

Isaiah 22 and Revelation 18-19

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Introduction

Thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, **Go, get thee unto this treasurer, even unto *Shebna*, which is over the house, and say, What hast thou here?** and whom hast thou here, that thou hast hewed thee out a sepulchre here, as he that heweth him out a sepulchre on high, and that graveth [*appoints*] an habitation [*a residence*] for himself in a rock [*on a fortress*]? **Behold, the LORD will carry thee away with a mighty captivity, and will surely cover thee. He will surely violently turn and toss thee like a ball into a large country: there shalt thou die,** and there the chariots of thy glory shall be the shame of thy lord's house. And I will drive thee from thy station, and from thy state shall he pull thee down. And **it shall come to pass in that day, that I will call my servant *Eliakim* the son of Hilkiah: And I will clothe him with thy robe, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and I will commit thy government [*dominion*] into his hand: and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder;** so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. And **I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place;** and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father's house. **And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons.** In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall the nail that is fastened in the sure place be removed, and be cut down, and fall; and the burden that was upon it shall be cut off: for the LORD hath spoken it" (Is. 22:15-25).

A number of leading men of the various splinter groups have over the years assigned themselves and various other end-time personalities to the two main individuals discussed in this passage: Eliakim and Shebna. We know that, for example, at least one leader had originally assigned the name Eliakim to Mr. Armstrong because he reasoned that Mr. Armstrong “restored government to the Church” and had therefore fulfilled the Eliakim office. This same leader also assigned Mr. Tkach Snr. to the office of Shebna, because he reasoned that Mr. Tkach was instrumental in destroying the truth of God and thus perfectly fulfilled the role of Shebna. He also believed that Mr. Tkach was a treasurer of sorts, like the Shebna described in Isaiah 22. More recently, this same leader has changed his thinking on the subject and now teaches that *he* is Eliakim, while he retains the idea that Mr. Tkach fulfilled the office of Shebna.

More recently, yet another leader of one of the splinter groups threw these scriptures into the mix, and teaches that *he* is the one who fulfills the office of Eliakim. It would seem that a number of individuals want to claim the title of Eliakim. The Word of God clearly details the identity of Eliakim. Who is this individual? Is he here among us in this end-time? Does he still have to come on the scene? Furthermore, which individual fulfils the office of Shebna? In this booklet we will be guided through the irrefutable Biblical proof as to the true identity of these two individuals. God wants His people to understand!

Chapter 1

Babylon, the mighty city?

Isaiah 22 contains a most powerful prophecy which God's people need to understand. However, before delving into the specific verses relating to this prophecy, we must first understand a few important truths which will help set the scene. From the *beginning* of creation, God's goal was to establish His government on this Earth. This is the running theme in the Bible: that of setting up the Kingdom of God. Before the creation of man God placed Lucifer, the pinnacle of God's creation (Ezek. 28:12-15), together with other holy angels on this Earth. He entrusted Lucifer with administering God's government over the entire Earth. This was Lucifer's job! He was given authority to rule the angels assigned to this earth by implementing God's government. As long as Lucifer implemented the government of God the way *God* ordained it, the Earth was being enriched and beautified, and in so doing he and the other angels assigned to earth were possibly in the process of qualifying to help beautify the entire universe. The earth was their testing and training ground. Lucifer was entrusted with governing the earth!

Sadly, we know that Lucifer's loyalty to God and His government did not last! Lucifer soon began to entertain thoughts of vanity, jealousy, lust and greed, and that led to him becoming resentful against God:

“For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High” (Is. 14:13-14).

These are the thoughts that went through Lucifer's mind. They are thoughts which still plague Satan's mind. Because of

his vanity and rebellion, he turned against God and became His enemy. Instead of being a bringer of light, he became a bringer of darkness (Eze. 28:16). This is when God changed Lucifer's name (which means 'bringer of light') to Satan (which means 'an opponent, the arch-enemy of good, adversary'). Instead of representing that which was good, he began to promote evil: vanity, rebellion, aggression, lust, competition, strife and much more. This brought about destruction in the Earth and in the physical universe (Gen. 1:2).

