

GOD'S END-TIMES PLAN

September 21st, 2010

**Jesus is Executor of God's End-Times Plan for Church and World.
And, it's all going to play out, here on Earth.
Jesus is the only Man who can be Executor of His own written Will.**

WHAT IS THIS?

There is a plan in the Bible for God's restoration of Christianity in the very end-times. And this is a compact exposition of that plan. Only the major points are made here, so that a short description may be obtained. This paper is based on other available writings. The purpose of this paper is to get the essence of the plan down in one place, so a reader may determine if he/she is interested in reading more.

THE FUNDAMENTAL THESIS.

Jesus said that before He could return, His Church must be restored [Mat. 17:11-12]. And, Strong's Christian Dictionary of Hebrew and Greek defines that restoration to be in health, home, or organization. That restoration shall reestablish two parts missing from the Church since about 250 A.D. Those are the prophetic and the apostolic. What that means is that the prophetic and apostolic practices of the First Century Church shall be restored. And, that's going to take a change in the way churches do business.

Saying it another way: The Church is Jesus' pace-maker, although it's the Church that has the heart problem.

God has documented His plan for the restoration of Christianity during the very end times prophesied in the Book of Revelation. The plan, as described here, comes from 180 scriptures which were prophetically received in a small home church at the turn of the 21st Century. However, many more hundreds of supporting scriptures were drawn in to the writing of the various manuscripts and documents describing this plan. The present paper will only cite a few of the scriptures.

THE TIMING AND SEQUENCE OF THE RESTORATION.

The timing of the restoration shall be just before and during most of what is called The Great Tribulation, as described in the chapters, [Rev. 8 – 11]. The prophetic shall be first restored, with the apostolic following. And, in between there will be a transition, overlapping both restorations.

It is during that transition that Jesus will make a spiritual appearance in His Body of Christ. In the Greek, it is known as His *phaneroo* appearance [1 John 3:2]. And, it is before His *parousia* coming [1 John 2:28]. I happen to believe that this latter *parousia* coming is the Rapture [2 Ths. 2:1].

Jesus' *phaneroo* appearance in His Body of Christ is a plural, and therefore corporate, event. Thus, I believe that it will be seen as the long awaited manifestation of the sons of God [1 John 3:2], [Rom. 8:19]. It will be evidenced by substantial supernatural signs and wonders performed in the power of God.

THE CORPORATE ASPECTS OF THE PLAN.

Individual and Corporate Christianity.

The messages of the Bible are written in two different ways. First are messages for individual Christians. Second are messages for churches, as corporate combinations of individuals. The Church is known as the Body of Christ. In Latin, that is Corpus Christi. It is from the Latin “corpus” that we get the English “corporation”. Churches are bodies of Christ. That is, they are corporate entities. The whole Church, with a capital C, is the Body of Christ [1 Cor. 12:27].

When interpreting Bible passages, it is extremely important to know which viewpoint is appropriate, ... the individual or corporate viewpoint. That is especially important in dealing with God’s end-times plan. And, that is because the end-time events of His plan are all about the corporate Christian Church.

Some churches do a good job of training up disciples in the aspects of individual Christianity. But, few churches do a good job of training up disciples in the aspects of corporate Christianity. And, that is because the corporate Church is fragmented into denominations and non-denominations whose leaders cannot agree on doctrine. But, to understand what God is going to do about the end-times condition of His Church, the churches must see things from His corporate viewpoint. And, that’s in the Bible.

Just as individual Christians may be saved, eternally, so the temporal Church is to be saved, corporately, here on Earth, before Jesus comes again. That is what the end-times plan is all about.

Some Corporate Definitions.

In order to talk about what’s going to happen, we need some working definitions of the terms used. The Bible shows that the churches may be classified into four types. These are Institutional, Remnant, Apostate, and Overcoming. They are defined as follows:

Institutional: Ritualistic, without worship in Spirit and truth.

Remnant: Worshiping in Spirit and truth, without empty ritual.

Overcoming: Victorious over the problems besetting the seven church types.

Apostate: Evil, counterfeit, idolatrous, , and utterly without value.

Many churches exhibit combinations of the elements of the four classifications. The Restoration is to produce overcoming churches that can minister effectively during the Great Tribulation.

