of judgment and destruction. This has not just started. As we are in the last age of time for the world to exist, Jesus warned us, while he was on the earth, that the antichrist was already present.

"I will recompense thee according to thy ways and thine abominations that are in the midst of thee;" God says to Israel the same thing he tells us in: **Re 20:12-15; 12 "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."** Woe to those people, like Israel here in this chapter, who will be judged according to **"their works."** It is obvious that our works will send us to eternal damnation in the lake of fire. When you hear your eternal condemnation **"ye shall know that I am the LORD that smiteth."**

We praise you, our Heavenly Father, that you sent Jesus Christ to die, for the eternal remission of sins of thy people. Whereby, we will not be judged by our self-works, but rather, we will be judged in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

10 "Behold the day, behold, it is come: the morning is gone forth; the rod hath blossomed, pride hath budded. 11 Violence is risen up into a rod of wickedness: none of them shall remain, nor of their multitude, nor of any of theirs: neither shall there be wailing for them. 12 The time is come, the day draweth near: let not the buyer rejoice, nor the seller mourn: for wrath is upon all the multitude thereof. 13 For the seller shall not return to that which is sold, although they were yet alive: for the vision is touching the whole multitude thereof, which shall not return; neither shall any strengthen himself in the iniquity of his life. 14 They have blown the trumpet, even to make all ready; but none goeth to the battle: for my wrath is upon all the multitude thereof."

"The rod has blossomed" is telling Israel: the Chaldeans are now ready to invade the land of promise. They will come with violence upon the land, and Israel shall be dispossessed of the land of promise. The Chaldeans are the rod of discipline, which God is using to fulfill his judgment upon Israel for their idolatry, and they shall come with great violence.

"none of them shall remain, nor of their multitude, nor of any of theirs: neither shall there be wailing for them." This is certainly the end of the ceremonial and sacrificial law service. The sacrificial law was fulfilled with Jesus offering himself upon the cross as the only true sacrifice for sins, forever. Since Jesus fulfilled the law service there is no longer any habitation of God in the law service, **"the end is come upon the four corners of the land"** and Israel is completely dispossessed of their land of promise. I do not know of any Child of God that is sorry that the sacrificial law service is fulfilled, rather, they rejoice in it, for by the fulfillment of the sacrificial law the age of salvation by grace was ushered in, and that is surely a Hallelujah time for God's people.

"For the seller shall not return to that which is sold, although they were yet alive:" God tells Israel the finality of his judgment upon them for their continual idolatry. God tells them: you have lived carelessly as if you expect the year of jubilee is coming and all would be forgiven, and you would return to your possession in the land of promise with all debts forgiven. God is telling Israel: the year of jubilee will not come any more, as the land of promise will no longer be the possession of Israel.

"but none goeth to the battle: for my wrath is upon all the multitude thereof." God says that not one shall be exempted from this judgment. God says: you have sold yourself to idolatry and when you have lost the land of promise, there will be no regaining possession of it. God tells Israel: I have sent the Chaldeans, to overcome

and destroy. You have blown the trumpet to come to battle, however, not one has answered that call, because my wrath has made their hearts afraid, and they will not answer.

We already see this picture being fulfilled, as those who are willing to stand up for God in faithfulness are being separated from the larger organized bodies of religion. We see individual churches withdrawing from organized religious orders and becoming independent bodies of believers, because the religious order has turned to idolatry. The organization has sold itself to idolatry. There is no joy of the seller, the idolatrous organization, at the loss of these church bodies that have withdrawn from the organized religious order. The idolatrous body will not return to "*thus saith the Lord*," nor to the body of the true believers, who are withdrawn from them.

15 "The sword is without, and the pestilence and the famine within: he that is in the field shall die with the sword; and he that is in the city, famine and pestilence shall devour him. 16 ¶ But they that escape of them shall escape, and shall be on the mountains like doves of the valleys, all of them mourning, everyone for his iniquity. 17 All hands shall be feeble, and all knees shall be weak as water. 18 They shall also gird themselves with sackcloth, and horror shall cover them; and shame shall be upon all faces, and baldness upon all their heads. 19 They shall cast their silver in the streets, and their gold shall be removed: their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the LORD: they shall not satisfy their souls, neither fill their bowels: because it is the stumbling block of their iniquity."

God tells Israel: Not only am I sending the sword to devour; I am also sending famine and pestilence. There shall be some that escape death. They shall spend their lives in misery as they mourn over their sins that have brought them to this desolate condition of being without God in their lives. That silver and gold that they trusted in, and of which they made their idols, shall not save them from my judgment. They will spend the rest of their lives wandering in their lust and idolatry, bearing the burden of being alive in body, but not having the Spirit of God in their hearts. We see that even today there are many Israelites that are mourning over the loss of their land of promise, because they cannot regain possession of it.