Plan A and Plan B or phase A and phase B?

Tragic as all this was, it did not stop God's goal; it did not thwart God's plans. God's goal of restoring HIS government to this earth was certainly not thrown off course! Even though Satan rebelled, God used that rebellion to His advantage! God moved on to the next phase of His plan, which He was going to do *irrespective* of Satan's rebellion. Perhaps Satan's rebellion affected the timing of when God moved to implement the second part of His plan (we don't know for sure). We do know that after Satan's rebellion, God moved onto the next phase of His plan which was to create physical human beings in *His* image (Gen. 1:26). God created man with the incredible potential of one day being born into His divine Family. (For more information on this subject, please read "Exploring Ancient History - The First 2500 years", compiled by Roy Schultz, Social Studies Dept, Imperial Schools, Pasadena, California). This is the gospel message, that man was put on this earth to choose right from wrong, with the potential of being born into the God Family! God created physical human beings on this earth so that they could learn His ways, choose right from wrong and in the process develop Holy righteous character. This was God's plan **all along**! God did not have two plans: plan A, and plan B. God did not move on to plan B (creating man), because plan A (angels ruling this earth) failed! It would be preposterous and blasphemous to claim that *any* part of God's plan failed! God had one plan with different phases: phase A was to create the angelic kingdom, and phase B was to create man. One phase followed the next. God's plan

was *always* to ultimately expand His family by creating physical human beings who would have to prove themselves before qualifying to be born into the family of God (Jn. 3:5-8; Rom. 8:17; Eph 2:19; Rev. 3:21)! All those who believe that God created man because Satan disqualified himself, give the credit to Satan rather than to God the Father. Satan did not thwart God's plan, and neither did He change it! God used Satan's rebellion to His advantage: man now had an enemy to overcome to prove his loyalty and submission to God the Father.

God created Adam with the potential to qualify to replace Satan and restore God's government to this Earth. Even though God created Adam to qualify to replace Satan, Satan remained in charge of this earth – he is the god of this world to this day (2 Cor. 4:4). Adam was given the opportunity to receive eternal life! But to do this, he needed to submit to God and His way of life. Adam had to submit to God's way of outgoing love, and he had to eat of the tree of life to receive God's Holy Spirit and fulfill this potential. In the process, Adam had to *reject* Satan's self-centered way *by choice* so that he could prove that he would *completely* rely on God. This was Adam's test – he had to *qualify* to replace Satan the devil.

Instead of rejecting and defeating Satan the devil, Adam fell into Satan's trap and *rejected* God's government! As a result, the tree of life was closed off to mankind in general (Gen. 3:24). In doing so, God closed off His Holy Spirit and man will thus be unable to receive any revelation from His Creator. Through Adam, man decided to go along with Satan's system *without the benefit of revelation from God*. In a very real sense, Satan remains the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4), however a change in government is soon coming as we will discuss further along in this text.

Because of man's rebellion, God the Father had to send a *second* Adam, Jesus Christ, who came in the flesh to do what the first Adam failed to do – defeat Satan and qualify to replace

Satan so that He could one day take control of the government of this earth. This was all a part of God's plan implemented according to His time-frame.

Notice the scriptures which outline the confrontation between Satan and Christ, often referred to as the "titanic battle of the ages":

"Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. **Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him,** If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, **All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me**" (Matt. 4:1-9).

