

Shortly after Passover in 1962, I sat in my small church in Norfolk, Va. with my sermon outline in hand. The last special song was being sung, after which I was to preach. As they were singing, a voice spoke to me. It was as if a man about six feet tall was speaking to me from about three feet to my left, between the congregation and me. The voice said, "**Preach barley harvest.**" |

I turned toward where the voice had come from, and, with my face lifted toward where his would be, I said, in a low voice like a whisper, "Lord, I don't even know what Barley Harvest is." I turned back to meditate on the instructions which the voice had given me, and looked up the references to it in the scriptures. I knew almost immediately what the Lord wanted me to preach about, and as they finished the song I went to the pulpit and preached about forty-five minutes on the prophetic fulfillment of the Old Testament allegory of "Barley Harvest."

Earlier that year, February 4th or 5th, 1962, depending on the part of the world in which you lived, there was a total eclipse of the Sun, by the Moon, which coincided with a rare grouping of five of Earth's planets. (It sounds as if the eclipse lasted two days, because it crossed the international date line.) Grady R. Kent, who was our bishop at the time, published an article in the March issue of our church periodical, "The Vision Speaks," entitled "The Beginning of The End." In that article he asserted that the eclipse was a sign of that beginning. There is a story, in 1st Samuel chapter twenty-five about Abigail going, with her five maidens, to her marriage to King David. I believe that story is an allegory concerning the coming "marriage" of Christ and the Church, at the end of the world. We also have Jesus' parable about the five wise virgins who went in with Him to the wedding. By this parable, Jesus also confirmed what Paul told us about the resurrection. There will be an assortment of groups at the wedding: the Bridegroom (Sun), the Bride (Moon), and the five Bridesmaids (planets), together with the "guests" (stars) at the wedding.

"The End of The World"

We can readily see that the end of the world (not the planet), as it is depicted in the parable of the tares in Matthew 13:24-30,36-43, is not a singular event. Jesus said, "Gather ye together **first the tares.**"

"The harvest, therefore, consists of a series of events. The Tares (false grain), are gathered first. The next phase of harvest is the gathering of the "Children of the Kingdom." The third phase is the gathering together of the Children of Wrath. The second phase is also prophesied of in Rev. 14:14-16, and third phase is prophesied of in Rev. 14:17-20.

Jubilee - The End of Harvest

Written by C. Elden McNabb

Tuesday, 23 June 2009 11:26 - Last Updated Tuesday, 23 June 2009 17:48

As the time drew near for the first phase of the Harvest to begin, on January 25, 1959, Pope John XXIII announced his intentions of calling a worldwide church council. The fields were **almost ripe**

. Then, in February 1962, the great and extremely rare eclipse and planetary alignment signaled

that the time of the end had fully come

. Pope John XXIII opened the first session of Vatican II, on October 11, 1962. That council redefined the public image of the Catholic Church in dramatic ways which would make it more acceptable to the Protestants. Thus was launched a new ecumenical effort to bring all of the wayward "daughters" back into "the fold." And there arose in Babylon "him that handleth the sickle." See Jer. 50:16. We are now into the thirty-fifth year of the harvest of the tares. Even as I write, the Anglican church is working on the final difficulties of their reunion with Rome.

Decline of the United States of America

I do not believe it was a mere coincidence that, during the time of Vatican II, (October 11, 1962, to December 8, 1965.) The United States of America made a sweeping move to socialize the country and establish Atheism as the official religion. It started, in 1963, with the prohibition of prayer and Bible reading in the public schools. This restriction has been amplified by a zealous and determined effort to teach our children to commit fornication and to accept the doctrine of devils which asserts that life spontaneously sprang from matter.

Throughout the time of Vatican II, the U.S. government used the public schools to implement a whole new way of life in America which is designed to supplant all of the freedoms which have been guaranteed by the constitution. (Through interference by the schools, parents are no longer free to correct and train their own children.) By the end of Vatican II, we had seen Affirmative Action, Head Start and school busing, all innocent sounding, and seemingly beneficial. But their true design was to deprive us of our liberties. The whole face of this nation has been changed, with laws enacted which will surely be used to exercise tyranny upon our citizens, especially those embracing true Christianity. I believe it is time for the believers to "confess that they are strangers and pilgrims here, and to declare plainly that they seek a country." (Heb. 11:13,14.)

God Gives Knowledge to the Righteous

In Amos 3:7, it is written, "**Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but He revealeth his secret**

unto His servants the prophets.

" I have noticed for years that many Christians love, and grossly misapply, 1 Cor. 2:9, which is a quotation from Isaiah 64:4. Many Christians seem to rejoice that they know nothing, and

can

know nothing. However, the tenth verse shows that

it is the ungodly who don't know

. He said, "

But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit

: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." Likewise, Christians glory in what they think 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18 means, but they don't seem to believe chapter five.

