

mar 22

living in expectancy

"now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near." luke 21:1

i almost have a crick in my neck from looking up these days. expectancy fills my spirit and desire for my Lord is nearing a crescendo. who am i to have been chosen to live in these times?

i was born in 1947. as the nation of israel was struggling to be born, i too was in my mother's womb, struggling to be born. it seems both our times had come, both of us for a determined purpose God had preordained; mine assuredly not as great a one as theirs, but for a purpose nonetheless. we all were born with a purpose in mind. "for we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." eph 2:10

me and this whole generation were destined for this time. i see great leaders, teachers and laymen alike, all embracing what God has put in their hearts to do. doing it, perhaps not even knowing how or why they feel the need to. they may never be great in people's eyes or noteworthy in a written book or even a daily newspaper one quickly tosses aside, but doing things noteworthy to God (even as men and women were mentioned only once in the bible and then never again.)

now this generation is struggling as a new dispensation of time is nearing. struggling for the birthing of the sons of God to be manifested. not just those of this generation but all previous generations as well. all of them have contributed to what we are today and they too are expectantly waiting. "God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us." heb 11:40 increased knowledge and revelation alone has designated us to never taste of death but the inheritance belongs to them as well.

i'm definitely not a scholar, well trained in the scriptures but i concur rev. 12:5 is a rapture verse. "and she brought forth a manchild, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up unto God and to His throne." kjv the word manchild indicates maturity and strength. some see this as symbolic of mary and Jesus being the one caught up. others see it as the church birthing the sons of God which are caught up. let me remind everyone, Jesus said we would rule and reign with Him.

so as the church struggles in it's birthing, God catches us up even as satan as his hoard are thrown down to the earth to wreck the havoc of the tribulation to the jewish people and the foolish virgins who were not prepared. "to those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation." heb 9:28 these are profound times we are living in, not to be taken lightly.

there are several scriptures that speak to my spirit of a pre-trib rapture, but another one in particular always comes to mind. the angels who came to destroy

sodom said to lot. "hurry, escape there. for i cannot do anything until you arrive there." gen 19:22  
destruction had to wait until lot and his family arrived at their destination. many preach we will be kept safe "through" the tribulation. me? i think it's an idea time for the wedding feast to take place.

one might question whether the tribulation is really that close. "for that righteous man, having dwelt among them seeing and hearing, was vexed in his righteous soul day after day with their unlawful deeds." 2 pet 2:8 kjv my soul is vexed everyday as lot's was. i try to keep up with the news as i feel it is important not to bury one's head in the sand. everyday i witness another thing my mind would never have conceived of happening. everyday i see another poke into the very eye of God. yes, i see the tribulation edging ever closer.

i believe the ingathering of believers in Jesus Christ could well be this year. "gather My saints together to Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice." psa 50:5 yes, i believed it could have been last year and now i am doubly expectant. i never had the birthing experience of being a mother. (i have hopes of some spiritual children.) i do recognize the intensity of the labor pains means that birthing is near. all the apprehension, all the strains, struggling and the blood and pain surely to follow: these are the birthing pains of an expectant church as well.

"and the Spirit and the bride say, 'come!' and let him who hears say, 'come!' and let him who thirsts come.

whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely." rev 22:17

the other day i planted some seeds inside that i plan to have my friend set out when the weather is warmer. as i intently watch the seeds sprouting - transforming miraculously back into something they originally came from, i think of us, God's elect, transforming back into that we originally came from - a sinless, perfect creation, able to walk again with our Creator unashamedly.

as spring approaches i keep asking myself: "will this be the last spring i see?" likewise, i wonder if i will ever celebrate another birthday. it has even gotten down to the point of when i brush my teeth in the morning, i find myself wondering whether this will be for the last time. yes, i am eagerly and expectantly longing for the One who rescues me from my sin and it's effects.

in closing, i just want to remind everyone that i am not a scholar and certainly not infallible. i don't claim any special divine revelation. this is just how i see things. we all have the same Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth but none of us have perfect understanding. i would have no one believe they don't know enough or haven't done enough. fear is always knocking at the door. Jesus alone is enough. i always go back to my mantra - the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ. the only real question is: "are you satisfied with your pursuit of God?" never be satisfied. always want more. if you're satisfied, that means you're coasting and that's usually always

downhill. maranatha!