Satan told Christ: "All these things I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me"! In other words, Satan was saying, "Look! All these things you see are mine and I have the power to give them to you IF you bow down and worship me". Christ did not refute the authenticity of what Satan was saying, indicating that "all these things", or "all the kingdoms of the world" are (temporarily) under Satan's authority. Till Christ comes to take over the rule of this world, the kingdoms of this world are Satan's to 'give'! This should give us a clear idea of

the tremendous wealth over which Satan currently has jurisdiction. He was evidently given rule over the earth, over all the kingdoms of the world, and he offered them to Christ IF He fell down and worshipped him! In a very real sense, the governments of this world *are* Satan's governments: the kingdoms of this world are *Satan's* kingdoms. They are currently under *his* control, (unless God directly intervenes)!

During this 'titanic battle of the ages', which we just read about in Matthew 4, Satan tried to blackmail Christ into falling down and worshipping him in return for earthly riches and rule over the kingdoms of the world. Of course, Christ did not fall for Satan's temptation and, in the process, qualified to replace Satan at His second coming:

“And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him” (Matt. 4:9-11).

Of course, although Christ has qualified to replace Satan, He has not replaced him yet. God has a detailed schedule and a definite timeline. God also has a definite chain of authority, and there are other positions of rulership under Christ that need to be filled *before* Christ takes over the rulership of this world. Rev. 19:16 tells us that Christ is the firstborn Son and that He will be the *King of kings*. Christ will be in authority over kings who are currently qualifying to take their place under Him in the future (Rev. 3:21)! As is clearly revealed in God's Word, these kings will be those of God's firstfruits who will have qualified to be born of God in the first resurrection to marry Jesus Christ (Rev. 19:7). Once this takes place in God's timeframe, His government will then be restored to this earth, which will replace Satan's government! God has a plan and it is being implemented according to *His* schedule. It is important to understand that until the time of Christ's second coming,

Satan is still the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4). **Christ has already *qualified to replace Satan* but *He has not replaced him yet!*** Until that happens, God's people are qualifying to fulfill various positions under Christ's authority. It is only a matter of time till Christ will replace Satan, when God's government will also replace Satan's system. Notice Rev. 3:21:

“To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, **even as I also overcame**, and am set down with my Father in his throne” (Rev. 3:21).

Christ has overcome and right now He is *calling* certain individuals, *guiding and helping* them through the power of the Holy Spirit to fight and overcome Satan – just as Christ fought and overcame Satan – so that they could one day help Him set up the government of God here on this earth when Satan is dethroned and Christ is placed as ruler of this world. Satan is currently in charge of this world, he continues to deceive and inspire the governance of this world and currently has control over much of the physical wealth of this earth disbursing it as he chooses. One day soon, Satan's government will be overthrown and replaced by God's government when Christ returns as King of Kings. A change in government is coming!

Notice Isaiah 9:6-7:

“ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given [*referring to Jesus Christ*]: **and the government shall be [*future tense*] upon his [*Christ's*] shoulder**: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end [*once Christ replaces Satan, God's government will go on forever*], upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this”.

Rulership of this world will soon be turned over to Christ! He will rule from the throne of David. Power and authority over *all nations* will be taken away from Satan and will be placed on Christ's shoulders. Notice further:

“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; **These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth**” (Rev. 3:7).

Jesus Christ evidently is the individual entrusted with the Key of David. With that key, Christ can open and shut where no physical man can open and shut. Some men who lead some of the splinter groups claim that *they* have the Key of David, but scripture clearly states that it is *Christ* who has the Key of David – no man has it! **The Key of David is an emblem of authority, which is assigned to Jesus Christ!**

Revelation 18

Before getting into the prophecy outlined in Isaiah 22, notice the following verses in Revelation 18 which are closely linked to those in Isaiah 22:

“And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, **Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen**, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For **all nations** have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies” (Rev. 18:1-3).

These verses are discussing the systems of this world and that the nations and rulers of this world have *all* committed spiritual fornication with Satan's system. Many have "waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies", clearly indicating that Satan has distributed physical wealth to many worldly institutions and individuals as they drank *his* "wine", and as they cozied up to him and his ways!

Notice further:

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues" (Rev. 18:5).

