



The Adversaries of Judah and Benjamin

By Robert Burgess

"Now when the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the children of the captivity builded the temple unto the LORD God of Israel; Then they came to Zerubbabel. and to the chief Of the fathers, and said unto them, let us build with you: for we seek your God, as ye do; and we do sacrifice unto him since the days of Esarhaddon king of Assur, which brought us up hither. But Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and the rest of the chief of the, fathers of Israel, said unto them, Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God; but we ourselves together will build unto the LORD God of Israel, as king Cyrus the king of Persia hath commanded us. Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Judah, and troubled them in building, And hired counsellors against them to frustrate their purpose, all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the Reign of Darius king of Persia. And in the, reign of Ahasuerus, in the beginning of his reign, wrote they unto him an accusation against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem. (Ezra 4:1-6

An Enemy Within

The real enemies of Christianity have never been the Bars, Casinos, or Drug dealers; rather they have always been invisible elements which work from within.. The purpose of this article is to expose these unrighteous elements to as much of the light of God's Word as possible, and thereby neutralize their effectiveness upon innocent victims. Before anything else is said here, we must take care to remember not to personalize these enemies, or to Demonize anyone who may be taken captive by them. The real enemies are Spirits which live in, and work through, believers who are duped into thinking that they are, in reality, the true servants of God..

"For we wrestle not against flesh and Blood, but against principalities, against powers, against of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (Eph 6:12). "Which none of the Princes of this world knew, for had they known it, they would not have Crucified the Lord of Glory (1Cor 2:8)."

The Principle of Judah

Judah and Benjamin are two inseparable Brethren; During the time of the great separation of Israel (The ten northern tribes) from Judah (The southern Kingdom) which took place in the days of King Rehoboam, little Benjamin stood nearly alone (With the exception of the Levites) as a faithful Tribe to the throne of David and to the Kingly tribe of Judah, at Jerusalem. Judah and Benjamin have come to represent two very important Spiritual Principles which are to be finally



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played out on the great stage of human history at the End of the Age. Judah, meaning "Praise," represents the realm of Christianity, which is known as "Pentecost;" True Pentecostals seem to realize the Power and Virtue of the High Praises of God more than any other brand of Christians. But we must emphasize at this point that the true Pentecostal experience is much more than what is being represented (or Mis-Represented) by much of the present day so-called "Pentecostal Church." What the Bible promises believers as a valid Pentecostal experience, is much more than just "Speaking in Tongues," but rather it is the Fruit of a Holy, and a Spirit-Filled life.. accompanied with a close personal communion and identification with the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, the Son of God.

The Principle of Benjamin

Benjamin, meaning "Son of the Right Hand," speaks to us of the "Overcomers," or, those who are predestined to sit with Jesus at the Right Hand of the Father in His Kingdom. Those who understand the truths of the Kingdom concerning "Sonship" should immediately grasp the importance of the close connection between Judah and Benjamin; for we cannot truly possess the one element without the other.. There is however, a very strong faction working within the Pentecostal movement that seems to not realize that God didn't give them the Holy Spirit just to make them feel good and make them popular; But rather, the Holy Spirit is given to lead believers into ALL TRUTH, and provide them with DYNAMIC POWER from HEAVEN to OVERCOME ALL SIN, SICKNESS, and DIS-EASE in JESUS NAME!!

It is the lukewarm and Spiritually corrupt element within some Pentecostal and Charismatic circles which is most responsible for turning multitudes of would-be honest seekers away from the true Pentecostal experience; and simply because of their ignorance and disorderly misuse of the anointing. Instead of representing the modern-day "Judah" of the Kingdom of God, this so-called "Pentecostal/Charismatic" element is in reality, the "Praise that BETRAYS," or the JUDAS element (as in Iscariot).. It seems almost incredible that anyone Professing Christianity, or yet claiming to be a Pentecostal, could be an adversary of true "Praise," or to the "Overcoming of Sin;" But as we will discover, the adversaries are many..

The Scriptures have revealed that there was an adversarial element which attempted to infiltrate the ranks of those who were commissioned to build the House of God with the ploy "Let us build with you: for we seek your God, as ye do - - and we do sacrifice unto him ... " But full well knowing that God would have nothing to do with any degree of compromise or mixture with the unrighteous elements, Zerubbabel and Jeshua flatly refused their proposition, saying; "Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God; but we ourselves together will build unto the LORD God of Israel."



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Today there is a movement identified with the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement which has been calling loudly for "RECONCILIATION at ALL COSTS;" We have witnessed, some sad displays of "Sloppy Agape" and "Greasy Grace" as a result of this. But beloved, the real Bible message of Reconciliation is very strongly connected with and based upon the old-fashioned principles of Repentance, Restitution of all things, and Peace with all men, and Holiness (In that Order) without which "No man shall see the LORD (See Heb 12:14).

The Principle of aThree~Fold Conspiracy

"But it came to pass, that when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, and that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth, And conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it (Neh 4:7-8)."

1.

The Arabians

Strong's # 46150 ~ Arab {aw-rab}

A primitive root [identical with 6148] through the idea of covering with a texture. Thayer's 1689 = to become evening, grow dark (Qal) to become evening, grow dark.. I 6) (Hiphel) to spend the evening, to do at evening

2.

The Ammonites

Strong's # 6004 ~ Amam {aw-mam}'

a primitive root; TWOT - 1641 to dim, dark-en, grow dark (Qal) to dim. Eclipse, be held dark- to be dimmed, grow dark

Notice that both the Arabians and the Ammonites have root names which signify Darkness, or to Grow Dim., Darkness, or dimness speaks to us of Spiritual Ignorance, and/or Deception (or, that which is done by them in the Dark). These terms are related to the Powers of Darkness, which is constituted by a lack of knowledge, or Ignorance of the Truth (See Hos 4:6). As modern-day Nehemiah's and as the re-builders of Jerusalem, we are commanded in like manner, to "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them (Ephesians 5:11)."

