

Current Affairs #133 – He Who Leads into Captivity

Sam Soleyn

April 21, 2021

Now we are continuing to unpack Revelation 13:10 which says,

He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints (Revelation 13:10 NKJV).

As I have said, we have typically heard and understood this Scripture as a dire warning against mature and faithful saints to say that you are either predisposed to be taken into captivity, which is you are going to be imprisoned for your faith—you know, by the troops in black uniforms who come and kick down your door in the middle of the night and lead you into secret encampments where you are tortured and dealt with in that fashion. So if you are appointed for that, that is what will happen to you. And if you are to be taken from your home and put in concentration camps and executed, like the Nazis did to the Jews in World War II, then that is what is going to happen to you.

Except, as I said, that was a direct quote of the prophet Jeremiah, from Jeremiah, chapter 15 at verses 2 and 3. It was a direct quote that concerned Manasseh, the king who ruled over the southern kingdom of Judah for 55 years, from 698 BC to 642 BC.¹ Keep in mind, of course, because you are moving down to the year AD 1, “the year of our Lord,” the numbers indicating the years are reckoned backward in the Old Testament. So he ruled from 698 BC to 642 BC, and that would be a period of 55 years.

Now before Manasseh, his father, Hezekiah, was one of the most successful rulers in the southern kingdom of Judah.² He ruled from 727 BC to 698 BC. He was the one who constructed the Siloam tunnel to ensure the water supply of the city, which is very significant in biblical reference and in

All Scripture quotations are from the NKJV Bible, unless otherwise noted.

¹ See 2 Kings 21:1-18; 2 Chronicles 33:1-20.

² See 2 Kings, chapters 18-20; 2 Chronicles, chapters 29-32.

Jewish tradition.³ He generally is remembered as one of the great kings of Judah and was viewed favorably by the prophet Isaiah.⁴ Hezekiah made a mistake in being part of an alliance against the Assyrians—Sennacherib was the ruler of Assyria in that time of history—and he ended up experiencing some defeat. But then Jerusalem was not conquered; that is when that tunnel I referred to earlier was so important. God caused a plague to come into the encampment of Sennacherib’s army. There was mass death and destruction amongst the Assyrian army, and they withdrew.⁵ When Hezekiah died, his successor was his twelve-year-old son named Manasseh.

Manasseh ruled Judah for 55 years, in the years between 698 BC and 642 BC. Manasseh had a very resilient reign, and by all intents, he made an agreement with the Assyrians and was generally left alone by the Assyrians, and ruled for 55 years. But this is what he did that was displeasing to the Lord: he promoted idolatry throughout the kingdom; he built pagan temples and even sacrificed one of his sons to the fires of Molech, one of these ancient pagan gods. And this is important: there is an old tradition amongst the Old Testament writers and even amongst traditional Judaism, that Manasseh is the one who executed the prophet Isaiah. So, what did Manasseh do? He led people into the captivity of idolatry. What did Manasseh do? He killed by the sword. Isaiah was not the only one—and it is unproven, so we have to have more than just that fact; it is rumored that he killed Isaiah—he slaughtered all of his opposition, and his reign was soaked with bloodshed.

So the judgment of God was full by the time of Manasseh, and it was going to fall upon his successor, but God stayed the hand of judgment when the young king who replaced him, Josiah, repented.⁶ And then Josiah’s successor, the king named Zedekiah, was captured by the

³ See 2 Kings 20:20: “Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah—all his might, and how he made a pool and a tunnel and brought water into the city—are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?”

⁴ See Isaiah, chapters 36-39.

⁵ See 2 Kings 19:35-36: “And it came to pass on a certain night that the angel of the LORD went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when *people* arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead. So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went away, returned *home*, and remained at Nineveh.”

⁶ See 2 Kings 23:3a (in reference to Josiah): “Then the king stood by a pillar and made a covenant before the LORD, to follow the LORD and to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His statutes, with all *his* heart and all *his* soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book.” See also 2 Chronicles 34:31.

Babylonians. As the Assyrians were decimated and their strength was waning, the Babylonians were rising. Nebuchadnezzar I, the king of Babylon, was arising. He defeated the Egyptians in one of his famous battles, and then he later proceeded to defeat the Assyrians. Then he came for Israel.

