

Chapel in the Hills

Consider the Matter

Carlie Millar

Fostering Community

When we consider the time of a woman's travail in childbirth, we can see a picture of the journey of our lives, with all of its highs and lows. We see God producing life within us and others.

The Holy Spirit does the 'hidden work' of forming the precious life of God in us over the many seasons, trials and travails we find ourselves in. If we can discern this work of the Holy Spirit in each season, we can nurture and protect what may be forming in us and even find rest in trials rather than resisting and becoming anxious. We can see the precious life that God always intended for us, being born in us.



A Time to Give to Another

Just as an expectant mother comes to the realization that life is no longer just about her, we too must face the realization that this time is 'not just about us'. As God has given to us, we are able to give to another – putting aside what is self centered and being filled with the life of God which equips us to bless another. This is what Christ means when He tells us to be fruitful; having received such a great gift we are now to be life-givers.

A Time to Live Responsibly

Although we cannot touch or change what God is forming, we still need to live responsibly in how we carry that life, just as a mother takes care during pregnancy. Walking carelessly can stunt the growth of God's life. In contrast, the nurture of diligent prayer and response to God's Word to us, helps us understand His ways more clearly.

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A Time of Eager Expectation

As we realize God has made us to bless others, hope and excitement can spring up within us, as we consider the formation of God's life taking place in many. There is no greater joy than the birth of a child, the picture in the natural grips us with excitement, how much more should this be in seeing the life of Christ being formed in others?!

A Time of Patience and Trust in the Outcome

As the Holy Spirit does His work within us, we must walk in patient endurance and prayerfully consider God's hand in our lives. Any tampering or manipulating at this time will fight against the life that the Holy Spirit seeks to guard. We can choose to only desire what the Lord desires and rest in this.

A Time of Stillness and Rest

We read in the Bible that Anna, the prophetess, knew this life of rest as she waited patiently in the temple of prayer, fasting and in worship (Luke 2:36-38). When Jesus was brought to the temple as a baby, she instantly recognized Him as the Messiah and spoke of Him to all those who were looking for salvation in Jerusalem. We can also know this stillness of the Spirit and in 'quietness and confidence' nurture God's life in all of our relationships. We will then recognize God's life in each other and join ones likeminded as we meet 'spirit to spirit'. (Rom 8:26).

A Time to Protect

We must guard this life of God. Satan waits to devour any fruit that is about to be born. He comes subtly, just as he came to Eve, to deceive motherhood. As we learn to discern, not just the ways of the Lord, but Satan's cunning, we will be armed to protect and nurture the lives God has placed in our care. What an honor and joy to participate in God's plan in this way! ■

My shout for coffee!

Present this voucher at the GCF Mirboo North market stall for a FREE espresso coffee (or Hot Chocolate).

Books ● Face Painting for the kids ● ~~Great~~ Good Coffee





Lo and Behold

by Dan Burkett



BIBLE PROPHECY (Part 2)...

This article is the second in our series of six related to the prophetic biblical theme of the Seven Times Prophecy, one of the most far reaching of all of the prophetic themes in Scripture. *(The previous study is available on the GCF website).*

In subsequent editions we will explore the Profound Lesson of the Seven Times and the Sending Away of Sin as it is clarified in the Prophecy. All six of the articles in the prophetic series have been prepared by Daniel Burkett, a well respected teacher of biblical prophecy.

As we introduced the meaning of the Seven Times Prophecy in last month's magazine we saw the particular Scriptural significance of the number '7'. In this edition, Daniel helps us to appreciate the vital relevance of the Prophecy for every Christian...

...Again, we hope that you enjoy this installment of the series, and pray that God will enlighten His Word to you as you read.

Seven Times shall Pass Over you

God's intention in the 'Seven Times' is to reveal the true nature of man in all of his depravity. This will be revealed in the kingdoms of this world. However, this drastic action is undertaken with the merciful intent of bringing men to the knowledge of God. King Nebuchadnezzar's unusual experience is really a figure of the complete process by which God is humbling the nations. Dan 4:28-37. He reveals their true nature, showing them to be as beasts throughout the entire period of the seven world orders, during which they pursue world domination. The similarities are obvious in the verse below:

'They shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen ... and seven times shall pass over you, til you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.' Dan 4:32 NKJV.

This was said to King Nebuchadnezzar and was literally fulfilled in his lifetime. The entire episode is a prophetic picture of future events on a much larger scale, having application down through the ages and in relation to the nations of the world. The purpose of God in the 'Seven Times' is declared in this Scripture, both in Nebuchadnezzar's life and in the kingdoms of the earth: '...until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men'.

This has major implications in the time in which we live. The Scriptures and history show clearly that to this point we can identify six of these kingdoms as having already been seen on earth. The seventh kingdom is yet ahead. What will it be like, and when will it arrive? What will be the circumstances through which it arises? How will it affect the nations of the world and people who live under its rule? What will be its duration and how will it end? In short, what does this mean for us and our children? How can we be prepared for it?