Jesus defined a Christian, without reference to churches. And, His definition is the key to Church unity. It is that a Christian be in Jesus, and that Jesus be in the Christian [John 17:21-23]. That’s what “in Christ” means. Jesus is in the Christian via the Holy Spirit [John 14:16-20] and the Christian is in Jesus as a branch in the Vine [John 15:4]. All of those so characterized, together define the corporate Church [Rom. 12:5]. So, the true Church is not necessarily the sum of the visible churches.

The Bible also shows a way to type the Overcoming Church, based on the seven ‘congregations’ described in the two chapters, [Rev. 2,3]. And, that view is by the ‘focus’ of each individual congregation. I have chosen single word descriptors for each focus, based on ‘best-fit’ interpretation of twenty-three seven-fold scripture sets, via the so-called ‘hermeneutic-spiral’ methodology¹.

The seven Church types, which describe both structure and process, are:

FAITH: One-on-one discipling, via sharing of the first principles of Christianity.
 TRUTH: One-on-one discipling, on the truth about Jesus and the Christian.
 SPIRIT: Prophecy and the things of the Holy Spirit. Talking with Jesus. Holiness.
 POWER: Jesus, operating through the individual Christian. The demonic.
 MINISTRY: Cleansing, healing, and feeding Jesus' sheep.
 DOCTRINE: Teaching the whole Bible – The *rhema* and *logos* Word of God.
 MATURITY: About the final things, individually and corporately. The end-times.

DETAILS OF THE PLAN.

The Context.

The Bible is all about Jesus and God's Will for the very end-times. And, that includes both Old- and New-Testament. Jesus said so [Luke 24:44].

And, the very end-times are all about The Day of the Lord. That's Jesus' second part of His Day of the Lord. And, in particular, it's when Jesus accomplishes the seventh element of His ministry that he did not perform the first time.

When Jesus returned to his home synagogue, after being tested in the desert by Satan, He read out of the Bible six elements of His ministry [Luke 4:18-19]. He was reading from [Isa. 61:1-2]. He did not read that element that is to proclaim the day of vengeance of God. Apparently, that element is reserved for the second part of His Day of the Lord.

When we look into the Old Testament to see who it is that is in charge of God's Day of Vengeance, we see that it is the Lord God of Hosts [Jer. 46:10]. And, the Lord of Hosts is God's redeemer [Isa. 44:6]. And, God's Redeemer is Jesus [Tit. 2:13-14]. And, so, it is Jesus who is in charge of the coming Great Tribulation [Mal. 4:1-3]. And, during His *phaneroo* appearance in the Body of Christ, He shall proclaim that Day. That is, His end-times prophets in Christ shall proclaim that Day. And, that shall be part of the restoration of the prophetic.

How the Plan Shall be Accomplished.

First of all, the events of the planned Restoration shall be orchestrated by the Holy Spirit, not men. That is, the Plan is God's and He will accomplish it, not by the plans of men. However, men (and women) will take part in it, under the direction of the Holy Spirit. It shall be seen as a move of God. And, I believe that it will be a move greater than the two Great Awakenings of the 1700s and 1800s. I also believe that, like those two previous moves, this one will also be a predominantly American move.

Because of all the biblical prophetic 'types' of the end-times Church, I believe that the prophetic restoration will commence with the Remnant Church. Examples of such churches are Pentecostal or Charismatic. Indeed, Oxford's Alister McGrath predicts that Pentecostal and Charismatic Christianity is the future of Protestantism². However, the Restoration may not be confined to just churches. Other venues of the Remnant Church shall also be employed. These have been described by that premier statistician of Christianity, George Barna, in his 2005 book, Revolution³.

According to the Bible, prophets shall minister to the Remnant Church before its capture by the 'Babylon' of the Book of Revelation. (I'll describe 'Babylon', below.) And, the Remnant Church shall birth the restored apostolic, which may well be viewed as the 'man child' of Rev. 12:5]. Following that birth, the Remnant Church shall

figuratively go underground [Rev. 12:13-17]. All that shall be visible to Satan and his spiritual and fleshly minions shall be the Overcoming Church, which shall be the restored apostolic.

Revelation's Babylon – The Place of Captivity of the Church.

'Babylon' was identified on page-102 of The Church Visited⁴ as the place where the "Great Whore" operates. And, she was identified [Rev. 17] as " ... *a secret worldwide politico-economic system, reigning over the heads of a confederated global government.*" This system we have seen increasingly manifested in today's world. It is this politico-economic system that has captured God's people individually, and the Church, corporately. A sign of the times is individual churches that have become corporate bodies regulated by state and federal law rather than the corporate body of Jesus Christ, regulated by God's specified governance, apostles.

