

450 Noah, Babel and Kabul

The world is astonished at the rapid collapse of the Afghan government and its West-trained and equipped armed forces, and is taken aback by the ensuing chaos and fears for the future. Scripturally, what is going on?

We accept the Judeo-Christian Scriptures, the Holy Bible, as being the single, genuine, unique “God’s Word written”, because of the solidity of the Bible’s underlying truth-credentials that are confirmed by history, science and experience. (egs., John 7.17 / II Timothy 3.14-17). No writings of any rival Faith come anywhere near to competing with the Holy Bible.

After the Genesis Flood (Genesis 6-8), Noah and his family, the only people on the planet, knew God’s Truth very clearly: the original perfect creation followed by the Fall (Genesis 1.31; 3.1-7); the promise of “the seed of the woman” and the divine cursing of the ground (3.15,17-19); the shedding of innocent blood as a covering and the banishment from the garden (3.21,23-24); and the divine judgment of the Flood.

As the population then increased, blatant wickedness increased also. The great tower of defiance was constructed at Babel (Genesis 11.1-6), prompting the Lord God to “confound their language” and “scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth” (11.7-9).

And so we come to the link between Noah and Kabul today. As those sinful people were forced to scatter across the earth, in their new, differing language groups, they all took with them something of God’s original Genesis Truths, albeit now distorted and mixed in with pagan idolatries. Therefore - and this is crucial for Christians to understand in these times of turmoil - every new, post-Flood, post-Babel Faith, bar one, is fostered by Satan in his war against God, and is false, though perhaps still with a few elements of God’s original Truth among all the dross.

The “bar one” mentioned above is Judeo-Christianity, which the Lord God founded Himself just after Babel (Genesis 12 and following). The Jews were the God-appointed holders of God’s Word and Truth, and were to serve as a “visual aid” of His truths among the pagan nations. They failed in these responsibilities all too often, and after their greatest failure, the rejection of Christ their Messiah, Judaism’s offspring, the Christian Faith, was born, with the Church appointed to be the “witness

and keeper of Holy Writ” (Article XX of the 39 Articles) - for the time being (see those two ‘untils’ of Luke 21.24b and Romans 11.25b)

Now these various Satan-supported, post-Babel, false Faiths have been allowed to function by the Lord God for two plain reasons. First, they demonstrate the sinfulness and folly of Man when he turns his back on the living God; and second, they highlight the God-given Alternative - the Christian Gospel centred in the Lord Jesus Christ.

So now we can understand more clearly the miseries of Afghanistan. For centuries “the Christian West” has led the way globally in all sorts of ways, bringing on balance much benefit to one and all despite examples of sinfulness too. But for decades now, and for many reasons, the West has distanced itself from its Christian identity, and instead prides itself in being liberal, secular, democratic, tolerant, etc, etc; British politicians now delight in “British values” for instance, rather than in Holy Bible Truths.

This western journey from solid Christianity to threadbare liberalism is akin to Samson’s hair being cut off – the West’s true strength has gone, just as with Samson, “he wist not that the Lord was departed from him” (Judges 16.20b, KJV). Despite all its resources, the post-Christian West in Afghanistan, in sowing the seeds there of a western-style liberal democracy, has been no match against the Taliban, a brutal, determined, patient Islamic foe. Afghanistan is thus a battleground between two great Falsehoods, Islam and God-ignoring western liberalism.

Under Satan’s sway and with the Lord’s allowance, Islam is now strongly “on the march”, fired up by its visceral hatred of the Jews and Israel, by its contempt for “the West”, (much of it deserved we have to agree), and by its desire for a global caliphate.

Next time God willing we will explore these issues further. For now we can see that this Afghanistan situation is one part of God’s steady move towards His promised judgments, a move indicated by the Jews now being back in their land. Afghanistan is a loud-hailer message for nations, leaders and peoples to wake up, repent and turn, or return, unapologetically to the Judeo-Christian Faith centred in the Person, ministry, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus’ resurrection remains the bedrock on which the Christian Faith is built (eg., I Corinthians 15.12-20), and no Christ-rejecting Faith has ever

produced a convincing explanation that succeeds in writing off that resurrection as a fake.

So, praise God, our great cry of “Christ is risen - He is risen indeed!” is no mere whistling in the dark. That tomb was empty, and it still is – and that simple Fact makes all the difference.

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