Indeed, the time ahead, the seventh time, will be a difficult one. Daniel speaks of a furnace heated seven times hotter than usual for the Hebrew children Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Dan 3:19. This story forms a part of the 'Seven Times' theme, and, like the story of Nebuchadnezzar above, it is also a prophetic picture. It suggests that (within the context of the 'Seven Times' as we understand it) during the seventh and final kingdom, the 'furnace' of affliction for God's people



will be heated seven times hotter than it has been in any previous kingdom. This will be a time of great tribulation for the church which is distinct from that time commonly referred to as the great tribulation of the world under the kingdom of Antichrist. It aligns in time with the opening of the seals in the book of Revelation.

As difficult as this time will be, the church will emerge triumphant and glorious from it as evidenced by the following passage of Scripture. 'After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honour and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen." *Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore, they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."*' Rev 7:9-17.

The glorious message contained in the 'Seven Times' is one of hope for mankind through the discipline of God in the kingdoms of this world throughout the ages of time. ■



KNOW MORE...



Want to find out more or need a ride to church?
 We have people living in locations right across Gippsland who would be happy to help:

Traralgon	Brad	0437 961 102
Mirboo North	Bob	0400 403 765
Korumburra	Joe	0403 006 096
Inverloch	David	0428 553 222

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Little things that mean more:

If we love, we will offer.

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The highest ideal of a Christian's life is to understand and seek genuine fellowship.

If we believe, the source of and purpose for our lives is never found in ourselves.

We don't have to agree to disagree, there is one pure gospel...the question is, how do we find it?

“ If you believe in God, are you willing to receive from Him? ”

The Lord gives us a path to walk in so that we can fill out His purposes in this life.

Do you know your path? Do you know your purpose in life?

Our foundation is in Christ and we must learn how to receive and how to believe. We can only ever know the ways of God by learning to receive his Word to us.

God wants to teach us about His life and we all need a heart to receive a word of truth from outside of ourselves.

About Life

*A sample of the daily devotional
available online*



Turning the fathers to the children

John the Baptist came to turn the fathers to the children, and the children to the fathers. He was also to turn the disobedient back to the wisdom of God.

There was about to be an awakening, a rediscovery of the covenant given to the fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. It would be as if these fathers would once again recognise their offspring in the covenant. Men and women were to turn their hearts back to the fathers, and fathers were to turn their hearts to their children coming after them. Seeing, hearing, and turning, they were to learn the way of God Himself – giving to one another, and receiving from one another. This was the birthplace of fellowship. This was the preparation for the revelation of the Lamb.

John the Baptist was preparing people to believe the testimony of God that would be revealed by His coming messenger, Christ. This is exactly how the Baptist prepared the people. By hearing him, they were learning to receive the One who sent him. We must be prepared in the same manner: hearing, believing, receiving.

The ones who are sent to preach the gospel are revealing Christ. We must hear them, and we must believe their testimony. If we do not first receive the ones who are sent, we will not be able to follow the Lamb. Many did believe John the Baptist, the messenger who was sent to precede the Messiah. Many were prepared. Many pressed in with 'violence' to enter the kingdom. Others did not believe John's word; his testimony about someone else. So when Jesus came, sent by the Father, testifying about the Father, they did not believe Him either.

References:

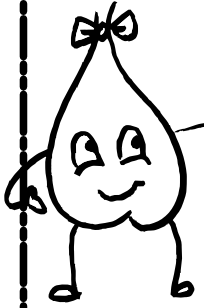
Matt 11:12 Mal 4:6
Phil 4:15 John 1:29
Mark 1:2

Further Study:

Acts 13

Daily Proverb:

Proverbs 11



ZOE'S PAGE

My name is Zoe Seedlife
and this is my page just for kids!!

Hi kids, Its Spring and that means its a good time to
start growing things!.

Even Kids can garden – all you need is some soil, a
sunny spot, water, and of course – some seeds!

My friend Bud
is back home –
he likes to
garden too!
Gardening with
a friend is fun!



Some easy seeds to grow are:

- Pumpkin
- Peas
- Beans
- Nasturtiums



A little poem...

First the seed,
Then the root,
Then the flower
Then the fruit!

Did you know?

The first gardener mentioned in the Bible is – God!
The Bible says so in Genesis 2 :8
And the first garden mentioned in the Bible is Eden

Some fun garden maths...its tricky!



If you plant 1 pea seed,
And that pea plant grows 15 pea pods,
And each pea pod has 5 peas inside,
How many peas is that??

1 pea – 15 pea pods x 5 peas = _____
(answer at bottom of page)

Wow, I'm a seed
that can count!!



(You'll need more paper...there are more than 30!)