

# WORD AT WORK

## Dangerous Deceptions I

Dear Friend:

One of the most exciting principles in scripture is fullness. Hebrews 4:12 declares, *"...the Word of God is ...sharper than any two-edged sword..."* meaning fullness has a blessing and a judgment application. Romans 11 reveals the blessing side showing how fullness works to our advantage in gaining both the Jewish and the Gentile harvests.

Romans 11:25 states, *"For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that hardening in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in."* When we back up to verse 12 we find this spoken of the Jews, *"Now if their fall is riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness!"* Jesus' death demands a full harvest as a just reward. Nothing less will do. The enemy's plan can be terminated – Justice is available!

Fullness has a second edge of the sword that the enemy is using in an attempt to abort these promised harvests. Leviticus 20 identifies four things that fill a land with iniquity so it must be judged: sacrifice of innocent blood, witchcraft/new age, rebellion of the drug culture and finally sexual sin culminating in the statutory protection of homosexual marriage.

Only once in the history of mankind have governments sanction homosexual marriage. It ended with a Divine response of such magnitude it still speaks today! According to the Babylonian Talmud, same sex marriage was legalized in the days of Noah. If our harvest is not to be aborted by judgment on the land the church must understand the principle of fullness and the covenant that God is offering to salvage the harvest He promised. To that end this "Word At Work" is dedicated. It is time to appropriate the covenant and swing the sword of the Word!

Yours in Him,

Al Houghton

# W O R D A T W O R K

## Dangerous Deceptions I

### FRIDAY, August 1

Scripture: 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 2:8-11

Paul had to deal initially with major sexual sin in the Corinthian church. The action taken was publically committing an individual to Satan for the destruction of his flesh that his spirit might be saved. This judicial application worked. The individual repented and in 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 2 Paul is writing to the church about their treatment of the perpetrator. Verses 8-11 state, *"Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him. For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices."* One principle above all emerges from this passage. If we are ignorant of the enemy's devices – we give the enemy advantage. Forgiveness is the primary issue in view in this passage. There are others. We should consistently apply a check list through all of our relationships making sure that we are walking in forgiveness. This would simultaneously deny the enemy advantage and actively pursue the promised freedom.

### SATURDAY, August 2

Scripture: 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 2:11 3:14 4:4 10:5

One problem with verse 11 is "devices" is in the plural. This means more devices exist than just unforgiveness. We deprive the enemy of advantage by uncovering the other devices. The Greek word translated "devices" is **no-ay-mah**. It is used six times in the New Testament. It appears in 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 3:14 translated as "minds", *"But their minds were hardened. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ."* Again we find **no-ay-may** in 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:4 translated "minds", *"whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."* And the final usage in 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians is where we are told in 10:5, *"casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought/no-ay-may into captivity to the obedience of Christ."* **No-ay-may** describes a mindset or how we perceive something, our perception, our view, the mental picture we have from which action comes. 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 2 highlights a major technique which neutralizes Christians. The devices of the enemy are mindsets that come upon people to render them passive or impotent in the kingdom. Hollywood did a movie called The Iron Mask about identical twins, one who became king and the other locked up in an iron mask to hide his true identity. His struggle with royalty, right and wrong perfectly portrays the church's condition. The scriptures says *"...we have the mind of Christ"* but why do we not act like it!

### SUNDAY, August 3

Scripture: Matthew 11:1-3

In Matthew chapter 11 we find Jesus finishing the training of the Twelve when the scripture says, *"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.”* The next two verses show us the enemy’s devices at work on the mind of John the Baptist. Verses 2 and 3 state, *“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?’”* A perfect example of the enemy using **no-ay-mah**, mindsets, mental perceptions to gain advantage over individuals is John the Baptist questioning whether Jesus is really the same Messiah that he baptized in the Jordan river. John heard a voice and saw the Spirit of God descend upon Jesus like a dove. John was there in Matthew 3:16,17 when *“...the heavens opened...and the Spirit of God descended...”* and the voice from heaven declared, *“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”* If we were present when the heavens opened, a dove descended and the audible voice of God manifested, would we be asking what John is asking in Matthew 11:2,3? Perhaps we should ask ourselves how did this device of the enemy capture John’s mind? The answer is in the context.

