

KINGDOM IS COMING

THE KINGDOM OF EXPANSION

"THE UNITED STATES IS HEADED FOR A DEEP, DEEP DEPRESSION."

"WE'RE IN FOR A SURE RECESSION."

"THE U.S. ECONOMY WILL SUFFER A MILD RECESSION IN 1979."

"THERE'S NO REASON BASED ON ECONOMIC REALITIES TO HAVE A RECESSION, AND THERE IS NO REASON AT ALL TO TALK ABOUT A DEPRESSION, EVEN IF THE ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM FAILS."

THOSE QUOTES ARE ALL CONFUSED.



THE QUOTES ARE OKAY, ITS THE QUOTEES THAT ARE CONFUSED.

ALL THE ABOVE ARE QUOTES FROM MEN WHO HOLD STRATEGIC POSITIONS IN THE PLANNING AND FORECASTING OF OUR COUNTRY'S ECONOMY. AT ONE END OF THE SPECTRUM, ALFRED KAHN, CARTER'S NEW CHIEF INFLATION ADVISER, AT ONE POINT PREDICTED A "DEEP, DEEP DEPRESSION." AT THE OTHER END OF THE SPECTRUM, G. WILLIAM MILLER, CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD, SAYS THERE IS NO REASON FOR US TO HAVE EVEN A RECESSION, LET ALONE A DEEP, DEEP DEPRESSION.

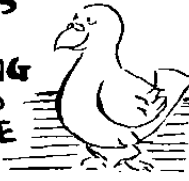
IF YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO KEEP UP WITH ALL THE ECONOMIC INDICATORS YOU KNOW IT'S A CONFUSING AND BAFFLING TASK. HOW CAN WE CUT THROUGH ALL THE CONFLICTING REPORTS AND COME TO SOME SENSIBLE CONCLUSIONS?



ONE THING WE ALL KNOW!!! ACCORDING TO BIBLE PROPHECY INFLATION WILL KEEP GOING UP AND UP AND UP.

LIVING AT A TIME WHEN THE ECONOMY IS SHAKY MAKES IT VERY HARD TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE. SHOULD YOU BUY THAT NEW CAR OR WAIT A WHILE? HOW SHOULD YOU INVEST THAT EXTRA INCOME YOU HAVE? IS YOUR JOB GOING TO BE AROUND NEXT WEEK, NEXT MONTH, NEXT YEAR? THESE AND MANY MORE QUESTIONS, SOME MUCH MORE SERIOUS & SOME MUCH LESS SERIOUS, SEEMINGLY HAVE NO ANSWERS.

OUR DECISIONS ARE BASED ON UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE AND LEADING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.



AT LEAST, AS WE JUST DEMONSTRATED WITH OUR OPENING QUOTES, ANSWERS CAN'T BE FOUND BY LOOKING TO POLITICAL AND FINANCIAL LEADERS OF THIS WORLD. THE ANSWERS LIE IN THE BIBLE. BASED ON UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE, THE THING FOR YOU TO DO RIGHT NOW, IN YOUR OWN ECONOMIC PLANNING, IS EXPAND.

TO BE TRULY FULFILLED WE NEED THE THINGS THE GENTILES SEEK, THAT IS... A MATERIAL KINGDOM.



JESUS SAID "SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU." WHAT THINGS??? THE THINGS THE GENTILES SEEK AFTER. MOST OF US HAVE BEEN TAUGHT BY OUR TRADITIONS TO SEEK A SPIRITUAL KINGDOM BECAUSE WE DON'T NEED THE THINGS THE GENTILES SEEK. BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT JESUS SAID. HE SAID IF WE SEEK GOD'S KINGDOM AND RIGHTEOUSNESS WE'LL GET EVERYTHING WE NEED TO LIVE A PRODUCTIVE, ENJOYABLE, SATISFYING LIFE.

TO ENJOY THE GOOD THINGS OF LIFE WE NEED FIRST TO SEEK THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.



AFTER ALL, JESUS DEFINED THE THINGS THE GENTILES SEEK (WHICH WILL BE ADDED UNTO US) AS FOOD, DRINK AND CLOTHING - MATT. 6:31. THESE THINGS ARE IN THE PHYSICAL KINGDOM, NOT THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.

