

# Changing a Nation in a Single Day Your Kingdom come in Australia as it is in Heaven

## The Rock of Ages 08.08.08

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Bible References: NIV

There are days when the Lord changes the world in a single day.

On these days the rock of Christ is evident as the chief cornerstone of God's purpose. It is on this rock and this rock alone that we must build our lives and our Christian ministries, whether our personal ministry on life's journey or organisationally. This is about building our foundations and our hopes on the Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ. Nothing else and no one will suffice.

Out of every day of history and every day of the future the most important day that has ever occurred, or ever will occur, is that day when God removed the sins of the world in a single day.

Come with me on a journey through prophecy and revelation where we will discover that the only true life is built alone on the rock of ages...

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on **the rock**" (Matt 7:23-25).

"They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the **spiritual rock** that accompanied them, and **that rock was Christ**" (1 Cor 10:3-4).

### God uses Satan to transfer our Sins to the Cross

"The great dragon was hurled down - that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and **the authority of his Christ**. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death (Rev 12:9-11).

This *unchangeable* victory was determined on a single day at the Cross. Through the fully efficacious blood of Christ shed at the Cross, the disciples of Jesus are empowered to overcome evil through the authority of Christ established on this single day.

Notice above that satan "*accuses them (us) before our God day and night*".

Is there a possibility of a good purpose in these accusations of the prince of darkness?

Yes.

By this means our sins - past, present and future - are delivered to our God via our enemy!

### **And what does God do with our sins?**

There is no place for them in heaven?

But God has one, and only one plan. In the Psalms we read prophecy of the innocent suffering and agony of Christ on the Cross:

“Scorn has broken my heart and has left me helpless; I looked for sympathy, but there was none, for comforters, but I found none. They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst (Psa 69:20-21).

And in the midst of this vicarious suffering of Christ we read:

“for zeal for your house consumes me, and the insults of those who insult you fall on me.” (Psalm 69:9).

That is to say that the love of Jesus for his people who become the temple of the Holy Spirit, is so profound and so deep that sinless Jesus takes upon himself the accusations of the devil that were levelled at us.

This is affirmed by St Paul when he quotes from this Psalm:

“For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me." For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.” (Rom 15: 3-4).

### **What happened between the Cross and the Resurrection?**

Now we turn to what I understand to be the only prophecy in the scriptures that speaks about what happened to Jesus between his death and his resurrection. Here we will find out how the sins that fell on Jesus were dealt with. Let's turn to Zechariah chapter 3.

Zechariah is the prophet tasked with the re-establishment of the temple in Jerusalem after the remnant of the Israelites returned from captivity in Babylon. This happened around 520BC under the authority of King Cyrus of Persia. To get this into perspective, imagine today the President of Iran ordering and providing for the Jews to re-establish their worship of God in Jerusalem!

In Chapter 3 Zechariah speaks to Joshua the high priest in Jerusalem. The Greek name for Joshua is Jesus, meaning “the Lord saves”. Accordingly the prophetic insights of Chapter 3 are spoken to Joshua the High Priest of Jerusalem looking to Jesus Christ, prophet, priest and King:

"Then he showed me Joshua (Jesus) the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right side to accuse him. The Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, Satan! The Lord, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?" Now Joshua (Jesus) was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. The angel said to those who were standing before him, "Take off his filthy clothes." Then he said to Joshua (Jesus), "See, I have taken away your sin, and I will put rich garments on you." Then I said, "Put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him, while the angel of the Lord stood by." (Zech 3:1-5).

The Scripture clearly states this is a prophecy of Jesus as it continues:

"Listen, O high priest Joshua and your associates seated before you, who are men symbolic of things to come: I am going to bring my servant, the Branch. See, the stone I have set in front of Joshua! There are seven eyes on that one stone, and I will engrave an inscription on it,' says the Lord Almighty, 'and I will remove the sin of this land in a single day.'" (Zech 3:8-9).

### **Join the Dots**

Now let us connect Revelation 12, Romans 15 and Zechariah 3 to strengthen our understanding of the perfect work of the Cross as the rock of our Christian foundations.

In Revelation 12 Satan *accuses us before our God day and night*, thus transmitting to God our sins: past, present and future. God diverts these accusations onto his son Jesus on the Cross. Jesus accepts them on our behalf as we read in Romans 15: "*The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.*" This despoiling of the perfect son of God with our sin is the deepest suffering of the Cross. In Zechariah 3 we see Jesus wearing our sins like filthy rags, our filthy rags were on him: "*Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel*".

