

SCG OPEN SESSION
SENIOR PASTOR PRINCE GUNERATNAM
THEME: LIVING AT THE EDGE OF TIME

REVIEW: THE 4 HORSEMEN AND THE RIDER

- White horse rider - The Antichrist – deceiver
Symbolizes international power and politics through military conquest.
- Red horse - Bloodshed – kills people
Symbolizes civil war and strife that leads to bloodshed.
- Black horse - scale in his hand – famine
Symbolizes economic disruptions – food is measured and sold at a day’s wage.
- Pale horse - rotten flesh – ¼ of the population killed on the earth
Symbolizes death, sicknesses and diseases.

In the light of Matthew 24:4-25

REVELATION 12:1-9 – THE MYSTERY WOMAN

WHO IS THE MYSTERY WOMAN

John describes her in Revelation 12:1-2, 5-6, 13-17

1“Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. 2 Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.”

5 She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. 6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

13 Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child. 14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. 15 So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. 16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. 17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

- She is not the Virgin Mary in the Gospels – Why?
 - What happens to the woman did not happen to Mary in the Gospels though Mary gave birth to Christ, a male child.

- She is not the Church – Why?

- The Church does not give birth to Christ - Christ is born out of a Jewish Nation.

(Matthew 1:1, 16-17)

1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:
16 And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. 17 So all the generations from Abraham to David *are* fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon *are* fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ *are* fourteen generations.

(Revelation 12: 4 & 5)

4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. 5 She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.

- Satan inspired King Herod, tried to kill Jesus when He was born.
- Jesus was raised from the dead by God.

- The Church is a virgin

(2 Corinthians 11:2)

For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. The dragon is Satan and he tries to kill the child but God rescues the child.

WHO IS SHE? – SHE IS THE NATION, ISRAEL

- Israel is pictured as a mother with more children.

(Isaiah 54:1)

“Sing, O barren, You who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, You who have not labored with child! For more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married woman,” says the LORD.

- Abraham and Sarah had no children until they were passed 90 years of age and God intervened.
- Abraham and Sarah had one son, Isaac. From Isaac came Jacob who had 12 sons and then their descendents like the stars and the sands of the sea. They multiplied in the millions.
- This mystery woman is identified by being clothed with the sun and moon under feet and on her head a garland of 12 stars. (Revelation 12:1)
 - This description belongs to Israel – told by Joseph in his dream to his father and brothers.

(Genesis 37:9)

Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, “Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me.”

- Joseph is the 12th star

The past, present and future of Israel is depicted in the life of Joseph and Jesus.

- The Old Testament is the shadow of God’s will and plan; the New Testament is the revelation of God’s will and plan.
- The names of Joseph and Jesus have the same Hebrew root word.
 - Joseph was Jacob’s favorite son.
Jesus was God’s only son.
 - Joseph had a robe of many colors that made him different.
Jesus had a robe of royalty – He is the King of kings.
 - Joseph was rejected by his brothers.
Jesus was rejected by His people.
 - Joseph was sold into slavery.
Jesus was sold with 30 pieces of silver.
 - Joseph was falsely accused.
Jesus was falsely accused.
 - Joseph was sent to prison.
Jesus was in the prison of death and was resurrected on the third day.
 - Joseph was given a Gentile bride.
Jesus is given the Gentile bride – the Church.

A classic truth seen in the Old Testament

- Before Joseph revealed himself to his brothers, he sent the others out (they were Gentiles) – Genesis 45:1
Before Jesus revealed Himself to the Jewish nation and they recognized Him.
- The Church is taken out – Rapture
- How did Joseph identify himself with his brothers? By his circumcision
How will Israel identify their Messiah as Jesus? They will see His sides that they pierced.

(Zechariah 12:10)

And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn

(Isaiah 9:6-7)

6 For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

- “For unto us” – Who is us?
Isaiah is speaking to Israel – not to the Church.
(1 Thessalonians 5:1-3)
But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. 2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. 3 For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

- Peace accords have been signed on different occasions yet there is still no peace. Instead, neighboring nations are preparing for war.

What is our response?

(Isaiah 62:1)

For Zion’s sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns.

- Do not hold our peace nor rest for Jerusalem’s sake.
 - Pray, support and bless her.
- Look at the birth of the child

(Isaiah 66:7)

“Before she was in labor, she gave birth; before her pain came, she delivered a male child.”

- Birth before pain – keep in mind, she symbolizes the Nation of Israel.
- The fact is Israel began to suffer the greatest time of anti-Semitism.
 - 70 A.D. (under Titus) Romans attacked Israel. Over 1 million Jews perished.
 - 135 A.D (under Adrian) the Romans attacked again. Over ½ million Jews died.
 - 1478 - the Spanish attacked.
 - 1933-1945 Hitler – the Holocaust.
 - Today (2006) - Iran has said, they can see a day coming when there is no America and no Israel.

WHO IS THE RED DRAGON IN REVELATION 12:9?

“So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

- Called great because, geographically, he has power in this world. He offered Jesus, the Kingdom of this world at the point of His temptation in the wilderness.
- Red in color, because he is a murderer.

(John 8:44)

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

- He killed through many ways – sexual immorality, drug abuse, diseases and sicknesses, wars, suicides, etc.
- He is a destroyer – families, finances, relationships, health, success, etc.
- The ten horns symbolizes 10 kingdoms.

THE CHILD IS JESUS

- He will crush them with a rod of Iron.
He does not seek permission – He will crush them.
- The lion and the lamb will lie down together.
- He is the defender of Israel.
- The woman fled in the wilderness.

(Revelation 12:6)

“Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.”