RIGHT AFTER JESUS' TEMPTATION AND AT THE VERY BEGINNING OF HIS MINISTRY HE WENT TO NAZARETH, ENTERED THE SYNAGOGUE AND WAS GIVEN THE BOOK OF ISAIAH TO READ (LUKE 4:13-21).

JESUS TURNED TO THE PLACE WHERE IT WAS WRITTEN, "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD 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, TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO THE CAPTIVES, AND THE OPENING OF PRISON TO THEM THAT ARE BOUND, TO PROCLAIM THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD" ISAIAH 61:1-2A, 1

HE PUT THE BOOK DOWN AND STOPPED READING RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF VERSE TWO, HE STOPPED RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE A CONTINUOUS LINE OF THOUGHT.

JESUS HAD HIS THING TO DO...

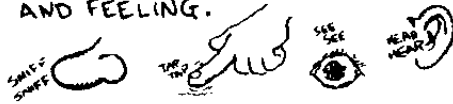


AND WE HAVE OUR THING TO DO.

WE BELIEVE JESUS WAS READING HIS COMMISSION AND THAT HE STOPPED WHERE HE DID BECAUSE THE REST OF ISAIAH 61:2 AND THE FOLLOWING VERSES OUTLINE THE COMMISSION OF THE BODY OF CHRIST.

IT'S UP TO US, THE BODY OF CHRIST, TO PICK UP READING WHERE JESUS STOPPED READING BECAUSE IT IS OUR COMMISSION TO "PROCLAIM THE DAY OF VENGEANCE OF OUR GOD, TO COMFORT ALL THAT MORN,... TO GIVE BEAUTY FOR ASHES,... OIL OF JOY FOR THE SPIRIT OF HEAVINESS... BUILD OLD WASTES... RAISE UP FORMER DESOLATIONS, REPAIR WASTE CITIES,... STRANGERS SHALL FEED THE FLOCKS (OF THE BODY OF CHRIST)... ALIENS SHALL WORK (FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST) AS PLOWMEN AND AS VINEDRESSERS, AND THEY SHALL BE CALLED PRIESTS OF THE LORD, MINISTERS OF GOD, AND (THE BODY OF CHRIST) SHALL ENRICH THE RICHES OF THE GENTILES AND SHALL BOAST IN THE GLORY OF THE GENTILES "... (ISAIAH 61:2-6) PARAPHRASED). THAT IS NOT A SPIRITUAL KINGDOM. THAT IS MOST DEFINITELY AN EARTHLY,

PHYSICAL, LITERAL KINGDOM WHICH CAN BE ENJOYED BY OUR FIVE SENSES: SEEING, HEARING, TASTING, SMELLING, AND FEELING.



A CORRECT UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS WILL HELP YOU MAKE THE RIGHT DECISIONS IN YOUR LIFE IN THIS NEW YEAR.

THERE ARE FOUR OLD TESTAMENT WORDS FOR HEAVEN:

- GALGAL** - ROLLING CLOUD
- SHACHAQ** - THIN CLOUD
- SHAMAYIM** } HEAVED UP THINGS.
- SHEMAYIM** }

THERE IS ONLY ONE NEW TESTAMENT WORD FOR HEAVEN. IT IS **OURANOS** WHICH IS TRANSLATED HEAVEN 268 TIMES, AIR-TEN TIMES AND SKY 55 TIMES. **SHAMAYIM** IS THE OLD TESTAMENT WORD THAT IS USED MOST FREQUENTLY FOR HEAVEN. IT IS ALSO TRANSLATED AIR-21 TIMES.

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS EXPANSION

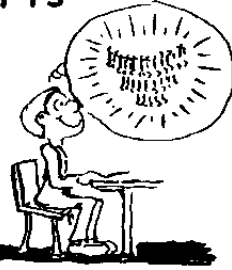
NOW, WHAT IS THE BIGGEST THING, NATURALLY THINKING, IN THE WHOLE UNIVERSE. ISN'T IT THE SKY? THE AIR? THE GREAT EXPANSE THAT HOLDS ALL THE STARS, PLANETS, MOONS, METEORS ETC., ETC., ETC? HEAVENLY THINKING IS THINKING BIG, THINKING EXPANSIVELY, THINKING INCREASE, GROWTH. THINK OF A BIG ROLLING CLOUD SPREADING ACROSS THE HORIZON AND SOON FILLING THE WHOLE SKY. THAT'S **GALGAL**. THAT'S HEAVEN. SCIENTISTS TELL US THE UNIVERSE IS CONSTANTLY EXPANDING, SPREADING OUT, AND THE BIBLE TELLS US WE'RE TO BE DOING THE SAME THING

OKAY, SO, SIT UP IN YOUR SEAT NOW-GET RID OF THAT SLOUCH. START THINKING BIG, EXPANSIVE THOUGHTS. START VIEWING THOSE PROBLEMS YOU HAVE AS OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING AND UNDERSTANDING.

