



bloodline *network newsletter*

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LET IT BE KNOWN

Then the Philistines put themselves in battle array against Israel ... Israel was defeated by the Philistines, who killed about 4,000 men ... When the people had come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, "Why has the Lord DEFEATED US today before the Philistines? Let us bring the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord from Shiloh to us, that when it comes among us it may save us from the hand of our enemies." **1 SAM 4:2-3**

Early in Israel's 'Wilderness Years,' (1445 B.C.) Moses LET IT BE KNOWN to God that if His Presence was NOT with them—they wouldn't move. Relationship WITH God meant everything. He considered God's Presence as the ONLY MEANS of victory. But that sentiment didn't last.

Less than three hundred years later God's light went out in His Tabernacle. On this fateful day Israel stood to defend their country from the Philistines—and God FOUGHT AGAINST them. Yet instead of PERSONALLY SEEKING the Presence of God, Israel chose to send men forty-two miles to fetch the earthly REPRESENTATION of God's Presence—the Ark at Shiloh.

When the Philistines learned that the Ark of God came into Israel's camp, they were afraid and LET IT BE KNOWN, "*Woe to us! Who will deliver us from the hand of (Almighty God) ... who struck the Egyptians in the wilderness?*" They acknowledged the power of God's PRESENCE. Therefore God allowed them to kill another 30,000 Israelites ... capture the Ark ... and torch Shiloh. But after that the hand of God was against the Philistines with deadly destruction. They desperately sought a way to send the Ark back to Israel.

The Ark finally returned to Israel when David reigned as king. Later prophets spoke of the 'Coming One' Who would restore the Kingdom.

= THE COMING ONE

Now it came to pass, when Jesus finished commanding His twelve disciples, that He departed from there to teach and to preach in their cities. And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" **MT 11:1-3**

Herod Antipas cast John the Baptist in prison about December of 27 A.D. because John had the audacity to reprove him for taking his brother's wife. Scholars believe this incident took place after Passover (May or June) so he's been imprisoned for about six months.

John's disciples kept him informed about what happened in Jesus' ministry. He heard that Jesus selected twelve apostles and had given "*them POWER over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of diseases.*"

It was prophesied at John's birth that he'd be the prophet of the Highest and the forerunner sent before the Lord in the spirit and power of Elijah! But his situation seems doubtful. He sent disciples to ask one question. "*Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?*"

= **HE WILL COME AND SAVE YOU**

They shall see the glory of the Lord, the Excellency of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will COME with VENGEANCE, with the RECOMPENSE of God; He will COME and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. **ISAIAH 35:3-6**

Prophecy speaks what will happen but not how many years. God says 'NOW' and we think He means today. The Eternal God spoke of 'SOON' or 'VERY SOON' yet two thousand years would lapse in earthly time.

John's expectation of Jesus as the COMING ONE, the SAVIOR was prophesied by Isaiah. John expected Jesus to restore the kingdom NOW.

Jesus responded to John the Baptist's request by telling them that what's been prophesied is evident in His ministry. He sends them back to testify—to LET IT BE KNOWN that extraordinary miracles are happening.

= **BE NOT OFFENDED**

*Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he who is NOT OFFENDED because of Me." **MATTHEW 11:4-6***

Aware of John's intention for sending disciples He says, "*Blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.*" Many of the Jews were offended—at His lowly parentage ... at His meager education ... at His means of employment ... at His choice of friends, etc.

But John and his disciples had been offended at Jesus' MANNER of ministry:

- Jesus openly feasted with the immoral and shameful while John ate locust and honey in the wilderness

- Jesus disregarded fasting while the disciples of John fasted often
- Jesus' lack of concern that John is in prison. Why didn't He help John?

Sometimes we likewise get upset about what others are doing because we think they missed it ... lacked insight ... or just don't care. Some of us stumble and fall because our attitude of OFFENSE hinders us from seeing the real Truth. We focus more on why we feel hurt or got upset and it stops us from receiving the full blessing.