In anticipation of Babylonian captivity, the prophet Jeremiah said, “Whoever leads into the captivity of idolatry and the worship of pagan gods, whoever agrees to that, whoever lends their voice of support to that...”—and it was not just Manasseh. They overthrew the ways of God sufficiently so, that in the reign of Josiah, the successor, the temple was in ruins because Manasseh had given attention to the rebuilding of the Asherah poles,⁷ the shrines of worship for pagan gods. The workmen who were in the reign of Josiah, who was a young king but a righteous king,⁸ the workmen were repairing the temple which had fallen into disrepair, neglected by Manasseh, and they discovered the scrolls, the ancient scrolls of the Pentateuch amongst the rubble. The workmen brought the scrolls to Hilkiah, the high priest, and the high priest, when he read them, was just scared because Israel had gone so far from God.⁹

Now I am getting to something. This is less about the true saints, those who have held to the truth, and more about what happens to the harlot church, led by leaders who have brought in all forms of corruption. In their unrelenting pursuit of the love of money and personal popularity, they have created a ruin amongst which the people of God wander like men and women in a dream. They are violent in the way they resist the truth. It was that condition that led them into Babylon, the harlot. This is the transition from being followers of Christ to being corporately that which is expressed by a harlot church.

So when he says, “He who leads into captivity,” what will be his judgment? He will be taken into captivity. All these preachers who have led the people into the prosperity gospel, led them into the captivity of greed in a time when the beast arises and controls the economy, they will be put to the

⁷ See Asherah - <https://biblehub.com/topical/a/asherah.htm>

⁸ See 2 Kings 23:25 (in reference to Josiah): “Now before him there was no king like him, who turned to the LORD with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses; nor after him did *any* arise like him.”

⁹ See 2 Kings 22:3-20.

task of finding their supply by agreement with this propaganda that redefines the truth in the most carnal and godless ways. But they were already predisposed to doing that. That is why they are taken into captivity who led others into captivity.

And those who are killed by the sword are those who killed by the sword. Which is to say, they shut up the door against the true prophetic, they shut the door against receiving the apostolic. We are seeing a lot of people rebranding themselves now as apostles. And we are even seeing some of the leading churches not wanting to be left behind the trend of apostles; they are recruiting famous preachers—television preachers, famous-name preachers—and calling them apostles. I had the displeasure of spending hours with one of them, one of these recruited apostles, and I have to tell you, I was astonished at his lack of understanding of biblical juris prudence, of the order of the Kingdom. He let me know that what I was saying was too advanced for his audience. And we were just picking the low-hanging fruit; it was not anything advanced. He could not feed his audience anything but pabulum because such a weakened people could be taught anything and be manipulated in any way.

This is a clarion call for repentance—changing the mindset. Repentance is not just, “I repent.” Repentance is, “I am going to tear down the Asherah poles. I am going to destroy these models of merchandising the gospel that I have built. I am going to redefine the gospel, consistent with God’s original intent.” They are not going to do it. They will be spokesmen, eventually, for the new order of things, because that is what the prostitute succumbs to. She dresses up and confers her beauty upon unsanctified kings.

Manasseh was the one against whom this dirge was spoken. He polluted Israel by bringing back pagan worship. I do not know if it was just what the Assyrian overlords required of him or what was in his heart; that is not clear to me from the Scriptures. But either way, God attributes it to him—that he led Israel into the captivity of idolatry.

When Israel was actually taken into Babylonian captivity, what was the test? For Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, what was their test? Their test was whether or not they would fall down

and worship a false god, wasn't it? They were thrown into the fire.¹⁰ Babylon, as a whole, is about religious slavery. Daniel was thrown in the lions' den as a result of a plot designed around the fact that he would worship the true and living God every day, at a certain time of day, with his window open toward Jerusalem. They set the trap, knowing Daniel would not deviate from his faithfulness to God.

Babylon was about religious slavery. That is an appropriate connection, then, to these matters spoken about the end of the age. When it says, "He who leads into captivity, into captivity he will go," that is judgment. But this is not judgment on the world. This is the judgment of those who dwell upon the earth, meaning, those who claim to represent God, but in the core they are secular. They are money changers in the temple. And just as Jesus evicted the money changers from the temple, and just as He spoke confrontingly to the scribes and the Pharisees and called them hypocrites and said that they had polluted the house of God, which was supposed to be a house of prayer, but they had made it into a den of thieves...¹¹

Look, it is not the unbelievers who can do this, you know. They are not in the house of God; they are conducting commerce in their own marketplace. The ones Jesus had to throw out of the temple were those who were the leaders of the people of God, the leaders of Israel, the ones Jesus called thieves and murderers, the ones who murdered the prophets.¹² These were not the unbelievers. These were the apostate church. Do you remember what Jesus said to Jerusalem? He said, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets..." (cf. Matthew 23:37-39). The world does not care if you say you are a prophet or not. For them, the only value to it, if you prophesy falsely, is to mock you with it and to say about prophecy that it is nothing but self-serving blowhards. They do not care.

My point is that those who lead into captivity—that he is talking about here in the Book of Revelation, the 13th chapter, verse 10—he is clearly referring to the judgment of God upon the religious people. And like Manasseh, the judgment of God came upon the man and that cadre of

¹⁰ See Daniel, chapter 3.

¹¹ See Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-17; Luke 19:45-46.