ALWAYS CHOOSE EXPANSION WHEN MAKING DECISIONS. LET GOD DO THE CONSTRICTING - HE HAS WAYS OF DOING IT. ALWAYS THINK IN TERMS OF INCREASE: PUTTING IN ONE AND GETTING 30, 60, 100 FOLD IN RETURN FOR IT.

KINGDOM IS COMING

COME ON, SIT UP TALL. START THINKING BIG



EXPANSIVE THOUGHTS

FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT BUYING A NEW CAR AND ALL FORMS OF LOGIC SAY YOU SHOULD TRADE DOWN TO A SMALLER CAR, IT'S OKAY, DO IT. BUT IF YOUR LOGIC CONSISTS OF THOUGHTS LIKE: "THERE'S GOING TO BE A GAS SHORTAGE," OR, "THE ECONOMY IS GOING TO FAIL," OR "MY ABILITIES TO EARN AN INCOME WILL DECREASE" THEN YOU MAY BE MAKING A BIG MISTAKE.

AGAIN, IF THE LOGICAL THING TO DO IS GET A SMALLER CAR, IT'S OKAY. BUT, IF YOU REALLY WANT A LARGER CAR AND YOU CAN AFFORD A LARGER ONE, AND YOU DECIDE ON A SMALLER ONE, YOU'RE CONSTRICTING YOURSELF. GOD CAN DO THAT ANY TIME - DON'T YOU DO IT.

WHEN PLANNING THINK IN TERMS OF PLANTING



AT TIMES IT IS GOD'S WAY TO CONSTRICT US. "EXCEPT A CORN OF WHEAT FALL TO THE GROUND AND DIE IT ABIDETH ALONE" (Jn. 12:24). THIS IS GODLY. LET GOD BRING CONSTRICTION IN HIS OWN TIME. THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRICTION IS TO BRING FORTH NEW LIFE. THE CONSTRICTION MUST BE IN GOD'S TIME THOUGH.

AT TIMES GOD DOES LEAD US BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE - THE EGYPTIANS BEHIND, THE RED SEA IN FRONT. HE SQUEEZES US AND LETS US CRY "UNCLE." WE MUST ALWAYS CHOOSE TO GO FORWARD THOUGH, EXPAND NOT RETREAT. WHEN WE TURN TOWARD THE RED SEA, THE DIRECTION OF THE PROMISED LAND, THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, EXPANSION - WE'LL SEE THAT GOD COMES THROUGH MIRACULOUSLY AND MAKES A WAY FOR US.

DON'T EVER PUT YOURSELF IN A SQUEEZE. WHEN GOD WANTS TO SLOW YOU DOWN HE CAN DO IT.



DON'T CONSTRICT YOURSELF

OUR ADVICE TO YOU FOR 1979, BASED ON AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, IS TO EXPAND. IF YOU TRY TO FOLLOW ECONOMISTS AND FINANCIAL PLANNERS YOU'LL BE ONE CONFUSED PERSON, BECAUSE RIGHT NOW EACH ONE HAS A DIFFERENT OPINION ABOUT WHICH WAY THE ECONOMY IS GOING TO TURN.

REMEMBER, WHEN THE ISRAELITES LEFT EGYPT FOR THE PROMISED LAND, THEY BORROWED ALL THEY NEEDED FROM THE EGYPTIANS. THEY USED THE SYSTEM THAT KEPT THEM IN BONDAGE TO BREAK FREE AND MAKE THEIR ESCAPE. AS THE COMING OF THE KINGDOM DRAWS NEAR CHRISTIANS CANNOT ALLOW THEMSELVES TO BE FRIGHTENED BY WHAT THEY SEE AND HEAR ABOUT THE STATE OF OUR ECONOMY. THEY HAVE TO LEARN TO LISTEN TO THE SPIRIT AND BEGIN TO SEEK THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

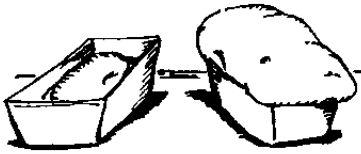
JESUS PUT EMPHASIS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING.