This is a *plea* from God to His people, to come out of the system of this world! God urgently wants us to resist Satan so as not to receive of the plagues which are about to befall mankind. This is a plea from God to His people not to cozy up to Satan or his ways!

"For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her. **And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning**" (Rev 18:5-9).

People of this world who wittingly or unwittingly cozy up to Satan and his system will one day realize that they were flirting with the wrong, false system which is built on vanity, selfishness, lust and greed. The above warning found in scripture should be a strong warning to all of God's people to do all they can *now* to resist and reject Satan and his system as they overcome and conquer Satan the devil. All of God's people must take heed!

“Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, [*exclamation of grief*] that great city **Babylon, that mighty city!** for in one hour is thy judgment come. [*This is how quickly it will all come tumbling down!*] And **the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:** The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men. And **the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee,** and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, **and thou shalt find them no more at all.** The merchants of these things, **which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing**” (Rev. 18:10-15).

Revelation 18:5-15 is discussing the riches of this world, and all who flirt and commit fornication with Satan's system for physical gain. For monetary gain, individuals sometimes do not live by God's laws even when they know better: they work on the Sabbath or on annual Feast days, are involved in underhanded dealings, compromise morals and commandment keeping, lie, cheat and so on in order to gain physical wealth

and stature in the eyes of men. Let us be warned that Satan's system is a lucrative one. Satan makes it so easy for man to give in to his ways and to compromise morals, commandments and Godly standards in return for much earthly wealth and stature. These verses indicate that Satan distributes abundant physical wealth to those who (wittingly and unwittingly) cavort with his system and give in to him and his demands. Notice Rev. 18:15 again:

“The merchants of these things, **which were made rich by her** [*by the system of the world...by Satan the devil himself*], shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing”.

People who give in to the evils of this world for physical wealth and ‘peace of mind’ will one day realize that they had foolishly put their faith, trust and love into a system which is built on dust. When the time comes, it will only take one hour for this “invincible” system to collapse (vs. 17, 19)! Notice:

“And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! **For in one hour so great riches is come to nought.** And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate” (Rev. 18:16-19).

This is the reality: the abundant physical wealth acquired by individuals cavorting with Satan's system will come to nothing. There is nothing lasting about *physical* riches (Ecc. 1:2-3). All the billions of people who were made physically rich by cozying up to the Babylonian system will soon see that

same system come tumbling down...so says Revelation 18! Sadly, most of this world rejects doing that which is right in God's eyes; they don't allow *Him* to bless them for obedience to His laws. Instead, most prefer to do it their own way and in so doing fall into Satan's trap, which is cloaked in the glittery system we see around us, and which is prophesied to soon fall apart. So very few obey God and allow Him to bless them both physically and spiritually! This world is driven by greed, lust and a self-indulgent physical lifestyle which is a trap intricately engineered by Satan the devil. Satan has done all in his power to promote a glamorized lifestyle which is built on vanity! He has managed to deceive the world! Only a few have been blessed spiritually *and* physically by Almighty God for keeping His commandments and doing that which is right in His eyes. Few can claim this wonderful honor!

Revelation 18 has more to say about this subject:

“Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her [*this should read: for God has esteemed you above her*]. And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast *it* into the sea, saying, Thus **with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all**” (Rev. 18:20-21).

Notice the language used. Scripture states that with **violence** will the system of this world will be **overthrown**! It will be *violently tossed and overthrown*. (Please keep this vocabulary in mind as we discuss Isaiah 22 in the next chapter). Evidently, this passage of scripture is discussing the wiping out of an evil system: it is discussing a change in government which is about to come on the scene when Satan will be replaced by Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords. One world government is coming: the Kingdom of God!