#### MONDAY, August 4

Scripture: Matthew 11:4-6

Jesus spoke a word in a direct attempt to break the device of the enemy over the mind of John the Baptist by saying, *“Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: “The blind receive their sight 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 then in verse 6 He says, *““And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.””* Now it seems we are back to the issue of offense and unforgiveness as a mindset that gives the enemy an advantage. This raises a character of God question. When God moves does He chose people who in their very nature and perhaps actions or choices are far from what ours would be? Does God choose vessels who are abnormal socially or misfit in personality or appearance? Historically when we look at those who have been greatly used by God do we find constant social aberration? Would we classify the great Charismatic leaders as normal or abnormal? There was hardly anything normal about Kathryn Kuhlman. Why does God consistently gift individuals with either appearance or personality that the majority of church people find objectionable? Perhaps it is the issue of inherent humility. When the Creator of the heavens and the earth chose His entrance as a Man, He was born in a stable, surrounded by animals and everything that goes with them in the barn. Let your imagination guide you through the aromas. The Creator of the heavens and the earth demands humility. He knows how to get it. John the Baptist was warring with an enemy device that crept in based on this principle! How many of us are warring against that same device today?

#### TUESDAY, August 5

Scripture: Matthew 11:7-10

We are told in verses 7 through 10, *“As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: ‘What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. For this is he of whom it is written: “Behold, I send My messenger before your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.””* It is interesting to note that Jesus takes this occasion to identify the ministry of John the Baptist as preparational and utterly essential. When John emerged, he was not the most normal individual on the block. John in his appearance wore camel’s hair, a leather belt and he ate locusts and wild honey. He must have been much more a fire-breathing prophet like Elijah. I suspect there were a number of church people who completely discounted John the Baptist just based on his appearance. The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob knows how to tweak the church and always demands humility to hear from the vessels He chooses to use.

#### WEDNESDAY, August 6

Scripture: Matthew 11:11-14

Matthew 11:11-14 states, *“Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the prophets and the*

*law prophesied until John. And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come.*" Jesus just uncovered, by using John the Baptist, a mindset which for most believers makes it really hard to receive. Imagine that because we are in the kingdom of God we stand in a position greater than that of John the Baptist. This truth is nearly impossible for most believers to accept. This principle is one that must be used to renew the mind because without renewing the mind we allow the enemy's device to take tremendous advantage. If we don't believe we stand in a position greater than John the Baptist we'll never attempt the actions necessary to save nations. Verse 12 is especially important because it deals with the issue of passivity. Jesus said that *"...the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force."* Anything less than this mindset gives the enemy great advantage. Any mindset that yields passivity is a device to be cast off! The doctor said, "You have to live with this the rest of your life." What does Jesus say? The court said! What does Jesus say? The bank said! What does Jesus say?

#### THURSDAY, August 7

Scripture: Revelation 2:18-22

The Lord commended the church at Thyatira for their works, love, service, faith, and patience. He said their works were more than at the first. Jesus promptly nails them for passivity when He said in verse 20, *"Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow...."* The Greek word for "allow" is **eh-ah-o** and it means to tolerate, to refuse to restrain or to slip into passivity. The Word identifies a device on the church. Jesus confronted Thyatira for embracing political correctness and turning passive. Jesus stated in Matthew 11:12, *"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force."* In a few short years, the active church turned passive. What a dramatic contrast. What a dramatic difference. How does an active on-fire church get reduced to a place of passivity? Whatever the **no-ay-mah** was – it must have been an effective one. Could the **no-ay-mah** have been eschatology?

