DIVIDED WE STAND-DIVIDED WE FALL

Women's Missionary Union President Dorothy Sample said recently that the Southern Baptists are in danger of God's rebuke if they do not solve their political quarrels.

Yes, Dorothy, there is a great danger, but the important question to be answered by Baptists and Christians in general at this critical time in history is “How will God rebuke?”

“SURELY THE LORD GOD WILL DO NOTHING BUT HE REVEALETH HIS SECRET UNTO HIS SERVANTS THE PROPHETS.”

But, you say, Christendom has many preachers, professors of theology, and every person in the pew an interpreter of the Scriptures, but they have no prophet to rebuke!

The Bible shows that wherever God wanted to revive, reform, and rebuke His people, He did it through a prophet like Isaiah, Ezekiel, Paul or some other inspired one.

Some think that there are to be no prophets in the last days of this earth's history, but the Bible says differently. “And he gave...prophets...For the perfecting of the saints...Till we all come in the unity of the faith...unto a perfect man.” Eph. 4:11,12,13.

Christians say they believe the Inerrancy of the Bible, but we may ask, Do they believe the Scriptures which state emphatically that there will be no help from God, no unity of faith, no rebuke without a prophet: “And by a prophet the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved.” Hosea 12:13.

God is angry with Christians who say every person in the pew is his own interpreter, for He has already warned us of what we must know first as a Christian. “Seeking this FIRST, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any PRIVATE interpretation. For prophecy came not old time by the will of man: but holy men (PROPHETS) of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” 1Pet. 1:20, 21.

This truth is illustrated in Acts 8:31 where the Ethiopian told Philip that he could not understand Isaiah without an interpreter. Also in Acts 10:18 God used the prophet Peter to instruct Cornelius; Acts 9:1011 tells of the prophet Ananias teaching Saul; Acts 11:27 speaks of prophets sent from Jerusalem to Antioch; and Acts 13:1 and 15:32 records the work of various prophets. There were even women prophets such as Anna (Luke 1:39,40), Mary, the Mother of Jesus (Luke 1:4655), the four virgin daughters of Philip (Acts 21:79), and the women witnesses on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 1:814; 2:4), all of whom were a part of the new priesthood after the order of Melchisedec (Heb. 7) in which “There is neither...male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.” Gal. 3:28 How crazy for some to believe that the prophets were only in Old Testament times. All through the New Testament God spoke through the prophets both male and female to His people. On the Day of Pentecost, Peter quoting Joel 2:28, spoke of women prophesying.

Yes, prophets were given for the “perfecting of the saints,” for the “unity of the faith...unto a perfect man.” Eph. 4:12,13. Not until that “which is perfect is come, then that which is in part (prophesy) shall be done away.” 1 Cor. 13:10. It clearly cannot be shown that the church, in the lifetime of Paul, reached the state of unity, perfection, and knowledge apologetics of in Ephesians 4. Nor did the church reach this unity during the Dark Ages of her apostacy (2 Thess. 2:3). Nor has she reached this perfection since the days of Martin Luther. Most emphatically the church very obviously is infinitely below this state of unity. Not until the gift of prophets and all the other gifts are in the church will she reach this state of perfection.

We all know about 2 Thess. 2:3 where Paul prophesied of the great falling away that would come to the early Christian church. Since the tragic apostasy, the gifts were rarely manifested and Christians came to believe that they were only for the primitive church. But, again, let us remember Paul’s prophecy that they would be resident in the church until the “perfecting of the saints” an event YET FUTURE FROM PAUL’S DAY.


"It was the Catholic Church which, by the authority of Jesus Christ, has transferred this rest to the Sunday in remembrance of the resurrection of our Lord. Thus the observance of Sunday by
Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] church," by M. Singer, in "Plain Talk About the Testament," p. 23. "Reason and common sense demand the acceptance of one or the other of these alternatives: either Protestantism and the keeping holy of Saturday or Catholicity and the keeping of Sunday. Compromise is impossible." Cardinal Gibbons, "The New Faith," Catholic Almanac, 1923.

The Kansas City Catholic, a Roman Catholic church paper, states definitely that "The Catholic church of its own infallible authority created Sunday a holy day to take the place of the Sabbath." "The Council of Laodicea (about AD 308...first offensive letter of the Lord's day, and prohibited...the keeping of...Sabbath under an anathema...," Dissertation on the Lord's Day, p. 163.