But He spoke the truth in 1 Thess. 5:4, "

Ye, brethren, are not in darkness that that day should overtake you as a thief.

" Not even Jesus knew the day of the total destruction of the earth: that event is still more than one thousand years away. See Matt. 24:3,35,36 and Mark 13:31,32. But Jesus went into great detail concerning the sign of His coming, and of the end of this world. He did so, because He intends for us to be forewarned and to make the necessary preparations for His arrival and for "the world to come" during the seventh millennium. Heb. 2:6.

The Time of Harvest is here, and the day of preparation for our Lord's return. Phase one of the harvest will soon give way to phase two, during which the Children of the Kingdom shall be gathered into His "barn." Thus shall be ushered in the unity of the faith, which has been so long in coming. We might have thought that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the last one hundred years would have fostered that unity, but, alas, it seems to have created even more division. The Holy Ghost has not yet managed to "guide (us) into all truth." But we rest in the fact that "The scriptures cannot be broken." As Isaiah said, "They shall see eye to eye when the Lord shall bring again Zion." Isa. 52:8.

Solomon declared, "That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past." Eccl. 3:15. Paul later said, "Verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service," **by which the Holy Ghost was signifying something**

about the "Church" under the new covenant.

Heb. 9:1-9.

The spiritual harvest,

which is to be

, has already been, in the allegories of the Old Testament.

"Pentecost" of the New Testament is called "The Feast of Weeks" in Exodus 34:22, and in Exodus 23:16, it is called "The Feast of Harvest." For us to understand what Pentecost is really all about we must first understand the commandment concerning this Feast in the Old Testament, for it is our school master. As Paul said, "For the law having a shadow of good things to come." Heb. 10:1. When God called it the Feast of Harvest, he was telling us that it is

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a prophecy about the end of the world. However, by using the term the "Feast of Weeks," God instructs us concerning **the time frame** of its fulfillment. "**Ye shall count** unto you from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering;

seven Sabbaths shall be complete:

Even unto the morrow after the seventh Sabbath shall ye number fifty days;

and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the Lord." Lev. 23:15,16.

"Begin to number the seven weeks from

such time as

thou beginnest

to put

the sickle to the corn

. And thou shalt keep the feast of weeks unto the Lord thy God." Deut. 16:9,10.

As you can see, God used the time frame of 'weeks of days' in the partial fulfillment of this feast, in Peter's day. However, in applying this to the spiritual harvest, we must count a day for a year. I will begin to count from the time that the Harvest of the Tares began in 1962. The sign, "in the heavens above," appeared a few days before the beginning of the lunar year. So, I will make my calculations beginning with Abib, the first month of that lunar year, just about the time of the Spring Equinox. That is the method which the Lord commanded the Israelites to use. With that reckoning, we are now almost at the end of the fifth week of years. That leaves us only two more weeks of years between April 8, 1997 and the Year of Jubilee.

We are told that Ruth, gleaned "unto the end of barley harvest and of wheat harvest." During that time Boaz commanded his young men saying, "Let fall also *some* of the **handfuls** of purpose for her, and leave

them,

that she may glean

them."

Ruth 2:16,23. God also used the term "handfuls" in Genesis 41:47-49. God did that to relate the gleanings of Ruth to the harvest of Joseph. He said, "In the seven plenteous years the earth brought forth by

handfuls.

And he gathered up all the food of the seven years." And Joseph gathered corn as the sand of the sea, very much,

until he left numbering;

for

it was

without number." The fact that some were numbered makes a direct connection to barley, because barley is called "

the appointed barley

" in Isaiah 28:25. And in Jeremiah 5:24, He calls it

"the appointed weeks of harvest."

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So, in one allegory we have barley harvest and wheat harvest, and in the other we have an amount which is numbered, whereas the rest were not. When the appointed time comes, God will call for the "Book of Remembrance," and of those who are written therein, He will make up that predestined number. Mal. 3:16,17.

In the allegory of the Feast of Weeks, which is detailed in Leviticus 23:15-17, God told them to bring out of their habitations **two wave loaves**, of which He said, "**They are the firstfruits unto the Lord**." Those **two**

appointed loaves of barley

are indeed numbered in the New Testament. In chapter one, verse eighteen of his epistle, James called the twelve tribes which were scattered abroad

"a kind of firstfruits

" of His creatures.

There are two kinds of firstfruits

which are numbered in The Revelation of Jesus Christ. The

Jewish kind

is enumerated in chapter seven, after which he saw a great multitude which no man could number. The

Gentile kind

are in chapter fourteen, where He said, in verse four, concerning them, "These were

redeemed from among men,

being

the firstfruits unto God

and to the Lamb."

