

History, Prophecy, and Truth

by S.G. Smith

From Origins to Destiny

History is a record of prophesy which has been fulfilled. Prophecy presents us with a record of history that is yet to be. Only the Almighty God of all truth (because He is Truth) is able to speak things that are not as though they were. The sovereign God of all time controls the origin and destiny of all things.....all glory to His Name.

Beyond our origin in Adam and the global judgment during the time of Noah, there was a man named Abram, whom we know today as Abraham. He was elected by God to fulfill another covenant with man. Technically, he is a Gentile. Despite any objection to this particular classification, Abraham's destiny, like Adam and Noah, is linked to the heritage of nations and the destiny of all mankind.

Abraham is particularly significant because he is fountainhead of both the

visible, physical nation of Israel and the invisible, metaphysical kingdom known as the body of Christ (or the international church of Christ). He is the third man, in line with Adam and Noah, in the establishing the overall covenant plan of God in His relationship to His creation.

The Preeminence of National Israel

In the course of time, we meet with another man named Moses. The first installment for the long awaited promise to Abraham, prophesied approximately 400 years earlier, begins to stir in history. Moses was the first judge of Israel who is uniquely referred to as the lawgiver, laws which he received from the hand and voice of God. Had Moses been a bit bolder, he might have also reigned (so to speak) as the first High Priest. As it turned out his brother Aaron received that task.

The last judge, Samuel, who was a priest as well as a prophet, becomes a symbolic segue, or segway, into the more notorious, yet glorious, history of ancient Israel. The shift in culture at that time has had a significant impact on future mankind.....and what was this shift? Israel decided it wanted a **king like all the other nations**. Where would we have been as a nation, if our forefathers had thought like this? Would there have been any constitutional republic, open to democratic reforms, if our forebears had

not been acutely aware of this spiritual failure on the part national Israel, which was instituted to be a witness of God's work among men? Well, the so-called *divine right* of kings may have been *accommodated* by God throughout European history, but the Bible does not seem to indicate this perspective represents consistency with any *divine plan* for universal human government. I think George Washington and his contemporaries understood this rather well.

Every American should pause and take a deep breath when they read this passage in I Sam. 8. Apart from what passes for knowledge in our public schools today (i.e. identity politics and gender/transgender studies), younger Americans in elementary school *should* be walking around thinking 'that George Washington guy, and those other dudes, were really pretty cool'.

Imperial Israel

After the introduction of kings Saul and David we are left with the Davidic covenant, the promise of an eternal dynasty for the House of David. We then arrive at a third man, the third king, King Solomon. His reign was great and glorious, and it was also global. Although I have never noticed the Solomonic empire receiving substantial attention in the Christian church, Solomon is

unavoidably significant in light of both Abrahamic and Davidic covenants. As the son of David and the king of Israel he had global influence in transmitting wisdom from the oracles of God to the nations of the world. Tragically, of course, his intermarriage with foreign women (no doubt the common practice of royalty) allowed pagan practices to infect the true worship of God. Long story short, Israel eventually becomes divided into northern and southern kingdoms, which lasted until they were both overtaken by Babylon.

The Time of the Gentiles

When the light of the Spirit departed from Israel we encounter a new era in history. Israel had apparently enjoyed flirting with idolatry so much that God elected to deliver them over to pagan empires. In the midst of the prophetic literature within the Old Testament scriptures we find the book of Daniel.

Now, Daniel served during the first session of what has become known as the time of the Gentiles leading us up to the revelation of Jesus Christ. This period includes the successive imperial reigns of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. Now Israel would experience the rule pagan kings of other nations first hand and eventually come to loathe idolatry.

It is interesting to note what is

progressively happening throughout this period in the rise of these pagan empires. Apart from any direct governance according to the oracles of God, these empires are developing their own worldly methods of social organization and political management. Briefly listed below is a significant cultural feature of each empire:

- Babylon - money, usury, and deficit financing
- Medo-Persia - bureaucratic regulation/control
- Greece - humanistic philosophy, rationalism
- Rome - statist oppression from militarism

These characteristics were special features of these respective cultures, which were learned and transmitted to each successive empire which followed, for the purpose of managing mass populations. It is rather easy to see that most of the nations of the world *today* are governed from a socio-economic and political chimera which has arisen in the wake of this historical period.

Perhaps we should revisit our political heritage in light of such history. Yet, is it likely that we are already being overtaken by the pagan roots of our Gentile history? Can any correction be implemented to avert what seems to be an inevitable, calamitous destiny?

Contrast this with the plan God originally had for Israel: (a) God serves as the king and lawgiver, (b) a judge (or extended judicial system) ensures the

transmission and application of this law, and (c) the people actually execute judgment whenever necessary. Military action toward any foreign enemy is executed through a commanding judge with an array of citizen soldiers (primarily farmers). What could be simpler?

Sadly, I imagine that this simplicity has been lost due to the vain imaginations of those who seek to advance the idolatrous counterfeit of some new world order. Such efforts are not really new, and they usually produce a rather disappointing social order.

Finality of Human Destiny

So where does the truth fit in amidst these futile fantasies? What are the right social formulas, which will naturally spring from the best political philosophy? Perhaps our entire notion of truth itself is amiss. Perhaps the idea of *knowing* the truth in order to be set free is more than an impersonal list of ideas.

Truth is not merely a set of postulates, properties or propositions. Truth is a person, the man Christ Jesus, who is the living God of the Universe. He is the only way *because* He is the truth; and we can never find life apart from Him. Call upon Him, by name, todayand flee the wrath to come.