#### FRIDAY, August 8

Scripture: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:17

1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:17 says, *"Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord."* When this **no-ay-mah** captured the church – what was the fruit? The fruit of "rapture now" has almost always been passivity because people say, "I'm out of here, the Lord is catching us away, we're very very close and just waiting for Him." The point we're making is that eschatology **can** be a device of the enemy that reduces us to passivity. What we believe about the end-times and what we believe about the coming of the Lord can very easily play a major **no-ay-mah** in our lives. What we believe about the winding up of the age contributes to our spiritual activity or passivity. If we find ourselves in passivity, we better identify the root and flush it – flush it now!

#### SATURDAY, August 9

Scripture: Revelation 22:18,19

One view of the book of Revelation is called Pretarism. The Pretaristic view says that the book of Revelation was completed in 70 AD and we don't have to worry about it because it is already done. The problem with this view is that it assumes the book of Revelation was written prior to 70 AD but both the internal and external evidence bring the origin in at 95 AD – twenty-five years after. There is so much about Revelation we do not know. The real issue is not dispensationalism or Pretarism but how we teach the view we hold. Does our view of eschatology motivate the church to action or anesthetize people toward passivity? It is obvious that what we believe about the end of the age has a dramatic impact on what we do. Any eschatology that leads to passivity is a device of the enemy rendering the church impotent and ineffective. Jesus is looking for active warriors for taking His kingdom by force. I trust we are moving in that direction and making the adjustments as we go.

## SUNDAY, August 10

### Revelation 19:10

Revelation 19:10 says, *“And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, ‘See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.’”* Any eschatology, or for that matter teaching that claims to be prophetic and has no cross in it, is something that should be immediately suspect because it carries with it a major device of the enemy to render the church passive and unaware. The cross is always the cost factor in what we are pursuing. Any eschatology that has no cross in it is guaranteed to bring a person into passivity. Jesus understood that anytime we are making a transition there is a dramatic and extended price. Getting a New Covenant cost Jesus His life. I suspect in the end of the age it will be the same for many in the church. Any teaching or any eschatology that does not have the testimony (price) of Jesus in it is not prophetic! The testimony of Jesus is the life He lived and what He endured as He pursued God’s purpose and plan. A crossless Christianity is a device of the enemy. We should judge a teaching and a message by how much Revelation 19:10 is in it. If it is void – no cost – no price – flush it and flush it fast.

## MONDAY, August 11

### Scripture: Luke 4:1-13

In the third temptation of Jesus we see **no-ay-mah** employed when he says, *“If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. For it is written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over You, To keep You,’ and ‘In their hands they shall bear You up, Lest You dash Your foot against a stone.’”* The strategy of the enemy against believers includes scripture. Satan knows scripture. He knows biblical principle and therefore employs it whenever possible to gain advantage. God gave us His Word establishing boundaries for life that guarantee covenant blessing, some boundaries when crossed bring judgment. Satan’s chief goal seems to be neutralizing a warring church by passivity. The enemy’s strategies seem to be amazingly effective and we should not be surprised to see a majority of the church reduced to passivity far from, *“the violent take it by force”* mentality so prevalent in the early church. How – how did the church become so passive?

## TUESDAY, August 12

### Scripture: Philippians 2:3-5

In Philippians 2:3-5 Jesus gives us a mind-set that we need to have. He says, *“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,...”* Selfish ambition is a major motivator that as a giant becomes a major unseen device, an iron mask capturing many. This giant dominates direction and easily reroutes people into misdirection through wrong motivation. Selfish ambition and self-promotion, when in the pulpit, utterly defile every word that comes to people. When we refuse to deal with selfish ambition we give the enemy great advantage over us.