- For 3 ½ years, He will look after them.

CONCLUSION

You can overcome Satan.

(Revelation 12:11)

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

THE END TIME**How the Words of Christ correspond to the book of Revelation.**

| The Words of Christ | The Book of Revelation |
|--|---|
| The beginning of sorrows (Matthew 24:5-14) | The Seven Seals Revelation 6:1-17 |
| The Great Tribulations (Matthew 24:15-28) | The Seven Trumpets, the bowls, and the beast (Revelation 8:1-18:24) |
| The Son of Man coming | The Final Triumph of Christ (Revelation 19:1-22:21) |

- The first four seal judgments describe the antichrist gaining control over the nations of the earth. He will do it by:
 - Waging war (the red horse)
 - Gaining control over the economy (the black horse)
 - Having his opponents put to death (the pale horse)
- The fifth seal reveals what will happen to the souls of Christian martyrs who are slain by the antichrist.
- The sixth seal shows God's wrath being stirred and being prepared to move in judgments against the antichrist.
- The seventh seal is the seal that brings forth the "great tribulation," the terrible period of God's judgment.

WHAT WILL CAUSE GOVERNMENTS OF NATIONS TO ACCEPT THE ANTI-CHRIST?

- A world that is full of false messiahs claiming that they have answers to life will prepare the way for the antichrist.
- A world that is full of violence, wars and rumors of war will prepare the way for the antichrist. A devastated people will turn to any leader who can bring peace and restoration.
- A world that is rocked with natural disaster after natural disaster will prepare the way for the antichrist.
- A world that is full of false religion and false preachers will prepare the way for the antichrist.
- A world that falls more and more away from God, that experiences increasing sin and a love that grows cold will prepare the way for the antichrist.

SATAN HAS FROM THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN HISTORY TRIED TO DESTROY THE SEED OR THE CHRIST CHILD – GOD’S PLAN OF SALVATION FOR MANKIND

The Seed or Line Through Whom The Promise Seed Was To Come

The strategies of Satan to destroy the Seed or the Christ Child and God’s great deliverance

- The line of Abel, Adam’s Son.
 - The early line of the godly seed.
 - The line of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
 - There was the line of the children of Israel.
 - There was the line of David.
 - There was the line of the sons of David.
 - There was the line of Jehoshaphat’s sons.
 - There was the line of Ahaziah.
- Satan led Cain to kill Abel, but God gave Adam another son, Seth. (**Genesis 4:1**)
 - Satan led the godly line to mix with the ungodly and led them into such vile wickedness that God had to destroy the earth. But God raised up Noah. (**Genesis 6:5**)
 - Satan led Esau to threaten to kill his brother, Jacob. But God protected Jacob (**Genesis 27:41**)
 - Satan led Pharaoh to attempt to kill all the male babies of Israel. But God saved Moses. (**Exodus 1:8**)
 - Satan led the sons of David into sin, to murder and disqualify themselves. But God always kept at least one son of David alive. (**2 Samuel 13**)
 - Satan led Jehoram, one of Jehosaphat’s sons, to kill all his brothers. But God caused sons to be born to Jehoram to carry on the line. (**2 Chronicles 21:1**)
 - Satan led an enemy to come in and kill all the sons but one—Ahaziah (**2 Kings 8:25**)
 - Satan led Jehu to kill Ahaziah, and the queen’s mother, Athaliah, took over the throne and killed all the sons. But God led the wife of the high priest to save one small baby, Joash. At this point the line of the promised seed rested in the saving of this little baby’s life. (**2 Kings 9:11**)

- There was the line of the chosen people.

- Satan led King Ahasuerus to exterminate all of God's people. But God gave him a most restless and frightening night of sleep. The king, therefore, spared the chosen line. **(Esther)**

- There was the line of the Promised Seed, Jesus Himself, at His Birth.

- Satan led King Herod to slay all the babies in Bethlehem in an attempt to kill the promised child. But God warned Joseph and told Joseph to flee with the Child. **(Matthew 2:1)**

There was the line of the Promised Seed, Jesus Himself, at His temptation.

- Satan tempted Jesus to cast Himself down from the pinnacle of the temple, to secure the loyalty and worship of the people by the spectacular instead of the cross. But Jesus chose God's way, the way of the cross, instead of Satan's way. **(Matthew 4:1)**

There was the line of the Promised Seed, Jesus Himself, at His hometown, Nazareth.

- Satan led the citizens of Nazareth to try to cast Jesus off the cliff of a hill, but Jesus escaped. **(Luke 4:29)**

There was the line of the Promised Seed, Jesus Himself, in facing the religionists.

- Satan led the religionists to hate Jesus and to plot His death time and again **(John 7:1)**. But Jesus escaped time and again.

There was the line of the Promised Seed, Jesus Himself, on the cross.

- Satan led the world to put Jesus on the cross and to kill Him. But God raised Jesus from the dead. **(John 19:1)**

Daniel 2:28*Daniel tells of the dream of Nebuchadnezzar***Vs 31-35**

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------------------|
| The head | fine gold | (Babylon) |
| Chest & arms | silver | (Medo-Persia) |
| Belly & thighs | bronze | (Greece) |
| Legs/feet | iron and clay | (Rome) |

- A stone cut without hands, struck the image on the feet – the image broke into pieces and became like chaff and carried away by the wind.
- The stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

Ezekiel 37:1-14 - The valley of the dead bones

It is the nation of Israel

(Ezekiel 11-14)

¹¹ Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’ ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³ Then you shall know that I *am* the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. ¹⁴ I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken *it* and performed *it*,” says the LORD.’ ”