Chapter 2 Eliakim and Shebna

With the foundation on this subject laid in the first chapter of this booklet, we are now in a position to discuss the identities of Eliakim and Shebna. Let us begin by taking note of the main section of scripture which will be discussed in this chapter:

“Thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, Go, get thee unto this treasurer [*go get the financial controller of this world*], even unto Shebna, which is over the house, and say, What hast thou here? and whom hast thou here, that thou hast hewed thee out a sepulchre here, as he that heweth him out a sepulchre on high, and that graveth an habitation for himself in a rock? [*Bring me the one who has built himself a dwelling place on a fortress/the one who has put himself in a position to be worshipped. What right has he to do this?*] Behold, the LORD will carry thee away ^{H2904} [*the Lord will cast you down*] with a mighty captivity ^{H2925} [*by being **overthrown***], and will surely cover thee. He will surely **violently** turn and toss thee like a ball into a large country: there shalt thou die, and there the chariots of thy glory shall be the shame of thy lord's house. And I will drive thee from thy station ^{H4673} [*or, I will expel you from your office*], and from thy state [*from your position*] shall he pull thee down ^{H2040} [*or **overthrow** you*]” (Is. 22:15-19).

Here we see matching vocabulary to that which is used in Revelation 18, and discussed towards the end of chapter one of this booklet. Just as the Babylonian system of this world will *violently be overthrown* (Rev.18:18-19), so will the treasurer or financial controller of this world (Shebna, vs. 15) be

overthrown and expelled from office (vs. 19). Notice there is no genealogy or lineage for Shebna discussed in the Bible.

Isaiah 22 and Revelation 18

As we saw in chapter one of this booklet, Revelation 18 discusses Satan and the governments of this world as inspired, led and ‘prospered’ by him, which will soon be violently overthrown by Christ and replaced by God’s righteous system when He returns to this earth to set up the government of God!

A careful study of Isaiah 22 indicates the same subject matter as discussed in Revelation 18. Revelation 18:3 exposes the fact that those who “drink of the wine” of Satan and “commit fornication” with his system will “wax rich through the abundance of her delicacies”. Isaiah 22 perfectly correlates with Revelation 18 and continues to add details to this fascinating prophecy. Shebna, another name for Satan the devil, has no genealogy or lineage discussed in scripture, is the current treasurer or financial controller of this world who distributes abundant wealth to those who cozy up to, (or commit ‘fornication’ with), his system (Is. 22:15; Rev. 18:3, 15). He is the one who has set himself up as a god to the inhabitants of this earth (Is. 22:16; Rev. 18:9; 2 Cor. 4:4). Through deceit, vanity, selfishness, craftiness, competition, strife and much more, Satan deceives the whole world (Rev. 12:9). Because of his continued outright rebellion, rejection, and perversion of God and His ways, Shebna and his system will “in that day” be “overthrown” and “cut down” (Is. 22:18-19, 25; Rev. 18:8, 21). Notice:

“In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall the nail that is fastened in the sure place be removed, and be cut down, and fall; and the burden that was upon it shall be cut off: for the LORD hath spoken it” (Is. 22:25).

Satan’s system is the current “nail” on which the peoples of this world cling to and rely. Few realize that Satan’s system is the “nail” in which the inhabitants of this world currently

invest their time, energy, faith and hope. The current world system of religion, politics, finance, and entertainment is pegged to the philosophy and religion of Satan the devil. As god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4), Satan inspires the vanity, competition, and ambition, which motivates the people of this world. This present, evil world which is based on a system of rebelliousness against the Creator God and His ways will soon be “cut down” and destroyed forever. Satan and his system will fall and the burden which is upon him shall be cut off (Is. 22:25)!

Satan will die!

Once again, Isaiah 22:18 states:

“He will surely violently turn and toss thee like a ball into a large country: **there shalt thou die**, and there the chariots of thy glory shall be the shame of thy lord's house”.