## WEDNESDAY, August 13

### Scripture: Psalm 2:8

Perhaps the greatest device of the enemy for which the church seems unaware and passive arises from Psalm 2:8,9. We are told, *“Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”* Jesus died for nations and we’re told to ask but when we ask for a nation we immediately encounter resistance at that level. The authority of verse 9 to deal with the resistance is access to the *“...rod of iron.”* It is obvious we are not going to take God’s authority *“...rod of iron...”* and use it to destroy a harvest we are asking for. The use of verse 9 is utterly essential in the accomplishing of verse 8. It very much reminds us of Matthew 11 where *“...the kingdom of heaven suffers violence and the violent take it by force.”* Jesus died for nations. If our sights are set on anything less we have embraced a mindset that is giving the enemy advantage.

#### THURSDAY, August 14

Scripture: Romans 11:25

Romans 11:25 says, *“For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that hardening in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.”* Jesus ordained the principle of fullness for our benefit. He has promised to give us everything necessary to bring in a **full** harvest. Every major prophetic transition in scripture is governed by the **principle of fullness** and every aspect of the harvest of nations is governed by the **principle of fullness**. The principle of fullness is a two-edged sword. Fullness of God brings blessing but fullness of iniquity brings judgment. If the enemy achieves fullness of iniquity before we get fullness of God, the nation is lost in judgment. Revelation 22:11 was given to encourage us to pursue the fullness of harvest. It says, *“He who is unjust, let him be unjust **still**; he who is filthy, let him be filthy **still**; he who is righteous, let him be righteous **still**; he who is holy, let him be holy **still**.”* “Still” means the crystallization and development of character until we fully reflect the God/god we serve. As we grow closer and closer to the end of the age, people will more and more reflect the fullness of Satan but the promise is that the church will more and more reflect the fullness of Christ. Anything less than pursuing fullness of Christ is a mindset that contributes to passivity.

#### FRIDAY, August 15

Scripture: Ephesians 4:11-13

In Ephesians 4:11-13 we are told that the whole purpose God gives five-fold ministry is to bring the church to the *“...unity of the faith...to the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;...”* “Fullness of Christ” cannot be defined as what Jesus did in the gospels. “Fullness of Christ” must include what Jesus does in Revelation. Until the church embraces Revelation and incorporates that into our understanding of *“...fullness of Christ...”* there is a giant steel trap the enemy has placed over the mind of the believer blinding them to the full measure of what is available to bring in the harvest. This blindness has to be addressed, has to be overcome and the church must see that *“...fullness of Christ...”* includes the resurrected, seated at the right hand of God, Judge of all the earth! As long as we view *“...fullness of Christ...”* as Jesus in the gospels we have accepted a major **no-ay-mah** device of the enemy and it has rendered us passive in the great conflicts of our day as government begins to decree immorality without any response from a passive unaware wimpy church who doesn’t know who they are! I wish I could say, as Paul said, *“...we are not ignorant of his devices...”* and we refuse to give him advantage. The truth is the American church is bound by demonic mindset devices and has utterly given the advantage to the enemy. Passivity rules and reigns through unsanctified mercy and there is no justice! (Read *The Sure Mercies Of David* Part 2)

#### SATURDAY, August 16

Scripture: Revelation 19: 11-16

Until the church begins to identify with Jesus as much as in Revelation 19:11 as we do with Jesus the Savior in the gospels we have a major **no-ay-mah** and it has brought us into passivity. Verse 11 says, *“Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war.”* Do we feel confident to judge with Jesus? Do we feel confident to make war? Jesus is ready to war for us. There is war being made on the church. The California Supreme Court judges have declared war on the church. United States Senate declared war on the church with their bill to make preaching against homosexuality “hate speech”. Where is the church to judge and make war and bring down the fire of The Most High? Where is that church? It is locked up in a **no-ay-mah** iron mask. We have given the enemy advantage because the mindset is one of being nice in representing Jesus as Savior. If we were representing Jesus as The One Who judges and makes war, our prayer life would be entirely different. We are utterly passive in prayer and have given the enemy advantage. There is only one recourse – we must **repent of our passivity** and take the kingdom by force and extend kingdom war through our intercession. It is time for the church to be the **CHURCH**.