God's Judgment – First the Church and Then the World.

When the Remnant Church is totally in 'Babylonian' captivity, God's people shall be living in an alien land of unbelievers. This is judgment on the Church for its idolatry. And, so, when the prophetic is restored, and it then restores the apostolic, the latter's ministry shall be to unbelievers. It shall be to those who have replaced the believers of God's Promised Land. And, from these converted unbelievers shall come the Great Harvest [Rev. 14]. And, as in the early days of the Church, the apostolic shall face tribulation.

God's plan is to judge first the Church and then the World [1 Pet. 4:17]. And, the judgment of the world commences with the three and one-half years of the Great Tribulation. The restoration of the prophetic commences before that period. The restoration and ministry of the apostolic shall be during the latter period. Just as in the early days of the Church, it shall be the apostles working the field, to prepare the Harvest.

CARRYING THIS MESSAGE.

The Prophets, the Churches, and the New Covenant.

The prophets who carry this message must understand it in their hearts, not just their heads. It shall require that all-important characteristic of the truly converted Christian leader, heart understanding. It shall require prophets who have truly embraced the New Covenant and carry its token, a circumcised heart [Jer. 31:33], [Mat. 13:15], [Heb. 8:10],[Rom. 2:29]. And, to keep their hearts in shape, these prophets must not refuse to hear Jesus' voice.

The prophets who carry it must recognize that this message will encounter opposition in the churches. The Old-Testament writing prophets' messages were always directed to their corporate Church and therefore to the leadership of that Church. And, their messages were often rejected by that leadership. So, also, will it be in these end times.

This message, though from the Bible, is one of its mysteries, to be revealed in God's timing. And, the carrying prophet should remember that these mysteries are revealed by the Spirit to the apostles and prophets [Eph. 3:4-5]. And, their revealing is to demonstrate to the heavenly Principalities and Powers the manifold wisdom of God [Eph. 3:10]. Prophets should remember that it's not just about us. God is making a point in the heavenlies.

Peter warns against the error of churches not knowing their role for the very end-times [2 Pet. 3:10-17]. Like individuals, some churches will be called to embrace this message and participate in the restoration of prophetic and apostolic. Like individuals, churches also may have a corporate calling [Eph. 4:1-3]. However, the desires of the individuals in that church should be submitted to the Will of God [Jas. 4:15]. And, the will of God for a particular church will fit God's plan for all his churches of the end-times. And, that plan is documented. Carrying that documented plan to the churches is where the prophets are called.

The Timing.

From the [Jer. 29] type of the Babylonian captivity of the Remnant Church, we see that God's visit to the Church to confirm his *logos* Word about the Restoration is very near the end of the captivity. He says that then, when His people seek Him with all their heart, He shall be found by them [Jer. 29:13]. And, the English, "*found*", is the Greek "*epiphaino*", which is a derivative of the verb, "*phaneroo*". Therefore, it is near the end of the captivity that Jesus shall make his *phaneroo* appearance in the Body of Christ, for the Restoration of the Church.

Today's captivity of God's people by 'Babylon' commenced sometime in the Twentieth Century. We can say that, because we can now discern that captivity. When to say it precisely began and how long it is to last is unknown, at least to me. But, the Judean captivity lasted seventy years. And, 70 is a number that God uses in the Bible to denote overcoming. It was 70 years when the Israelite overcomers left captivity and went back to rebuild the Temple in God's Promised Land.

CONCLUSION.

This short exposition of a message about the very end times is written to give a reader an idea about whether he/she wishes to pursue it. If yes, then there are many more writings of various lengths and complexities that may be read. And, these writings are freely available from this scribe. They can be found at <http://www.AlphaAquila.org> in downloadable PDF form.

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¹ Protestant Biblical Interpretation, 3rd Revised Edition, by Bernard Ramm, Baker Book House, 1970, ISBN: 0-8010-7600-5.

² Christianity's Dangerous Idea, by Alister McGrath, HarperCollins, 2007, ISBN: 978-0-06-082213-2.

³ Revolution, by George Barna, Tyndale House, 2005, ISBN-13: 978-1-14143-0758-9.

⁴ The Church Visited, by John Painter, Gazelle Press, Mobile, AL, 2002, ISBN: 1-58169-093-2.