Shebna is prophesied to die! In his spiritual state, Satan cannot die. Spirit beings cannot die! However, remember that Christ divested Himself of His divinity, and in His physical state did die! It was only because God the Father resurrected Him that Christ now lives. Because of his evil rebelliousness, the unrepentant Satan the devil will die and will be no more. Notice the following passage from the book of Ezekiel:

“Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the

multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and **I WILL DESTROY THEE [make thee to perish], O covering cherub**, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will **I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I WILL BRING THEE TO ASHES UPON THE EARTH** in the sight of all them that behold thee. All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and **NEVER SHALT THOU BE ANY MORE**” (Ez. 28:13-19).

Is not the Word of God so clear and straight forward? Does not the above passage irrefutably state that God will destroy Satan, and bring him to ashes so that he will no longer exist? Notice further regarding Satan’s fate (and that of the other demons):

“But ye **shall die like men**, and fall like one of the princes” (Ps. 82:7).

Scripture clearly indicates that spirits can in fact die! The Most Powerful God can and will change Satan from spirit to physical matter and end his existence once and for all! Everything is possible with God (Mk. 19:26), and this is how scriptures such as Ez. 28:16, 18-19, Ps. 82:7 and others can be fulfilled! The fate of Satan (Shebna) is *clearly* stated in the Word of God. He will die. (For more information on this subject, please read the FCGL article entitled “Satan and evil spirits will die!”)

Satan's system to be replaced

The world which has been blinded into relying on this present evil system as the “sure” and “secure” way -- will realize that it is not the strong “nail” they blindly believed it to be! The burden, which was placed on Satan thousands of years ago *before his rebellion*, will be removed from him and placed on the shoulders of the One who has proven Himself and who has qualified to replace Satan. This will take place when Christ returns on a future Feast of Trumpets as King of Kings and Lord of Lords! A change in government is coming and the fact that we have now been given understanding of these prophecies should indicate just how close we are to them being fulfilled. One world government is coming – it is the Government of God which will rule this entire earth and will fill it with peace, joy, harmony and love!

Notice the details in the prophecy outlined in Isaiah 22:20-24:

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will call my servant **Eliakim** ^{H471} the son of Hilkiyah [*the name Eliakim means “whom God establishes” or “Whom God will raise up or set up”, clearly referring to Jesus Christ*]: And **I will clothe him with thy robe**, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and **I will commit thy government** ^{H4475} [*dominion*] **into his hand**: and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. And **the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut**; and he shall shut, and none shall open. [*Clearly referring to Jesus Christ as outlined in Revelation 3:7*] And I will fasten him [*Jesus Christ*] as a nail in a sure place; and he [*Jesus Christ*] shall be for a glorious throne to his father's house. And **they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house**, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons”.

Isaiah 22 is discussing a soon-coming change in government. Eliakim, or Jesus Christ, will be clothed with the robe of government, He will be given the Key of the house of David, and He will be given dominion over that which was before entrusted to Satan thousands of years ago. Christ is the One who has qualified to be fastened as the true “nail” in the sure place which this earth so desperately needs! Verse 23 states that “He will be for a glorious throne to His father’s house”.

Offspring, issue, vessel of small quantity

Verse 24 is an interesting verse:

“And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons”.

What does this mean? What exactly is being communicated by the phrases “the offspring and the issue” and “all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons”? This is an important part of the equation which we must understand to fully grasp the deep meaning of Isaiah 22.

We are told that the “offspring and the issue, all vessels” will hinge and hang upon Eliakim, or Jesus Christ, who is the sure nail. He will be the “nail” that binds all these things together.

The word “offspring^{H6631}” in verse 24 refers to “children”. The word “issue^{H6849}” refers to “outcasts”, or those not yet called into the family. The indication is that this is telling us that the begotten children of God *and* those not yet called will “hang” upon Christ. He is the One who will be used to unite and bind the World together, and He will do this by correctly implementing God’s Family Government.

