

Lifting up the Book (of Daniel)

Monday, February 07, 2011

1:57 PM

Receiving the message of the ascending angel of Revelation 7:2 leads one to Revelation 4:1, the call to "come up here." Only after we have ascended out of the lie of the angry God can Christ begin to open our book and help us see where we have been. The events of the second part of Revelation (chapters 4-8:5) are also described in Daniel 7.

'Ashshur, ash-shoor'; apparently from <H833> ('ashar) (**in the sense of successful**); Ashshur, the second son of Shem; also his descendants and the country occupied by them (i.e. Assyria), its region and its empire :- Asshur, Assur, Assyria, Assyrians. See <H838> ('ashur).

—Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary

Assyria = Successful and is ancient Babylon = Gate to God. Two cities but one mindset. Symbolically Assyria represents the people in Babylon who do not yet see the confusion they are in. One must go to Babylon in order to be delivered (Micah 4:10).

Babylon is also symbolized by the curtain that separates **the holy place from the holy of holies**.

Exodus 26:

31 And thou shalt make a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: **with cherubims shall it be made:**

32 And thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of shittim wood overlaid with gold: their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver.

33 And thou shalt hang up the vail under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the vail the ark of the testimony: and **the vail shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy.**

Babylon's understanding of the cherubims is woven into the very fabric of it's confusion about God. The meaning of the cherubim has been withheld by God until now.

Hebrews 9:

5 And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly.

What makes the curtain come down? What makes Babylon fall? The curtain was ripped by God when Christ died on Calvary's cross (Matthew 27:51). The curtain represents our misunderstanding of God's love for humanity. Only when we understand why Christ died will we see the true character of God.

Babylon is the Greek spelling of the name which in Hebrew is uniformly "Babel." The word occurs some 290 times and refers to an ancient city on the eastern bank of the Euphrates about twenty miles south of Bagdad, near the modern village of Hilla in Iraq. Akkadian seems to derive the name from babili(m) or from another earlier Sumerian source. But in both cases it means "Gate of God." Genesis 11:9 gives the name as Babel (perhaps from bālal "to confuse") but probably intended as a parody, a word play referring to what happened when the languages were confused.

The first definite occurrence of bab-ili(m) is in the texts of the Third Dynasty of Ur (2300-2200 b.c., approximately Abraham's day), although the Scriptures state that Babylon along with Erech and Akkad was one of the earliest cities in the South (Genesis 10:10).

The city figured prominently under Hammurabi placed by some at 1792-1749, by others at 1728-1686 b.c. and noted for his legal code. The might of Assyria prevented Babylon from being prominent (from the 1100s), although Tiglath-pileser III (745-727 b.c.) gave the city luster, ruling in it as Pulu, a name that occurs in the Bible as "Pul" (2 Kings 15:19). Merodach Baladan at about 700 b.c. represented a figure of resistance to Assyria and no doubt was looking for allies (Isaiah 39:1). The city was destroyed by Sennacherib in 689 b.c. because of rebellions, **but the city was rebuilt by the succeeding Assyrian king, Esarhaddon (680-669 b.c.).**

The Chaldeans moved into Babylonia (the area) under Nabopolassar in 626 b.c. and with his great successor Nebuchadnezzar II, proceeded to build the Neo-Babylonian empire. In 612, Assur, capital of

Assyria, fell. Nebuchadnezzar conquered Judah in 606-605 (Daniel 1) and annexed it in 587-586 (2 Kings 25). The empire extended its rule to the borders of Egypt and under Nebuchadnezzar, Babylon was a magnificent city. Less able rulers followed, and in 539 the Persians conquered Babylonia (Daniel 5). The Persian empire fell two hundred years later. Babylon retained some importance under the Seleucids and succeeding Parthians, but it eventually fell into ruins.

Its first occurrence in the Bible pertains to the Tower of Babel episode in which man in a titanic social revolt attempted to throw off the rule of God and achieve unity and peace without God. The symbol of their unity was the tower, and the strength of their unity was their common language. As a result, God judged them by confusing their speech. According to the Sumerian Enmerkar Epic (141-46), at one time men praised Enlil "with tongue," possibly a reflection in secular history of this event.

—Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament

The book seen in Revelation 4 and opened in the 7 seals is a picture of the minds of the last generation church. In Revelation 10 a little book is opened or the rest of what is needed to bring them to the fullness of God's love. The little book is also a symbol of the book of Daniel. Therefore, Daniel and Revelation should be even more closely associated than we thought before. When the four winds blow on the inward sea we see the effect on ourselves.

Revelation 4:7 Living Creatures

- 1) Lion-Pride
- 2) Calf-red, peace taken from earth
- 3) Man-black, judging
- 4) Eagle-pale, without Christ

Daniel 7:4-7 Beasts

- 1) Lion - pride
- 2) Bear-unchanging heart/devour much flesh
- 3) Leopard-no forgiveness 4/wings 4/heads
- 4) Nondescript-Divinity

The lion, bear, and leopard of Daniel bring emotional healing.

The fourth beast = doctrinal understanding or until God gives us a new heaven. The other beasts are healed when we are given a new earth and there is no more sea.