God says to those who blow the trumpet so loudly about the inerrancy of the Scriptures that "THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK is the rest day," the Seventh Day Adventists celebrate as the First Day of the Week. Edward T. Hiscox, DD, author of "The Baptist Manual" in an address before a Baptist Convention of ministers, and reported in the New York Examiner, November 16, 1893, stated, "There was and is a commandment to keep holy the Sabbath day, but that Sabbath day was not Sunday...I ask, Where can the record of such a transgression be found? Not in the New Testament, absolutely not. There is no Scriptural evidence of the change of the Sabbath institution from the seventh to the first day of the week. Not only did the peoples change the Sabbath to Sunday, and the festivities of Christmas, Easter, and paganized feasts, but he took away the "desire of women" (Dan. 11:37) by forbidding them either their rightful place of equality in the priesthood or in the home. Research the Nicene and PostNicene Fathers volumes, and the Roman Catholic Church Manuals, for example, the Council of Ephesos, AD 431, the Council of Chalcedon, AD 451, the Council of Epaon, AD 517, and the Council of Orleans II, AD 533.

Notice the chart. The Mountain of Brass on the left represents the Early Christian Church in its purity. The "Road to the Kingdom" takes a downward plunge when the church falls into apostasy. The next step is the destruction of the Catholic Church of the Reformation. In the Agonie Church, Martin Luther of Germany (Lutherans), that first great prophet of the Protestant Reformation, and continued step by step with each succeeding prophet John Knox of Scotland (Presbyterian), John Wesley of England (Methodists), Alexander Campbell of the United States (Christian Church), William Miller of the United States (Millsite), and the Adventists and their offshoots (Seventh Day Adventists). Check out the prophecy of these six prophetic movements in the book of Ezekiel, Chapter 4. The seventh and last prophetic movement is even now breaking upon the world scene. "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound the mystery of God should be fulfilled." Rev. 10:7

The history of these prophetic movements and their divinely inspired prophets, who by the power of God led the church step by step out of apostasy, is a useful review for the Students of the prophesied movement to the much clearer light with each succeeding step. It illustrates that "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but He revealeth His secret unto His servants the prophets." (Amos 3:7), and that "By a prophet the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt (darkness of error), and by a prophet was he preserved..." The Light-Shadow dance of the light of the morning example of Daniel 8:4, which followed in 1844. In 1844, Ellen G. White received the gift of inspiration as the path of the just continued upward to the road of the truth...thus they began unadulterated to point to the revelation of the seventh day Sabbath revealed through the Word of God as they almost succeeded in obtaining a National Sabbath Law. One of the most militant fundamentalist religious movements of the 1880's, Jonathan Edwards, reflected the attitude of the major Protestant denominations towards those who observed the Bible Sabbath of the seventh day: "We want State and Religion, and we are going to have it...we are aware that it will infringe the rights of..., Seventh-day Adventists, as they gather together [with Sundaykeepers] on the same continent!" National Reform Convention, Feb. 26, 27, 1873. In 1888 a National Sunday-Sabbath Bill, Senate Bill No. 2983, was introduced by Senator H.W. Blair in the First Session of the Fiftieth Congress. It was defeated.

As one of Jehovah's Witnesses, we are informed of the "convergence of religion and politics to take place in 1888" at which time the new association of evangelical broadcasters called "Active hope" to take over the National Republic Party through the implementation of the "Prophetic Faith Movement" which was designed by Dr. David Brewster in 1884. The first attempt to unite church and state nationally through a national Sunday law in 1888 was exactly one hundred years to 1988 when the national takeover is planned at which time the Moral Majority or Religious Right desire to set up a modern Israel and Judah with anointing and the Baptist Church and its Rabbi, Dr. David S. Beer, a Ph.D. in sociology and theology who will "rend" you when he makes that image to Papal Rome and brings in a national Sunday law honoring the creation of Rome.

"The sign, or seal [mark] of God is revealed in the observance of the seventh day Sabbath..." It is a sign between Me and you...we will not make our mark in the beasts..." The opposite of this, the observance of the first day of the week. This mark distinguishes those who are familiar with papal authority from those who acknowledge the authority of God." Selected. "The professed Protestant world will form a confederacy with the Papacy..." when they "are reformed..." Our Present Dangers, 1891. "When the leading churches of the United States,_uniting upon such points of doctrine [Sunday holiness] as are held by them in common, shall influence the state to enforce decrees...then Protestantism in the United States, and the Roman Church and the infraction of civil penalties that dissenters will inevitably result." The Great Controversy, p. 448. "The 'image to the beast' represents that form of apostate Protestantism which will be developed when the Protestant churches shall seek the aid of the powers of the beast to enforce a Sunday law."

Dear Christian Brethren: "Christians of past generations observed the Sunday, supposing that in so doing they were keeping the Bible Sabbath; and there are now true Christians in every church, not excepting the Reformation to a grand, glorious climax of unity amongst God's children of all denominations and religions. Eph. 4:13. "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but He revealeth His secret unto His servants the prophets (living today)." Amos 3:7.

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