

"And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward." (Matthew 10:42)

**"A CUP OF COLD WATER"
TWO BOOKS, NOT ONE
(THE BOOK OF REVELATION)**

By Cpt. Gordon F. Nelson

In order to properly teach "Revelation", you must first go at it George Bush style, "Read my lips"! Revelation is improperly named! Every prophetic teacher that attempts Revelation, starts out with a lie built into the name "Revelation". Jesus said to Peter, *"But whom do you say that I am?'. . . 'Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God.'* And Jesus answered him, *' . . . flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee . . . '".* Matthew 16:15-17. THAT my friend is Revelation! Is that what this book is all about? Think, my friend, God gave you a "sound mind", use it!

"But I certify you brethren (the apostles at Jerusalem) that the gospel which was preached by me (Paul) is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it (never made Dallas Theological Seminary) but, by the REVELATION of Jesus Christ." Galatians 1:11,12. Paul's experience was in the Arabian desert for three years. *"Neither went I up to them which were apostles before me: but I went into Arabia . . . "* - the school of revelation. Galatians 1:17. This is revelation! Is this what John's book of Revelation is all about? I'm trying to get you to think. John does not call it "Revelation", but rather "the words of this prophecy". *"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear THE WORDS OF THIS PROPHECY".* Revelation 1:3. John has a better name for the book than the King James translators gave; "The Words of This Prophecy". Had the book been named properly, the understanding would have been more simplified.

Without exception, every teacher of the Book of Revelation merely repeats what they heard another say. "We are going to study Revelation. The revelation of Jesus Christ is what the book is all about." Someway, the preacher feels he has made some profound statement of insight.

"And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand: and I heard the number of them. And thus I saw the horses in a vision...and the heads of the horses were as heads of lions; and out of their mouth issued fire and smoke and brimstone...For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails; for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads; and with them do hurt." Revelation 9:16-17,19. Do you think this is a revelation of Jesus Christ? The seven vials, the seven bowls, are these revelations of Jesus Christ?

Pastor Frederick K. Price, of the "Ever Increasing Faith" telecast, refuses to teach on Revelation. He admits he knows nothing about it. What can I say? He probably had enough brains to figure out that all the preachers he ever heard, never knew what they were talking about. Why should he add to that list?

But, we are living in the "time of the end". *"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."* Daniel 12:4. Folk used to die not too far from where they were born. Today, when buying a house, the average person sells it within five years. The invention of the steamship, railroad, automobile, and airplane, are all signs that now is the time to "unseal the book".

We are the people *"upon whom the ends of the world are come."* 1 Corinthians 10:11. This is the generation that Jesus was referring to when He said, *"Behold the fig tree (Israel)...So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know that the kingdom of God is at hand. Verily, I say unto you, this generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled."*

Prophecy revolves around Israel. Jerusalem is the time clock! With the Six Day War with Egypt and the recovery of Jerusalem, the time clock for a generation commenced! Daniel said it, and Jesus confirmed it: *"In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established."* It is settled! Daniel and Revelation will be "unsealed". Perhaps, these simple *"cups of water given in the name of a disciple"* (Matthew 10:42) could accomplish the fete.

Around the year 3 B.C., many a young maiden delayed marriage. Why? Because of a prophecy in Isaiah 7:14, *"Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."* Perchance their body would be chosen to be so blessed as to give birth to the Messiah. They knew they were in the generation that someone would experience the miracle.

Even Daniel, who gave these prophecies said, *"And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, 'O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?'... 'But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest (death) and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.'"* (first resurrection). Daniel 12:9,13. God never bothered to explain Daniel's prophecies to him, but just said, "go thy way".

Two books, not one. The church uses "symbolic" language to make it ONE. The hinge is the rapture. "...the catching up of John from earth to heaven has been taken to be SYMBOLIC representation of the translation of the church.", C.I. Scofield.

It is here that I miss my dearly beloved brother in the Lord, Walter Martin, the Bible Answer Man, now deceased. Walter Martin made it plain Revelation 4:1 was not the rapture of the church. It is the beginning, however, of a new book termed "Words of This Prophecy".

There is not a single prophetic statement in the first three chapters of Revelation. How do I know this, you ask? Read Revelation 1:19, *"Write the things which thou hast seen (John had visited all seven churches in Asia Minor), and the things which are (the revelation of Jesus Christ)..."* These are accomplished in the first three chapters of Revelation. To be accurate, the first book should consist of three chapters, and be named "Revelation".

"And in the midst of the seven candlesticks (churches) one like unto the Son of Man. John gives the most beautiful revelation of Jesus that exists in the entire Bible:

#1 - Clothed with a robe down to His feet;

- #2 - Golden sash around His waist;
- #3 - Head and hair white like wool as white as snow;
- #4 - Eyes as blazing fire;
- #5 - Feet like bronze glowing in a furnace;
- #6 - Voice like the sound of rushing waters;
- #7 - Right hand held seven stars (pastors);
- #8 - Mouth out of which came a sharp two-edged sword;
- #9 - Face like the sun shining in all brilliance;
- #10 - Keys of death and hell.

This is John's revelation of the "things which thou hast seen". He had seen the Christ of revelation, and is telling us what he saw. It is John's picture of Jesus that the churches of all ages, should have been lifting up. *"If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto Myself."* To see the Apostle John's Jesus in us, we must die to this earth.

