

# Milk & Honey

Vol. XXXII October 2018 No. 10

*Spiritual Food and Encouragement for Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ*

## Seven Fulfilled Prophecies of the Church's Condition

Randy Amos

Some see the “church” as full of hypocrites and errors. The seven prophecies show this would happen. God allows the negative to reveal the positive, Mal. 3:13-17. May we see this as a test and thus an honor to be a minority and hold fast the ways of the Lord Jesus, 2 Thess. 2:15.

**Prophecy #1** – *Distorting truth in divisive and sectarian attacks from the inside*

“For I know this, that *after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse [distorting truth] things, to draw away disciples after them.*” (Acts 20:29, 30 - desiring a following more than feeding from the Lord)

**Prophecy #2** – *Legalistic rules that deny grace – orchestrated by the Devil*

“The Spirit speaketh expressly, that *in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; ... Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received...*” (1 Tim. 4:1-3)

**Prophecy #3** – *Liberalistic lifestyle that distorts grace into self gratification*

“This know also, that *in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*” Ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness [sensuality and license]... ” (2 Tim. 3:1-5; Jude: 4)

**Prophecy #4** – *Desires self satisfaction, not absolute truth (doctrine) – God's thinking.*

Preach the Word ... “For *the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And*

*they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.*” (2 Tim. 4:2-4)

**Prophecy #5** – *Bending the gospel and the Word as a means of marketing for self gain*

“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as **there shall be false teachers among you**, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them... And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you.” (2 Pet. 2:1-3)

**Prophecy #6** – *A denial and mocking of a judging God – claiming no divine intervention*

“Knowing this first, that **there shall come in the last days** scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.” (2 Pet. 3:3, 4)

**Prophecy #7** – *An increase in the rebellion of self-will (iniquity) and deception*

“... For that day shall not come, except **there come a falling away first**, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; ... For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.” “But evil men and seducers **shall wax worse and worse**, deceiving, and being deceived.” (2 Thess. 2:3,7; 2 Tim. 3:13)

*I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes always, even unto the end.* Psa. 119:112 \*

## Wisdom

A.W. Tozer

According to the Bible, wisdom transcends intellect and education; it's a mindset that adopts God's view of the meaning and morality of life. It's the skill of living. Without God's wisdom, we're without purpose or direction.

To make the best decisions, speak the best words, and understand situations from the best perspective—ask God for daily wisdom and seek out His Word for His will. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and Jesus alone can make us happy.

Wisdom is always associated with righteousness and humility and is never found apart from godliness and true holiness of life. \*

# Christ in Song of Songs

Bruce Hulshizer

## **Singing that begets singing**

How beautiful to see that the song is the Song “which is Solomon’s” (1:1)! Though the bride may also sing, the spring and center of the song is Solomon. It is his song, and she sings in response to his heart’s singing. His excellence and his delight in having her as his own eventually captivates and overwhelms her heart, so that it overflows with song. How amazing to think of our Beloved (Eph. 5:25), the Lord Jesus, having such joy in us that He overflows with song!

**What pleasant thoughts come to mind when I think of you!** She is thrilled with his love (Song 1:2), and she is also enamored with his person (1:3). “Your name is ointment poured forth” she declares with joy! (1:3) The mention of his name is to her like smelling a delightful aroma that floods her mind with pleasant thoughts!

Aromas are connected with memories. Fragrances stir up thoughts. Christ’s death brought rich thoughts to His Father’s mind, pictured in the sweet-aroma offerings of Leviticus 1-3 (cf. Eph. 5:2).

His name was like a good fragrance that stirred up rich thoughts. As the song develops, we sense more and more that it is not his riches or other such things that attracts her. It is his person. She finds him delightful! What a blessing to have Christ as our example in this! What rich thoughts come to mind as His Name is mentioned!

## **He makes her feel very special**

How her heart overflows with joy as a result of his interest in her! “The king has brought me into his chambers.” (Song 1:5) She finds it absolutely awesome that the king should have thoughts towards her of love, and that this love towards her is such that he wants her to be with him. How privileged she feels! How honored! How much more for us who have been loved and honored by the King of Kings, the Lord Jesus Christ!

## **Overwhelmed with being loved and welcomed**

His ways towards her give her rest. She could certainly feel out of place at the banqueting table of a king. (Song 2:4) Yet she is comfortable in a situation and place where she does not otherwise belong. It is because he has brought her, and it is plain to everyone that her being there is based on his love for her. “His banner over me is love.” (2:4) How true of the Lord Jesus towards us! (Eph. 1:6)

Thus, she is accepted because he has accepted her. She is “at home” for he has declared that she belongs. (2:4-5) Her primary place of belonging is in his heart. How wonderful to see this in our relationship to the Lord Jesus!