Then the filthy rags are stripped from Jesus in hell itself.

Our sins, **past, present and future**, have already been transmitted to hell - never to arise! They are under our feet forever. Buried in hell. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Jesus has done it for us. As he said on the Cross: "It is finished", ie: *your sins in me are finished*. Our task is to kneel at the foot of the Cross and say a deep thankyou.

Then the prophetic word of Zechariah continues: Our sins are stripped from Jesus and rich garments are put on him and a clean turban is placed on his head.

In the presence of the accuser in Satan's own territory our sins are shed at Jesus feet and He is crowned prophet, priest and King... and there is nothing the enemy can do about it. Ever!

The Lord Almighty has removed the sins of the world in a single day (Zech 3:9). And we, his people who honour this transaction, live in this victory under this authority of our King forever. Hallelujah! This is the testimony by which we overcome (Rev 12).

## The Rock of Salvation

To mark this day God placed a rock in front of Joshua the high priest and on that rock are seven eyes and an inscription (Zech 3:9).

The seven eyes prophetically speak of the Holy Spirit being able to see to completion throughout the world (Zech 3:9 and 4:10). Hence in Zech 3:8-9 we have the Trinity: Father, son and Holy Spirit saving the world in a single day.

And on that ROCK in Zechariah is an inscription. From other scriptures we can deduce that the inscription states: "Salvation by Faith" . This connects with Peter's declaration:

"Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and **on this rock** I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matt 16:16-19).

Jesus uses a play on words in this passage: You are Peter (Petros – a stone) and on the rock (Petra – huge rock) I will build my church. The church is not built on Peter the stone but on the big rock confession of faith: "*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*"

It is on the basis of this **rock of confession** that the church is victorious: "*They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death*" (Rev 12:9-11). It is on this rock of truth that the authority of Christ is manifested through the church releasing the keys of the kingdom (see Rev 1:18).

This is the Rock that St Paul refers to in Corinthians:

"They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the **spiritual rock** that accompanied them, and **that rock was Christ**" (1 Cor 10:3-4).

**Abraham** offered up Isaac on the **rock** of Moriah (Gen 22:2) which became Golgotha. The sacrifice of Isaac prophetically looked forward to God's sacrifice of his only son Jesus for the sins of the world.

**Moses** struck the **rock** on two occasions. On the first occasion at Meribah the rock was struck to provide the water of life to the Israelites (Ex 17:6). On the second occasion at the same location Moses was instructed to speak to the rock to produce water for the people and the livestock (Numbers 20:8-13).

But Moses struck the rock twice in anger. This act of disobedience was so severe that Moses was not permitted to enter the promised land. Why?

Because as St Paul indicated in Corinthians, that rock represented Christ and the call of God was to speak *the word of faith* to the rock. As with Peter (on this rock I will build my church) Moses was to achieve the purposes of God by faith. By this we may deduce that the

inscription on the rock in Zachariah is "salvation by faith". Jesus, the rock of Ages, could not be struck twice by Moses.

### **The Rock and the Church on the 8<sup>th</sup> Day**

In John 7:37 at the Festival of Tabernacles Jesus spoke out:

On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

The feast of Tabernacles commemorates the exodus from Egypt and how the Israelites lived in booths in the wilderness. It is also the only Jewish celebration that welcomes gentiles:

"The Lord said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites: 'On the fifteenth day of the seventh month the Lord's Feast of Tabernacles begins, and it lasts for seven days. The first day is a sacred assembly; do no regular work. For seven days present offerings made to the Lord by fire, and **on the eighth day** hold a sacred assembly and present an offering made to the Lord by fire.'" (Lev 23:33-36).

### **Conclusion**

So it was on the **8<sup>th</sup> day** that Jesus stood up at the feast of Tabernacles and identified himself with the rock from which the water flowed at Meribah - the water that represented the Holy Spirit. That is why it was intended by God for the water to come forth at Meribah by a word of faith.

It was **this rock** at the temple in Jerusalem under the priesthood of Joshua that represented salvation by faith in Christ with seven eyes representing the omniscient Holy Spirit.

It is upon this rock alone and the word of faith that the living water of the Holy Spirit can come forth from Jesus so that a nation can be changed in obedience to the call of God on the 8<sup>th</sup> day:

**08.08.08 - Your Kingdom Come.**