## SUNDAY, August 17

Scripture: Ephesians 3:10-12

In Ephesians 3:10-12 Paul outlines for us God's ultimate purpose for the church and that ultimate purpose demands a manifestation of fullness. Verses 10-12 state, *"...to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him."* God has ordained that the church will display or teach *"...principalities and powers..."* that they do not control regions as they suppose when it is harvest time. Psalm 2:8,9 encourages us to *"Ask...for nations..."* and promises resistance in those nations can be broken through intercession by a kingly *"...rod of iron"*. Ephesians tells us we have *"...boldness and access with confidence through faith in Christ."* All opposition to the assigned harvest has to be broken by the church accessing God's judicial authority. Jesus bought and paid for our access. But if the church has a mindset that is all priestly and does not embrace the kingly judicial authority, then they never access this realm! If we are unaware of its existence, we give the enemy tremendous advantage. It is time iron masks were removed and the advantages taken away so the harvest of nations can proceed.

## MONDAY, August 18

Scripture: Ephesians 3:17,19

Immediately after revealing the ultimate purpose for the church, in Ephesians 3:3-12, the apostle Paul prays a prayer of realization. He asks that God do what is necessary for the church to empower them to accomplish their purpose. The heart of his prayer is in verses 17-19, *"...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height – to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."* Verse 19b is one of the strongest statements in the New Testament in Greek. It, in effect, is a prayer that every fiber of our being may vibrate with the power of God so that whoever comes near us or touches us is impacted by the power of God that flows out of us. **Fullness** determines the end-time harvest and fullness has been ordained to be a major blessing to the church. Pursuing fullness demands removing a mindset that Jesus is *just* a Savior and not the Judge willing to cut off the adversary attempting to thwart this great harvest.

## TUESDAY, August 19

Scripture: Romans 11:25, 11-15

Romans 11:25 says, *"For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that hardening in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in."* We know that fullness governs the Gentile harvest but according to verses 11 and 12 fullness also controls the Jewish harvest. Verse 12 states, *"Now if their fall is riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness!"* Verse 15 goes on to say, *"For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?"* God says fullness governs the Gentile harvest and fullness governs the Jewish harvest. Therefore we understand that God ordained **fullness** as the controlling principle for the end-time harvest. As we understand that then we can look at what the enemy is doing to use the principle of fullness against us, just as he used the Word against Jesus. This should be **eye-opening**.

## WEDNESDAY, August 20

Scripture: Genesis 15:13,14

In Genesis 15 God is cutting a blood covenant with Abram. In the process of cutting the blood covenant he says this, *"Then He said to Abram: 'Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions.'" Can you imagine coming into blood covenant with God Himself, which is supposed to be full of great blessing, and then the Lord announcing to you, "Oh, by the way, your*

kids will be strangers in a foreign land. Actually it is worse than that, they are going to be slaves and they are going to be afflicted four hundred years.” I would wonder what the value of that covenant was! It is suppose to be a covenant that brings blessing and now right up front we are being told that there is going to be four hundred years of slavery for members of the family. I would seriously question the blessing of that. But when **fullness** comes, the nation they serve will be judged and they will come out with the goods. In the book of Genesis we see that fullness now becomes a two-edged sword, not only does it control an end-time harvest but it also controlled the release of the children of Israel from Egypt.

#### THURSDAY, August 21

Scripture: Genesis 15:13,14

The relationship of verses 13 and 14 is absolutely essential to understand because this is where **fullness** first appears. Fullness, as a God-given principle, not only controls harvest but it also controls judgment. Oftentimes believers pay the price for fullness so that afterward judgment comes and freedom is born. Somewhere in the depth and breadth of the **principle of fullness** are answers as to why bad things happen to good people, which has nothing to do with sin in their life or mistakes or failures they make. This is certainly not a “Word At Work” on the issue of adversity but the truth is, any of us who would have been assigned to the second and third generations in Egypt would have probably spent a significant amount of time complaining that we had a covenant with God and yet His covenant promises were just promises, they weren’t coming to pass in our time-frame. The **study of fullness** has some real answers for the righteous who with all their heart serve God and yet experience dramatic dimensions of adversity. Heaven will record us as victorious over-comers when the blood of our life is poured out on the altar accomplishing fullness so that future generations can receive all that God promised. The generation who winds up the age will, in fact, harvest where they have never sown and when God sorts it all out in eternity there will be a myriad of surprises at the great awards banquet of Christ when He honors those who paid the price for fullness.