God tells the organized religious orders of today: I gave you a land of promise, a land that flowed with milk and honey in this age of salvation by grace, the church, in which you only had to gather your needs, as Israel when they entered the land of promise. You have despised my gift to you; and now you shall look upon a land that is made desolate and empty.

God tells them: when my time of judgment comes, your silver and gold, that you have loved, and lusted after, will not keep you from my eternal wrath and judgment upon you for your idolatry. God tells all idolators: In eternity, your souls will not be satisfied with your condition, and position, and you can no longer be filled with the presence of the Lord. You have brought this upon yourselves by worshipping idols and despising God.

The places of organized religion that have turned to idolatry are like this condemnation that is announced upon Israel. They may seem to prosper in their sinful ways, yet they can never have the peace of God in their hearts. Living an abominable life before God will never satisfy the souls of the ungodly. They will have a continual hunger for the possession of God's truth which will never be satiated, because of their idolatry.

20 "As for the beauty of his ornament, he set it in majesty: but they made the images of their abominations and of their detestable things therein: therefore have I set it far from them. 21 And I will give it into the hands of the strangers for a prey, and to the wicked of the earth for a spoil; and they shall pollute it. 22 My face will I turn also from them, and they shall pollute my secret place: for the robbers shall enter into it, and defile it."

God tells Israel: I gave you a land of promise and you have despised it. I gave you a central place of worship, the ark of the covenant and the tabernacle. I gave you the temple of God in Jerusalem. Yet, you have despised the land, the ark and tabernacle, and temple, which are a portrait of the beauty of his ornament. Strangers shall defile this land and temple, even as you have defiled it with your idolatry.

This same warning is applied to us today. God is saying: I gave you a pure and true church, established upon Jesus Christ and his finished work. You have taken that church, which is a beautiful ornament in my sight, and you have made it into a foul stench of idolatry, and ungodliness. Because you have turned from the finished work of Jesus Christ, wherefore, I have given you over to the ungodly world, which shall exploit organized religious orders here in time.

23 ¶ "Make a chain: for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence. 24 Wherefore I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses: I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease; and their holy places shall be defiled. 25 Destruction cometh; and they shall seek peace, and there shall be none. 26 Mischief shall come upon mischief, and rumour shall be upon rumour; then shall they seek a vision of the prophet; but the law shall perish from the priest, and counsel from the ancients. 27 The king shall mourn, and the prince shall be clothed with desolation, and the hands of the people of the land shall be troubled: I will do unto them after their way, and according to their deserts will I judge them; and they shall know that I am the LORD."

This ornament, the land of promise, that I gave unto you shall no longer be yours. It will be taken by the worst kind of people on earth. Any of you that are not slain will live every day with these people ruling and running your lives, because it is my judgment upon you for your betrayal and desertion to idolatry. These that are left of Israel, they shall know that I am God and that my mercy is departed from them. They will know that they are reaping justice for their sins of idolatry.

Consider organized religious bodies that are exercising in idolatry and their end. As we pointed out earlier in the text from the book of Revelation, it is easily discerned that this chapter is prophetic of the end of the sacrificial law, as well as the end of all time and the resurrection of the dead and the general judgment of God.

We would not leave the reader in this dark and desolate place, because there is good news in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in this age of Salvation by the Grace of God. As you think of the context of this chapter, remember that when Christ came into the world, the church, as it existed under the law ordinances, came to an end. Jesus established a new and better way, the church of salvation by grace, the New Testament church. The New Testament church is being defiled with idolatry just as the Old Testament church was. We know from the Revelation text mentioned earlier that there is also coming an end to this age of salvation by grace, just as there came an end to the ceremonial and sacrificial law age.

We are heartened and strengthened to continue in faithful devotion to God by scriptures like: **Ro 9:15 "For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."** We declare unto you today: if you have been gifted the mercy of God, and given eternal life in Jesus Christ, you will not hear, or see, these awful judgments of God in your life. Not only did Jesus give you eternal life: he also gave you eternal remission of sins. **"and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."** Wherefore, because you are alive in Christ, you will not be judged from the "**books**" of your works, but you will be judged from the "**book of life**" and found "not guilty" before God the Father, because you are redeemed by the finished work of Jesus Christ.

We rejoice to see church bodies that still try to follow "**thus saith the Lord**" to the best of their ability. We rejoice to see church bodies that hold fast to the King James bible, not accepting the introduction of idolatry into the word of God. We find in the previous chapter a promise that brings us encouragement: **Eze 6:8 ¶ "Yet will I leave a remnant, that ye may have some that shall escape the sword among the nations, when ye shall be scattered through the countries."** We rejoice to know, that even though the remnant, the true church, be scattered over all the earth, and they must suffer under tribulations, they shall be gathered, in the eternal day of Jesus Christ, in one body to forever be with the Lord. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the New and Better way that you have established for us today. Thank you for the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! Amen!