NO! YOUR FEET AREN'T YOUR UNDERSTANDING! UNDERSTANDING COMES FROM YOUR HEAD.



OUR ADVICE IS GLEANED FROM UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE AND FROM THE WHOLE CONCEPT OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. IN MATTHEW 13 JESUS TOLD PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM. WE CAN SEE IN VERSES 19 & 23 THAT HE LAID MUCH IMPORTANCE ON UNDERSTANDING, SAYING THAT ANYONE WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THE WORD OF THE KINGDOM IS SUBJECT TO LOSING WHAT HE ALREADY HAS. BUT WHOEVER UNDERSTANDS BEARS FRUIT AND BRINGS FORTH SOME AN HUNDRED, SOME SIXTY AND SOME THIRTY (v.23). THAT IS, THEY EXPAND, GROW, LET OUT THEIR BORDERS.

KINGDOM IS COMING



WHAT A DIFFERENCE THE LEAVEN MAKES!

JESUS COMPARED THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN TO A MUSTARD SEED WHICH IS THE TINIEST OF ALL SEEDS, INVISIBLE TO THE HUMAN EYE. BUT WHEN IT GROWS IT IS THE GREATEST OF ALL THE HERBS (MATT. 13: 31-32). HE ALSO COMPARED IT TO LEAVEN, SOMETHING THAT CAUSES THE DOUGH IT IS PLACED INTO TO EXPAND AND GROW.

EXPANSION. GROWTH, INCREASE. ALL OF THESE HAVE TO DO WITH THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. THEY HAVE TO DO WITH SOMETHING MORE THAN POSITIVE THINKING. THAT SOMETHING IS POSITIVE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BASED ON AN UNDERSTANDING OF GODS WAYS AND THE KINGDOM OF... HEAVEN. □

BE AS CHILDREN

BUT...



BE AS MEN ALSO!

ONE DAY JESUS' DISCIPLES ASKED HIM WHO WAS THE GREATEST IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. JESUS CALLED A LITTLE CHILD TO HIM AND TOLD HIM TO STAND AMONG THEM. THEN HE SAID "VERILY, I SAY UNTO YOU, EXCEPT YE BE CONVERTED AND BECOME AS LITTLE CHILDREN YE SHALL NOT ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN." (SPIRITUAL OR PHYSICAL) MATT. 18: 3.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE LIKE A LITTLE CHILD? IN 1 CORINTHIANS WE FIND MORE ON THIS SUBJECT.

PAUL SAYS "...BE NOT CHILDREN IN UNDERSTANDING HOWBEIT IN MALICE BE YE CHILDREN, BUT IN UNDERSTANDING BE MEN." 1 COR. 14: 20.

WE ARE TO BE CHILDREN IN MATTERS OF EVIL OR EVIL THINKING. IN OTHER WORDS, LET YOUR ACTS AND THOUGHTS BE INNOCENT, LIKE A CHILDS. WATCH SMALL CHILDREN AT PLAY AND SEE HOW WILLING THEY ARE TO FORGIVE AND FORGET WHEN SOMEONE HURTS THEM OR DOES SOMETHING WRONG. THERE ARE NO GRUDGES HELD (FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME ANYHOW). THERE'S AN AIR OF INNOCENCE IN EVERYTHING THEY DO.

BUT, WHILE WE'RE TO BE AS CHILDREN IN MATTERS OF MALICE, WHEN IT COMES TO UNDERSTANDING, THE WORD IS "GROW UP." THEN YOU'LL FIND THAT THE ONLY PEOPLE YOU HAVE TO GET EVEN WITH ARE THOSE WHO'VE DONE SOMETHING GOOD FOR YOU.

THERE'S A TREASURE TO BE FOUND IN THESE TWO VERSES. WE HOPE YOU'LL THINK ABOUT THEM AND MEDITATE ON THEM. BE AS CHILDREN BUT.... BE AS MEN ALSO!

LIF