#### FRIDAY, August 22

Scripture: Genesis 15:14-16

God promises Abram in blood covenant that “I will bring your children out and they will come out with the silver and the gold, the flocks and the herds and great possessions.” But the price will be generations who have to endure adversity in order to fill the cup. Verse 16 is where we are introduced to the principle of fullness and it says, *“But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete/full.”* Fullness had to work in two dimensions in order for the Israelites to complete what God promised Abram. First, generations had to pay the price of adversity in how they were treated accomplishing fullness so that the nation holding them captive could be judged. Egyptian fullness of iniquity released a judicial anointing over Moses. All the gods of Egypt were judged and the people were set free. The Amorites filled their land with iniquity. Once God gives a people land they cannot be dispossessed until they fill that land with iniquity. When iniquity is full, any nation can be dispossessed. Is it possible that the enemy knows the principle of fullness? Could he be using it against the church to steal our harvest? Is the enemy filling America with iniquity so it has to be judged *before* we get a full harvest?

#### SATURDAY, August 23

Scripture: Leviticus 20:1-5

Leviticus 20 reveals four areas that contribute to filling a land with iniquity so that the inhabitants lose their right of possession. Verses 1-5 indicate this process starts out with the sacrifice of innocent blood. The more the sacrifice of innocent blood is released in a land the faster it fills with iniquity so that the inhabitants are vomited out/judged/destroyed/conquered/overtaken so that any harvest is lost. If deceptive spirits can deceive people into dictating and introducing into a society the sacrifice of innocent blood then he knows he can certainly abort a significant amount of the harvest. In such an environment, what should the church do? If we have a **no-ay-mah** mindset that all we can do is pray for the salvation of the individuals who perpetrate this *then* we have given the enemy great advantage. Covenant guarantees God’s intervention. Invoking covenant by praying is a biblical



necessity. To have a covenant with God means God will destroy our enemies. Religious tradition has brought a **no-ay-may** from which there may be little time to recover. **Passivity ponders but never asks!**

#### SUNDAY, August 24

Scripture: Leviticus 20:6-8

Verses 6-8 deal with Dial a Demon Psychic networks, all the New Age rampant in the land and the witchcraft, which continues to rise courtesy of the popular New Age promoters, chief of which in today's society would probably be Oprah Winfrey and her course on miracles. When **no-ay-may** exists over the mind of the church there is little discernment as to what is biblical and what is not.

#### MONDAY, August 25

Scripture: Leviticus 20:9

Verse 9 highlights generational rebellion that has certainly has been characteristic of the drug culture. This is the open refusal and denial of generational standards of morality that are sown into a land. People actively choose abandonment of biblically based morality. This is why judges who exercise judicial tyranny are such an abomination in the land and deserve the full measure of biblical covenant justice. Removing the iron mask makes it possible to take a stand and move God's hand to utterly and permanently cut off the enemy. Anything less is weasel Christianity 101 and enables Judges to continue destroying the land.

#### TUESDAY, August 26

Scripture: Leviticus 20:10-24

The final category which fills the cup of iniquity in Leviticus 20 is the open acceptance of sexual sin or the mandatory approval of same-sex marriage. God openly states in Leviticus 20:22, *"You shall therefore keep all My statutes and all My judgments, and perform them, that the land where I am bringing you to dwell may not vomit you out."* **Fullness of iniquity means** the utter inability to defend our nation. The enemy obviously has a plan and his plan is to fill a land with iniquity so it has to be judged **before** the believing people can gain a harvest from it. The question is how will the church respond? We have a bevy of covenantal principles from which to approach the Throne. Surely it is time to take away the tolerance iron mask and stand up in the full measure of the covenant!