Notice what Gill's Commentary has to say about this verse:

“all the descendants of his father's family, sons and daughters, children and grandchildren...and all the glorious or noble ones of his father's house shall lean upon him, children, and children's children...so all the children of God, and who are also Christ's spiritual seed and offspring, these depend upon him for grace, and all the supplies of it; they boast in him for righteousness and strength, and rely upon him for life and salvation...”

When He returns, Christ will restore family unity. Jesus Christ will usher in a one world government which will unite the inhabitants of the earth. He will teach all those not yet called. All will have a chance to be born into the Family of God! Everything will ultimately “hang” on Him.

The prophet Malachi explains further:

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before ^{H6440} *[in the face of]* the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: **And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers...**” (Mal. 4:5-6).

(Please read the FCGL booklet entitled “Elijah” for a full and detailed explanation of this scripture, and others pertaining to it). Christ, the Elijah, will be responsible for restoring family unity between the “offspring” and the “issue”. As the Elijah, He will be responsible for turning the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers. He will be responsible for restoring family unity and accord throughout the whole world. Christ will implement the government of God which will bring about unity, prosperity, joy, happiness, abundance, and an end to strife, vanity, chaos, competition.

Isaiah 22:24 also states that upon Christ will hang “all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons”. Most encyclopedias and commentaries discussing this subject agree that this is referring to the various utensils used in the Old Testament for the physical sacrifices to be acceptable unto God. If we look at this from a *spiritual* perspective which is how we must see it in this New Testament age (Col. 2:14), this is discussing the Truths of God which must be understood and applied to make our spiritual sacrifices (prayers) acceptable to God. “ALL vessels” are “hung” upon Christ, the Eliakim! This is directly referring to Acts 3:20-21:

“And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive *until the times of restitution of all things*, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began”.

Jesus Christ will be sent to restore all things! No man has restored all things, and no man will! It is Jesus Christ, as the coming Elijah, who is prophesied to do it! He will teach all of God’s Truths as we must understand and apply them. As it states in Isaiah 22, “all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons” – all the glory of His Father’s House – will hang upon Him! In other words, all Truth will be restored by Jesus Christ.

As Christ returns as King of kings to establish the government of God on this earth, He will work to “turn the heart of the fathers to the children and the heart of the children to their fathers” and He will also “restore all things”.

As we discussed above, Shebna, the treasurer of this world, will be overthrown from his dwelling place (Is. 22:16-18) and the burden which was originally placed upon him will be taken off him (Is. 22:18-19, 25). Furthermore, the burden will be justly placed upon Jesus Christ (Is. 22:22), the One who

qualified to assume the responsibility in accordance to God's Will!

The following text again includes the section of scripture in Revelation 18 which we discussed earlier in this writing, and which perfectly relates to this subject:

“The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate. Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her. And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all. And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee; And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth” (Rev. 18:15-24).

Revelation 19

Satan and his system will be “cut down” and destroyed once and for all. Revelation 19 goes on to discuss the change in government which is discussed in Isaiah 22. This will be brought about, and implemented, at the return of Jesus Christ:

“And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, **Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they said, Alleluia.** And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia. **And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth**” (Rev. 19:1-6).

“I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah: And I will clothe him with thy robe, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and I will commit thy government into his hand... And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder... I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father's house” (Is. 22:21-23).

What a magnificent ending to this incredible prophecy. Satan (Shebna, Is. 22/the great whore, Rev. 18, 19) will soon be dethroned and abolished forever, while Christ (Eliakim, Is.22; Rev. 19:1-6) will rule and administer God's righteous government as He restores all things in preparation for the Day

when God the Father will come to this earth after the Great White Throne judgment (2 Pet. 3:10-12; Acts 3:21).

How awesome and wonderful is the plan of God!

We are here to help! Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions. Our address is: Faithful Church of God in Laodicea, P.O. Box 311021, Capitol Heights, Maryland 20731, USA. Email: info@fcogl.org. Our web address is: www.fcogl.org

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