The angel gave one more final instruction that would entail the message of the second book; *"Write the things which shall be hereafter."* NOW, we have an entirely different subject matter, prophecy; and that is what this book is about. From Revelation 4 to the end of the book, John will be obeying the angel's command to, *"write those things which shall be hereafter."* In a sense, "the words of this prophecy" commence at Revelation 4:1.

For purposes of clarification, I will call this second book, "Apocalypse". This is the name the Douay version (Catholic Bible) gives this final book of the Bible. The word literally means to "unveil, or uncover all things". It implies a revealing like a stage production with live actors. It is a very exciting word, and certainly more descriptive to the "words of this prophecy". It was Shakespeare who first said, "The entire world is a stage, and we are all actors on its stage." It is with this sense that I am believing God to rip open "the seal", so we mortals can look upon "the things that shall be hereafter".

In order to "write these things which shall be hereafter", John had to take a trip. He was on a mission! *"After this I looked, and behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking WITH ME, which said, 'Come up hither, and I will show thee things which shall be hereafter' (in the future)".* Revelation 4:1. This verse of scripture has to be twisted, warped, or symbolized to make a rapture out of it. As previously stated, this is the single biggest lie in Christendom, bar none! Sad to say, even our most famous evangelists believes this one.

We are taught to avoid "symbolism", and let the Bible speak for itself. In this instance, there is not anything to symbolize, just a plain fabrication. The Bible is clear on this point, so why symbolize? *"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection".* Revelation 20:6. How many resurrections do you want before the first one? When you are speaking of a rapture, you are talking

about a resurrection; the dead raising out of their tombs. The Bible is very clear as to when this first resurrection takes place, and the accompanying signs that precede it.

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love: and for a helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us (are you greater than your master?), that whether we wake or sleep (die) we should live together with Him. Wherefore, comfort yourselves together, edify one another, even as also ye do." 1 Thessalonians 5:4-11. Paul introduces this portion of scripture by initially saying, *"But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you."* As children of the day, we should understand perfectly. But these brethren, never first read a C.I. Scofield Bible, or attended one of our Bible colleges already watered down with the Scofield footnotes.

"By your tradition, ye make the word of none affect." Mark 7:13. Jesus said, tradition is something we believe is in the Bible, due to hearing "pulpit preaching". But, (YOU) *"study to show yourself approved unto God, rightly dividing the word of truth."* (YOU) *"search the scriptures, for they testify of me."* 2 Timothy 2:15, John 5:39. These are commands! You will never know if I am telling you the truth, unless you open your own Bible. The Bereans searched the scriptures daily, to see if these things Paul was preaching were true. Acts 17:11.

Do you know when the FIRST RESURRECTION takes place? This is the RAPTURE! Read it, Revelation 20: 1-6. It is exactly when Walter Martin, the Bible Answer Man, told you. Did you believe him? He was a scholar. If you won't believe a scholar, how can I hope to get your attention? How come a nobody like me ties myself to the shirt tail of Walter Martin? I want you to know I am not all alone. I am in very good company on this issue. A prophet was among us and we never recognized it. Some folk thrive on being ignorant.

If your preacher suddenly realized that Walter Martin and I are correct on the First Resurrection, he would never preach it! Why? The offerings would fall off, and he would not have a job. I coined this one: "Protestant preachers will quit this, 'I'll fly away in the morning' doctrine, whenever the Catholic Church quits their doctrine of purgatory." Both doctrines enrich the church, and where money goes, let it flow, so who cares? The church is being paid off, by folk believing a lie. Whenever Jimmy Swaggart's offerings got low, and the money wasn't rolling in from the saints, he could always depend on a message on the Second Coming of the Lord to relieve "the beloved" of their money.

"Now I beseech you brethren (about this doctrine of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ) that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by work, nor by letter from us, as THAT DAY OF CHRIST is at hand." 2 Thessalonians 3:1,2. Paul must have known how preacher's would use this doctrine, so he proceeds further, *"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come (underlined for extra emphasis in my Bible), except there be a falling away first (apostasy) and the man of sin be revealed." 2 Thessalonians 2:3.* You ought to see "greedy" preachers twist this scripture! To preach it as it says, they know the offerings would drop off completely.

The Reverend Jack Van Impe has really come up with a dilly on this scripture. "The falling away" he interprets as the rapture. Believing Revelation 4:1 as the rapture, you have to "twist", what the Bible says, to your own destruction. No fear of God at all! Just keep the money rolling in!

The Bible plainly teaches you will see the "man of sin", before you will ever see Jesus Christ. This is a bitter pill to swallow. But go ahead and swallow it, *"It will make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey."* Revelation 10:9.

Jesus told you implicitly, *"Immediately AFTER THE TRIBULATION of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light; and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. And then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven..."* Matthew 24:29,30.

You need to be watching and warning folk about 666, the number of man, which is humanism, and keep your children out of the state schools. No one is splitting those clouds until first you see the Anti-Christ on your "boob tube". Before Jesus comes again the sun will turn black, and the moon to blood (Revelation 6:12). Has that happened lately? *"Before that great and terrible day of the Lord come."* Joel 2:31.

Continue to pray for me, that God give me grace, humility, and understanding relative to the unveiling of the "Apocalypse". Tribulation is coming!

"But the comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my Name, He shall teach you ALL things." John 14:2.

Bon Voyage
The Ol' Ship of Zion
Captain Gordon F. Nelson, "Year of Jubilee"