= CAUSE FOR STUMBLING

He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.
1 JOHN 2:9-11

Christ gave His disciples a new commandment “*to love one another*”—not to detest, or love ANYONE less. “*Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.*”

We can be faithfully performing the work of the kingdom, and even suffering because of our ministry. Yet if we hold a GRUDGE against another we shut ourselves up in a prison—we walk in darkness and the spirit of death rests on us.

God beckons us to FORGIVE another's wrongdoing and offer them our love—to cherish others as Christ's Body.

= LOVE ONE ANOTHER

But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses. **MARK 11:26**

Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. ...love does no harm to your neighbor...
ROMANS 13:8-10

Jesus spoke a parable of the Unforgiving Servant to illustrate why men ought to forgive others for their wrongdoings or shortcomings. The king's servant owed an exorbitant amount of money that even a rich man could not amass in a lifetime. The servant pleaded for mercy and the king forgave him of his debt.

But the servant didn't show similar compassion towards his fellow servant who owed him a mere pittance. He “took him by the collar, and shook him, and gripped him so hard about the neck, that he almost throttled and strangled him—throwing him into prison.”

The king heard what his servant had done to his fellow servant and “*called him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you ... so My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.’*” God takes account of HOW we love others.

= **ARE YOU BLESSED?**

And blessed is he—happy, fortunate and to be envied—is he who takes no offense at Me, and finds no cause for stumbling in or through Me, and is not hindered from seeing the Truth. MT 11:6 (AMP)

‘Blessed’ not only describes the inner nature of a disciple but also sets forth a promise for future blessing. Blessed is the man who RECEIVES Christ Jesus and BELIEVES in His message. Those who esteem Him ... those who are willing to sell all they possess to walk after the truth of God. John the Baptist lost his life fulfilling his commission.

We are blessed if we walk in the light of Truth. The blessing is in the LIGHT—darkness holds no blessing. Jesus Word shed light on John by gently reminding him that He (Jesus) must be about His Father’s business...fulfilling His purpose.

= **EVEN LEADERS LOSE HEART**

How discouraging for John to be stuck in prison—the forerunner of a movement doubting whether he’d run his course in vain. Although John was disheartened, he never vacillated on doctrine—Jesus testified that John remained steadfast.

Jesus strengthened John with God’s word—referring him back to the prophecies written of Him. Wavering faith needs the REASSURANCE of the WORD of God.

There’s a questioning in some of our spirits as well. Failing marriages ... faltering economy ... ill health—are we smitten of God? Is God with us or against us? Is the Ark of God in captivity today?

= **MORE IMPORTANTLY... LET IT BE KNOWN!**

Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to Your name give glory, because of Your mercy, because of Your truth! ... We will bless the Lord from this time forth and forevermore! PSALMS 115:1,18

In 600 B.C. three young men of faith thought it more important to stand against King Nebuchadnezzar’s decree to worship false gods saying, “*Our God is able to deliver us from the burning furnace, and He will deliver us ... but if not, LET IT BE KNOWN ... we do not serve your gods...*”

About 475 B.C. Mordecai spoke to Queen Esther saying, “*Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king’s palace any more than all the other Jews. For if you remain completely SILENT at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and you’re your father’s house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS?*” Then Esther replied, “*I will go to the king, which is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.*”

This is FAITH in operation. If I burn, I burn ... if I perish, I perish ... if I lose, I lose ... if I fail, I fail. The BATTLE belongs to the Lord! Whether we win or not, LET IT BE KNOWN that Almighty God reigns as King—what He purposed will come to pass!

We live in perilous times—not by our choice but rather because the world races towards godlessness. But LET IT BE KNOWN—this generation trusts in the LIVING GOD! Together in Christ, we ACCEPT His plan, His decision, His way for our life.

LET IT BE KNOWN that we shall arise and go forth in the Name of the Lord of Hosts. To our God, be all the Glory!

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