He shows such grace and interest to her that it overwhelms her (2:5). What richness in this fellowship! In response to his kind, gracious ways, her heart rejoices that she is with him. (2:6) “I am love-sick.” May we know the grace of the Lord Jesus in this way!

## **Joy in his wedding day**

He was so glad in her! His heart was rejoicing at the thought that he would have her with him as his wife, his spouse. So his wedding day was a day of great celebration, for it was the “day of the gladness of his heart.” (Song 3:11) So it will be on the day the Lamb’s wife is presented to Him! (Rev. 19:7-9; Eph. 5:27)

The ending verses of Song of Songs sound much like the excitement earlier in the Song (chap 2) before they were married, only richer. Praise the Lord for that! He desires that she share her voice with him (in 8:13 as in 2:14). She desires him to desire her (8:14 as 2:17). May we nurture healthy, happy, abounding relationships in marriage!

And may we nurture an abounding relationship with the Lord Jesus! The freshness of the relationship can remain and deepen! If we are not enjoying Christ, it is not because there is not enough in Him to be enjoyed. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly! (Col 3:16) His glory is enough to captivate your heart! Fill your mind with the excellence of His person and richness of His love!

In this song husbands see encouragement to be so considerate and reliable, so kind and confident, so pleasant and capable that your wife in all her emotional character FEELS that she can rest and rely on you, REJOICES that she has you as her companion, and ADMIRES your rock-solid, refreshingly-soft character. How excellent to see the Lord Jesus being like this to us!

In this song wives see encouragement to think about what makes their husband attractive, rejoice that he loves you, bless him by nurturing a pleasant life for him, and desire to be by his side. Respond to his expressions of delight by rejoicing to share your life with him. Respect your husband, and be affectionate towards him. How we should apply these things to ourselves in how we act towards the Lord Jesus, our Beloved!

May we nurture healthy, happy, abounding relationships in marriage for the glory of our Creator and Redeemer God. May each marriage be a beautiful representation of the glorious calling of the assembly to Christ as our husband! (Eph. 5:25-33) May we know the excellence of the Lord Jesus as our Beloved Bridegroom! \*

## **Bible Study - New Format**

In September the York Bible study will have a new format. It will start at 9:45AM and end by 1:15PM followed by lunch. Hope to see you next month!

## Continued from Page 4 – *The Clouds of Life*

We fear when we enter the cloud of sorrow. What good, we ask, could ever come out of such tears, anguish and bereavement. Our whole world seems to collapse in ruins around us. But there is instruction in the cloud. We learn how to comfort others with the comfort with which the Lord comforts us. We come to understand the tears of the Son of God in a way we could never have known otherwise.

We needn't fear as we enter the clouds of life. They are educative. They are temporary. They are not destructive. They may hide the Lord's face but not His love and power. So we should take to heart the words of William Cowper:

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;  
The clouds ye so much dread  
Are big with mercy, and shall break  
In blessings on your head. \*

## Divine Plans and Obedience

F.B. Hole

When spiritual power is low and worldly principles come into the Church, the tendency is to find the divine order irksome because it makes certain demands on a good spiritual condition—a condition not present. It also exposes the worldly weakness which is present. So, the strong temptation is to be careless as to the instructions of Scripture which are thought to be useful on many occasions, interesting, instructive but optional—something that *may* be obeyed, not something that *must* be obeyed. *All this, however, is entirely swept away by the fact that these instructions are “the commandments of the Lord.”* We thus are not at liberty to alter them according to our tastes and feelings.

As an analogy, think of what was instituted in connection with the Law of Moses which only gave “the example and shadow of heavenly things” (Heb. 8:5). When Moses was about to make the tabernacle, God told him to “make all things according to the pattern shown to you in the mount” (Heb. 8:5) Moses strictly followed God's pattern. Later, when the permanent house was to be built in Jerusalem, “David gave to Solomon, his son, . . . the pattern of all that he had by the Spirit . . . all this, said David, the Lord made me understand in writing” (1 Chron. 28:11–19). Again, every detail was divinely ordered *in writing*. *In the New Testament we have in writing the divine instructions as to the order of God's spiritual house.* Are we given any more liberty to tamper with these instructions than was allowed as to the instructions for the material, earthly house? Certainly not! \*

## Affliction

Affliction is often that thing which prepares an ordinary person for some sort of an extraordinary destiny.

C. S. Lewis

## The Upper Room – The Bath and Washing / John 13:3-10

Kaz Ortiz

The Upper Room was a place where the Lord Jesus began his private ministry with his disciples. Among his teachings one stands out as a reminder to us of our need for daily cleansing. The teaching stands out because it was taught by symbolism in the washing of the disciple's feet.