Weeks of days cannot apply to the spiritual harvest at the end of the world. It will be, rather, seven weeks of years. Our holy Father, which is in heaven, gave us another allegory of the harvest which makes this particularly clear. It is the allegory of the **Year of**

Jubilee

, and the seven weeks of years which precede it. The Jubilee is also about the harvest, and reveals something very wonderful, "which God has prepared for them that love Him." As in the Feast of Pentecost, there are seven Sabbaths. The year following the seventh Sabbath is the Year of Jubilee. It is the year of the

proclamation of liberty.

This is what God told Moses about Jubilee. "Thou shalt number seven Sabbaths of years unto thee, seven times seven years, and the space of the seven Sabbaths of years shall be unto thee forty and nine years. Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound on the tenth

day

of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. (Exodus 23:16, shows us that the seventh month is "in the end of the year, thereby prophesying of "the end of the world.") And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty

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throughout

all

the land

unto all the inhabitants thereof:

it shall be a jubilee unto you. A jubilee shall that fiftieth year be unto you." Lev. 25:8-10.

The Commission

When Jesus began His ministry, He stood up in the synagogue and read the portion of the sixty-first chapter of Isaiah which showed what His ministry would accomplish. "The Spirit of the Lord **God** *is* upon me; because the **Lord** hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, **o proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."** Isa 61:1.

Jesus purchased our liberty on the cross, but that liberty will be realized only when Jesus reappears at the year of Jubilee.

Hear the words of the Apostle Paul. "As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear, but **ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father**

. I reckon that the sufferings of this present time

are

not worthy

to be compared

with

the glory which shall be revealed in us.

For the earnest expectation of the creature

waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

For the creature (Christian) was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected

the same

in hope, because

the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into

the glorious liberty of the children of God.

For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only

they,

but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit,

even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption,

**to wit,
the redemption of our body.**
Rom. 8:11-24.

Paul said, In Eph. 4:8-10, "Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive." [He did not say, "led captivity to liberty." They are still captive. See St. John 3:13.] ("Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?") In the process He fulfilled Zechariah 9:11. "By the blood of thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein *is* no water." John also quotes Jesus thus, "I *am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and

have the keys of hell and of death.

" Rev. 1:18. Paul put it so aptly when he said, "(We) shall not prevent them which are asleep, (but) the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain . . ." Yes Jesus has the keys, and in the year of Jubilee, He will crown us with the "glorious

liberty

of the Sons of God."

Because of the allegory of Joseph's harvest, I believe that there are seven years allotted to the harvest of all of the Children of the kingdom, the barley and the wheat. We have from now until early in the year 2012 to see the harvest finished and the promise of his coming fulfilled.

However, the resurrection, according the Job's prayer, is to take place after the wrath of God is past. "O that thou wouldest **hide me in the grave, until thy wrath be past!**" Job 14:13. Also, to those living at the time of the end, He said, "Come, my people,

enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee:

hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast

. For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity." Isaiah 26:20. If indeed that is the case, the gathering of the grapes of wrath should take place in the first half of the seventh week, beginning in 2004. The wrath itself would be poured out in the second half of that week; before we are either resurrected or changed.

"Now Is Your Salvation Nearer"

We are swiftly approaching the beginning of the sixth week of years, and there is much yet to be done to prepare for our Lord's return. Included in that list of things is the gathering and the perfecting of the Elect. We must bring a group of people to the condition mentioned in Isaiah 60:7, and described in Romans 15:16-18. "that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost; to make the Gentiles

obedient, by word and deed."

In Isaiah God used the allegory of Ishmael and his twelve princes to prophesy of that event. He said, "All the flocks of Kedar (and) the rams of Nabaioth shall come up with acceptance on Mine altar, and I will glorify the house of My glory." See Gen. 25:13-15. The law is clear about what was acceptable as an offering upon that altar. He said, "Seven days thou shalt make an atonement for the altar, and sanctify it, and it shall be an altar most holy: whatsoever toucheth the altar shall be holy." Ex. 29:37.

I think it is obvious, to even the casual observer, that no such condition exists among Gentile Christians today. Likewise, Jesus cannot present to Himself a glorious Church without spot or wrinkle until there is one in that condition. The day of "our gathering together unto him," and our cleansing must soon begin.

Jesus will "return at the appointed day," and all things will be "ready for the wedding." Yes, that prophecy shall soon be fulfilled where He said, "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath **made herself ready**. And to her was granted that she should be

arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed

are

they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me,

These are the true sayings of God.

" Rev 19:7-9.

No group of Christians, large or small, has been granted such an honor, unto this time.

However, that honor shall be given to someone. Then shall the words of Paul come to pass, "In a race run all, but **one receiveth the prize**. So run that ye may obtain." **What a day for the righteous when "The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former!**

" Haggai 2:9.

"And that, **knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed**

. The night is far spent, the day is at hand:

let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and

let us put on the armour of light."

AMEN