¹² See Matthew, chapter 23.

underlings who carried out his mandates, who ruled over Judah. And He is saying, “You did not represent Me. You kowtowed to the Assyrians. Whether you intentionally did it, or willingly did it, or it was just a term of your service, but you kowtowed to the Assyrians, and you brought back idolatry in Israel. You let the temple go into ruins. You brought this destruction upon Israel, so all the ones who participated with you, into captivity they will go because they brought back the captivity of idolatry and godlessness to Israel.”

I do not know if you are as offended as I am at the way the evangelical church has excused the abysmal moral failure of the former president. You should be sick to your stomach. Men like Jerry Falwell, Jr. saying, “Well, God did not choose a Sunday school teacher to be president.” And some of these witless prophets referred to the president as being like Cyrus—the ends to which they went and still are in defending the basest of men. I am one who has said that the ultimate casualty of this descent into madness and the ultimate casualty of the rule of the former president is the evangelical gospel. Stripped of compassion, stripped of mercy, stripped of integrity, stripped of honor, there is nothing left. It is a laughing stock propped up by people who called the president, “Cyrus.” No. He was Nebuchadnezzar. Nebuchadnezzar was the crazy one, you will remember.¹³ That is the ends to which they have gone to justify their drunkenness with the power of harlotry. They wanted the imprimatur of the state. These did not cleanse the temple; they brought in the vile corruption of the temple. They called a man like that, “God’s appointed, the chosen one,” and all the rest of that; and obviously he believed it.

God selects leaders—yes, I agree. And to that end I say, God selected him; but not remotely for the purpose to which he has been touted. God held him up as a mirror, in the hope that the church would see how thoroughly debauched the church had become. Wallowing in self-privilege and self-importance, grabbing with both hands everything they could get their hands around by way of supporting these notions, so many of the people under the rule of these leaders have no clue as to what the Bible says. They are biblical illiterates and are unrestrained by anything resembling the Holy Spirit. That is why they believe all this foolishness, like the QAnon conspiracy and the rest of it. That is why.

¹³ See Daniel 4:28-33.

I am saying that the time has come for those who have led into captivity to be taken into captivity themselves; those who have set aside the word of God for nothing more than personal gain, that being analogous to those who killed by the sword, a false word, to be put to the sword. You know, the sword of the Spirit is the word of God.¹⁴ But a false word is a sword that deals the blow of death to those who listen to it; the Scriptures say as much. They are bringers of death and destruction to the House of God. They have eviscerated anything that looks like the gospel in the minds of the popular audience.

So what lies ahead? God said, “If Moses were present, if Samuel were present, if they appealed to Me to have mercy upon this people, I would flatly turn them down.”¹⁵ We have come to the place where we are within the sound of God’s call to His people to come out of the harlotry of Babylon. We are going to hear that sound in the not-too-distant future. We have come to that point. It cannot be saved. This church cannot be saved. Its heart has turned to the coldness of a harlot. It does not listen to the Spirit of God.

Now amongst it are people who yet want to hear the truth, and that is why we speak as plainly as we do. Because those people, when Christ is lifted up in the fashion in which He is being lifted up, they will be drawn to Him. The rest becomes the woman who remains in the wilderness,¹⁶ but clothes herself with scarlet and with pearls, with the cup of iniquity in her hand.¹⁷ Because when

¹⁴ See Ephesians 6:14-17: “Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;”

¹⁵ See Jeremiah 15:1: “Then the LORD said to me, ‘*Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me, My mind would not be favorable toward this people. Cast them out of My sight, and let them go forth.*’ ”

¹⁶ See Revelation 12:14: “But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.”

¹⁷ See Revelation 17:1b-4: “Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”

So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast *which was* full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.”

you do not choose the ways of God, and yet you claim to represent God, He will give you over to the very thing that defines you. That is what is meant by, “whoever is to go into prison will go into prison; whoever has killed by the sword will be put to the sword”—a false word that has slain people, they will be dealt with in the same way. And whoever has used men as merchandise, they themselves will be treated as just merchandise. A prostitute, you see, is no more than merchandise.

Hard words, a clear sound, unmistakable, dividing between joints and marrow, soul and spirit, a clarion call, and it leaves no darkness in which to be shrouded or clothed. Men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil.¹⁸ But with the sound of the Lord, with the coming forth of the word of God, everybody is being required to make decisions. What side of this equation are you on?

I understand how easy it is to kill the messenger rather than change. I am seventy years old. All I have to live for is the service of the Lord. Everything that I am about is speaking the word of the Lord accurately. That is why I do what I do. I hope that this sound resonates in your spirit. I hope you are among those who choose to see and see, to hear and hear, for then to you is given to understand the mysteries of the Book of Revelation.

We will continue. We are making painfully slow progress, but we have to overturn all of these things that have been poorly presented, or just erroneously presented, by way of then laying the foundation upon the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I am Sam Soleyn. I will have some more of the Book of Revelation for you in due course. See you then. Bye-bye.

¹⁸ See John 3:19: “And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”