Jerusalem was a dusty city. Streets were hot and cracked by the hot sun. Usually people's feet got dirty as they traveled because of the open sandals they wore. When the Upper Room was prepared for the disciples to keep the Passover, no one thought to hire a servant to perform the customary washing of feet before the meal. In fact, Luke 22 tells us that the disciples were disputing about who would be the greatest in Christ's kingdom before the feast.

The Lord Jesus, without anyone noticing, humbled himself and took the place of the hired servant and began to wash the disciple's feet. His act of washing had multiple object lessons like humility and servanthood, but the Lord also wanted to impress on His disciples the truths of positional and practical holiness.

Peter not only wanted his feet washed but his hands and head also. However, in verse 10 the Lord said “He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean . . .”

The bath signifies salvation. It is a one-time event in the life of the believer. We are “completely clean” as far as our sin is concerned. However, because we have daily contact with the world around us through our walk with the Lord, we come into contact with defilement and sin. We must, therefore, wash daily with water in order to maintain our purity in our Christian life. The water we are to wash with is the Word of God. “Sanctify them by your truth. Your Word is truth.” – John 17:17 “ . . . that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of the water by the word . . .” Ephesians 5:26 \*

**Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. Psa 119:9**

A.W. Tozer

## Milk & Honey Information

There is no charge for Milk & Honey. It, like all ministries of Spread The Word, is supported entirely by the freewill offerings of the Lord's people. All gifts are tax deductible.

Publisher: **Spread The Word, Inc.**

3237 Faire Wynd Pl, Dover, PA 17315

Editor: Stephen Hulshizer

Fax/Phone (717) 467-5729 phone

Web/Contact [www.FoodForSaints.com](http://www.FoodForSaints.com)

Circulation 5,600/month (plus many sent electronically)

# Milk & Honey

A non-profit ministry of  
Spread The Word, Inc., 3237 Faire Wynd Pl  
Dover, PA 17315

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 333  
York, PA

**FoodForSaints.com**

**October 2018**

## Dare To Be A Daniel

Steve Hulshizer

Daniel did it. (Dan. 1:8; 6:10) Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Elijah, Jeremiah, Paul, the Reformers, and many others down through the ages have done it. They all have stood up in times of crisis and in times of departure. They warned the people of God's judgment. They shed tears over them. They also took a stand for the truth of the Word of God. (Acts 20:31-32)

We too live in a day of departure and we must be ready and willing to take a stand. (2 Thess. 2:15 ) Now taking a stand is more than casting traditions in concrete, and refusing to make any changes in the way an assembly functions. It is a conviction that the Word of God is the only and final authority in the life of the individual saint and in the assembly. It is the conviction that "obedience is better than sacrifice," and truth comes before pragmatism and popularity. It is a conviction that goes beyond family ties and the approval of men. It is conviction that is firm, but gracious—not cold and legalistic. It is living and functioning by faith in the Word of God, regardless of what others may think and do.

Are we so convicted? Will we stand, or will we be swept along with the tide? Will appeasement, expediency, and compromise dictate our course, or will the Word of God? (Eph. 6:10-18) \*

## Obedient Children

As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. 1 Pet. 1:14

## The Clouds of Life

"...they feared as they entered into the cloud." (Lk. 9:34)

William MacDonald

Peter, James and John were on the mount with Jesus. Sensing that this was a significant moment in history and desiring to somehow preserve its glory, Peter proposed erecting three booths—one each for Jesus, Moses and Elijah. This, of course, would have put the Lord on the same level as the two Old Testament saints. God thwarted the project by enveloping them in a cloud. Luke tells us that "they feared as they entered into the cloud."

They shouldn't have feared. It was a cloud of glory, not of judgment. It was a temporary phenomenon, not a permanent fact of life. God was in the cloud, even though He was not visible.

Oftentimes clouds come into our lives and, like the apostles, we fear as we enter into one of these clouds. When God calls us to a new sphere of service, for instance, there is often the fear of the unknown. We imagine the worst in the way of dangers, discomforts and disagreeable situations. Actually we are just being afraid of a blessing. When the cloud lifts, we find that God's will is good and acceptable and perfect.

We fear as we enter the cloud of sickness. Our minds run wild with alarm. We interpret every word and facial movement of the doctor as an omen of doom. We diagnose every symptom as pointing to a terminal disease. But when the illness passes, we find ourselves saying with the psalmist, "It is good for me that I have been afflicted" (Psa. 119:71). God was in the cloud and we did not know it.

**Continued on Page 3**