3.

The Ashdodites

Strong's #0795 ~ Ashdowd {ash-dode'} from 7703; Ashdod = "Powerful."

"Ravager." A major Philistine city, on the Mediterranean Sea west from Jerusalem, modern Esdud.



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Notice the above Scripture mentions the Ashdodites; The city of Ashdod (meaning Ravager) was the traditional home to those in Israel who were born out of wedlock... otherwise known Scripturally as "Bastards.."

"And a Bastard shall dwell In Ashdod, and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines (Zec 9:6)."

Let us now examine the similarities of these three groups of people, and find out what they had in common.. Ammon was one the sons of Lot, conceived by his own daughter; This is a very strong type of Spiritual Inbreeding, or literally "Incest." There are many adversaries in the church world who were born spiritually out of an "Incestuous Relationship." In other words, some of these were not even genuinely born of Gods' Spirit, but rather of the spirit of their denominational "Fathers" and their own denominational "Daughters." Example: Wesley, Calvin, Moody, Luther, etc..

NOTE:

Strong's Concordance reveals that the term "Bastard" applies not only to the Illegitimate, But to "Mongrels" as well, who were born out of an unholy relationship between an Israelitish Father and a Heathen Mother (Such as was Ishmael, etc..). In other words, some may have even had the RIGHT (HEAVENLY) FATHER, but they have the WRONG (EARTHLY) MOTHER!! The God of the Bible consistently Revealed a strong contempt toward those who mingled the Holy Seed of Israel with the Unholy Seed of the heathen nations. It is this principle which is Revealed in the "Curse of the Bastard;" This curse was prolonged, not just for three generations, or four, as most Generational Curses were... Rather beloved, a Bastard was refused entrance into the Congregation of the Lord for a full TEN GENERATIONS (See Dt 23:2)!! The Lord was obviously making a statement here; But what was it that God was saying in this?? What was Israel doing that was so wrong and offensive to God when they took wives of the surrounding nations?? How could this apply to conditions today??

Love not the World

First of all, they were not only polluting the natural seed of Israel, but they were co-mingling the:

Characteristics of Abraham (Spirit ~ Faith)

With the:

Characteristics of the World (Flesh ~ Works)!

Again beloved; Why did the Old Testament so strongly condemn these kinds of mixed relationships, yet in the New Testament nothing is said of this.. rather, it makes all believers, regardless of race, of one blood?? The Scriptures reveal to



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us that "All these things happened unto them for examples, and they are written for our admonition (or, learning), upon whom the ends of the world are come (1 Cor 10:11)." God was dealing in the Old Testament with the natural and temporal things, but nevertheless things which clearly pointed to Eternal (Spiritual) Principles.. In one word, God was saying both to them and to us, "It is an Abomination to mingle the things of the World (FLESH) with the things of God (SPIRIT).. John writes; "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him (1 John 2:15)." For many years we heard it preached that "Wearing short sleeves" and "Wedding rings" etc.. was "Worldliness;" But John goes on to define what "Worldliness" really is... "For all that is in the world:

The lust of the Flesh, and
The lust of the Eyes and
The Pride of life is Not of the Father, but is of the world (1 John 2:16)."

God hates a Mixture

When Jesus was tempted in all points, it was in these three areas.. When Christians hold on to their carnal desires and Worldly lusts after conversion - instead of Nailing them to their Cross as they should, they run the risk of coming forth as Illegitimate, or as "Spiritual Bastards (Ashdodites - Ravagers)," These will simply not be permitted access into the Kingdom of God (See Matt 10:37-38; 1 Cor 6:10).. Someone will say; "Boy, that Brother Burgess is sure getting Hard nosed in his old age!" But Saints, the Church simply cannot afford to wink or turn their heads at such divisive and abominable sin any longer!

The Church of the hour is laden with those who think they can hold onto Pride, Unforgiveness, Worldly Ambition, Envy, Jealousy, Bitterness, Prejudice, Stubbornness, Arrogance, Self-Righteousness, Rebellion, Lies, Malice, Debate, Gossip, Meanness etc. and still be welcomed by the Lord into His Kingdom.. Well, I am sad to report they can't! And what's more, those who are truly ordained of God to restore the Church to Her former glory won't accept them in these conditions either (because THEY can't).. The saddest part of all is this: That as in all types of Worldly Governments, it is the Superficial and Treacherous elements who always seem to gravitate to the top.. And so it is also in the Church System!

There are some today who have risen to very high and influential places within the Church, but they are full of a deadly poison; As such, these go over the land spreading their Spiritual disease of Mixture (Flesh and Spirit) and thereby commit iniquity against the Bride of Christ, both debilitating Her Spiritually, and Frustrating the work of the Holy Ghost. These tend to be subject to no man; however, they do like to associate themselves loosely from time to time, with



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other "Birds" of like feather.. Their claim is to only desire to "Build with us," but inwardly their motives are to connive and manipulate their way into high positions of Prominence and Influence within the Body of Christ which are not rightfully their's by inheritance.. Jesus said of these; "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and they might have it more abundantly (or, without measure ~ See John 10:10)." No doubt someone will say; "But that Scripture is talking about the devil!!" To which we reply, that Jesus never even once mentions the devil in John 10 at all; He is simply dealing with all those Spiritual Half Breeds (thieves) who presume to climb up by some other way, and not through the Door..

In closing, allow me to reiterate again what was proposed in my first statement; "The true enemies of Christianity have never been the Bars, Casinos, or Drug dealers; rather they have always been invisible elements which work from within." These beloved, are the real adversaries of Judah and Benjamin.

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