

Confronting The Cloudiness

According to Matthew

Chapter 24

(42) 'Watch therefore, for you do not know what day your lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. In this way also make yourselves ready, since the son of man is coming at an hour when you do not expect him.'

Jesus is only using this analogy to stress the suddenness and the unexpectedness of such an event. When the "son of man" concept is laid upon you, it will happen as suddenly and as powerfully as a thief coming in the night.

(45) 'Who then is a faithful and prudent slave, whom his master promotes over his household, to give them food in due time? Blessed is that slave whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. Assuredly, I say to you, that he will put him in charge of all his belongings. But if that bad slave says in his heart, "My master is taking his time", and begins to beat his fellow slaves, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that slave will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he does not expect, and will cut him in two and appoint him his share with the phonies. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.'

To whom is Jesus referring, a faithful and prudent slave? Is he not referring to religious leaders, pastors, teachers, or whatever titles they have? They are the shepherds of the flock. Jesus is saying that the responsibility that comes with being a shepherd is great and is serious. With being a pastor, the responsibility toward the master is to feed the flock as Jesus said to Peter at the end of the gospel of John. But if a shepherd who has the responsibility of feeding the flock withholds the spirit food from the sheep, woe be to that shepherd.

After Jesus left, over time, the caretakers of the gospel lost sight of the genuine message and started to change the message with phony ones which subsequently caused a long era of torment, of "wailing and gnashing of teeth". I don't need too much intelligence or education to recognize and acknowledge that the Church has been in a horrible state for a very long time.

In ⁸Ezekiel chapter 34 and Zechariah chapter 11, God speaks extensively about shepherds and sheep. He declares that he will suddenly dismiss all of the shepherds who were not doing their required job. They did not feed the flock but fed themselves. And God will rectify the situation.

Chapter 24 footnotes:

⁸ Ezekiel 34(1) And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

(2) Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; Woe *be* to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?

...

(22) Therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle.

(23) And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, *even* my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.

(24) And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken *it*.

...

Zechariah 11(1) Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour thy cedars.

...

(17) Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! the sword *shall be* upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.

Had enough, Adam?

More to come...

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