#### WEDNESDAY, August 27

Scripture: Matthew 23:25

Jesus finds Himself confronting the Scribes and Pharisees and He is indicting them over the principle of fullness. Verse 25 says, *"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence."* Jesus confronts the Pharisees over the issue of fullness. Their generation is bringing the cup to fullness and their generation is being vomited out of their land. Four short decades after Jesus spoke those words they were led away captive into all the nations. Nearly nineteen hundred years later the Jewish nation was reunited by decree of what became the U.N. as Isaiah 66 was fulfilled. A nation was born in a day!

#### THURSDAY, August 28

Scripture: Matthew 23:28

Verse 28 says, *"Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness."* Fullness is coming in that generation and it is coming with devastating consequences for decades to come. Anybody who has read Josephus account of what happened to Jerusalem in 70 AD can understand the principle of fullness and what it means when it comes to a nation. The question is: Are we going to allow that in America or will we stand up in our covenant and stop the passivity and put a demand on God to gain the harvest we are promised?

## FRIDAY, August 29

Scripture: Matthew 23:31,32

Jesus said in verses 31 and 32, *“Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. **Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers’ guilt.**”* Jesus confronted the religious leaders by challenging them over the issue of fullness. They were just about to fill the cup of iniquity on the nation and how they were going to do that was to kill the very One they claimed to represent. They were about to kill the Creator of the heavens and the earth! The generation who heard Jesus and rejected His message filled the cup so that they could no longer keep their country. We should **not** follow their example!

## SATURDAY, August 30

Scripture: Matthew 23:33-36

The principle of fullness dictates that the generation who fills the cup sees the judgment. Jesus said it this way, in verse 36, *“Assuredly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.”* Jesus wept over Jerusalem and over the state of the nation because God offered them a season of mercy and they did not recognize the time of their visitation. We have a season of mercy where mercy to the nation means removal of the perpetrators who are filling it with iniquity and in our day this happens to be judges. Unless we remove the iron mask of passivity and stand up in our covenant it appears we are cruising toward fullness. What will we do?

## SUNDAY, August 31

Scripture: Matthew 27:50,51

Matthew 27:50,51 states, *“Jesus, when He had cried out again with a loud voice, yielded up His spirit. And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,...”* When the covenant people killed the very One they claimed to represent, that filled the cup of iniquity and the very first judgment that manifested was the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The reason that was a judgment is because the Ark was taken into hiding apparently by Jeremiah when Israel was conquered by Babylon. In the rebuilding of Herod’s temple there was a thick curtain before the Holy of Holies. Inside there was nothing. The Ark walked among them and they did **not recognize** Him. The first judgment after they filled the cup revealed the emptiness of their religion. Can the church who has judicial rights at the Throne continue to walk only in unsanctified priestly mercy? The day is coming when God is going to reveal the emptiness of the Ark within. If we **repent** and ask God to reveal iron masks over our minds, boldness will come. Giving the enemy advantage, manifested in the continual loss of freedom’s our forefathers bought and paid for, will cease. When a generation of believers **asks** the Lord to break off of them every device of the enemy and begin to stand up in their covenant, the sword of the Lord will move in their behalf and I believe the fear of the Lord can be restored, first to the church and then to the nation. Iron masks demand **repentance**. It demands that we **ask** our heavenly Father by His Spirit to remove every device, every unseen, unrecognized device of the enemy so that we clearly discern *“...the mind of Christ...”* and consequently stand up in the full power of the covenant. When the church does that, I suspect Senators, Congressmen and Judges will flee from their current arrogance and judicial tyranny. I believe there is a season coming when the Lord is going to stand up for the church and clean house – if we will but **ASK**.