The Woman of Revelation 12/ The Last Day Church (4)

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Thursday, August 14, 2003 (53)

DO YOU COMPREHEND WHAT I HAVE DONE? A question posed that Jesus might emphasize the importance of His action in washing their feet. It was a work of love. The cleansing which took place would be of uttermost blessing to His disciples. One cannot go through a spiritual encounter such as this without it having a terrific impact on their lives. It feels so good to be clean. John 13:12 Jesus pulled rank on them. You call me and give me respect as your Lord and master. Which of course, was fitting and proper. In this high status and position among them, He had washed their feet. He then spoke the lesson that is to be learned from and by His conduct. I, Jesus, have done it to you, ye also ought to wash one each others feet. Pretty explicit, is it not? The word ought according to Strong, may be translated to mean, to owe, figuratively, to be under obligation. Must, should, indebted and so on. John 13:13-14.

I HAVE SET AN EXAMPLE FOR YOU. A performance which is to be emulated by those who serve Him. If Christ Jesus is our mentor, certainly we will follow in His ways and practices. In most situations we would readily agree with a command given by Jesus. This certainly is as important as any other command. Jesus firmly spoke and said, ye should do as I have done to you. This statement stands out and sounds forth with such an urgency. If there is a blessing in its performance, and there is, then we are being robbed of its benefits. It should be followed, if from no other stand point, the fact that Jesus gave it as a duty to be performed by them. John 13:16 However much it may be misunderstood or misconstrued, Jesus spoke from a position of one being in authority over them. They were not greater than He, therefore they should comply to His wishes and command. John 13:16

THE WAY OF HAPPINESS. Mankind is constantly in the pursuit of happiness. Stop and meditate on the great abundance of things which we do, all with the purpose of finding happiness. Spiritual knowledge

produces true everlasting joy and happiness. The blessing of the Lord is promised to those who come to a comprehension of this truth and practice it. John 13:17 The whole of the blessings of the Lord are directed toward those who explicitly do His will. Noah and his family were delivered from a catastrophe which had never before taken place, all because he obeyed the command of the Lord. Gen. 6:22 Moses, expressly and very meticulously did all exactly as he was commanded. Ex. 40:16 The way of blessing is for the man who performs the will of the Lord. He studies the perfect law of liberty. He continues his walk in the way of that law. He does not forget what he has heard of the Lord, but is a doer of the work, this is the man who shall be blessed in all that he does. James 1:25 The scriptures, when obeyed, establish a life of glory, power and blessing for those who will faithfully follow their teachings. The way of the Lord, is the right way. In as much as ye have done it unto these, ye have done it unto me.

Friday, August 15, 2003 (54)

AN OBEDIENT SERVANT LED IN THE RIGHT WAY. Blessed is that servant of the Lord who has the ability to discern the leading of the Lord. The Lord is not remiss in the giving of directions for guidance in our lives if we only take time to wait on Him. The servant was able to testify that the Lord had led him in the right way. Gen. 24:48 The secret of being led of the Lord is to be found in the Word of the Lord. A complete and absolute trust in His sure guidance, with the whole heart is necessary. The ability to receive His instruction without mingling our own thoughts and understanding is essential. In every way, in all that is done let there be a full acknowledgment of the living Lord. Then the promise is yours, that He will direct your path and lead you into His perfect will. Prov. 3:5-6 The individual who would know His leading must be able to be instructed and be teachable. Then it is the all seeing eye of the Lord which becomes a personal guide for them. Ps. 32:8 We may have perfect confidence in Him, for He always leads in the right way. The ultimate destination being the eternal, everlasting City of the Lord. Ps. 107:7 A glimpse of the negative side reveals what is missed by not accepting the counsel of the Lord. The anguish of the Lord is evident when He would have led His very own in the right way and they refused to hear and obey. Had you only listened, for then your peace would have been as abundant as the waters of the flowing river and your righteousness as the waves of the sea. Isa. 48:18 O

that His people would but listen to what He is saying to us, and He is saying it directly out of His Word. The Lord is the teacher, the Lord is the leader, showing us the path that He has chosen for us. <u>Isa. 48:17</u>

A WISE CHOICE. It is worthy to note that in the negotiations for Rebekah's hand, the gifts were not brought out and given until her relatives had made the commitment of giving her to be the wife of Isaac, Gifts come with commitment, Without a full hearted commitment there are no true gifts. Gen. 24:50-53 The final decision was to be made by Rebekah, who immediately expressed her willingness to follow the servant to the house of Abraham and to her marriage to Isaac. Gen. 24:57-58 Their blessing which was pronounced upon her was consistent with the promises given to the household of faith, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The number is amazing in its content. Who can tell the final sum of thousands of millions? There is no final sum to be found by multiplying millions by thousands (we do not know how many thousands there are, nor do we know how many millions). There is therefore only one sum to be derived from this multiplication problem and that is, limitless. To arrive at the proper answer one must be able to number the dust of the earth. Gen. 13:16 The stars of the heavens. Now known to be billions of stars in billions of galaxies, and the end is not yet. Gen. 15:5 Or the number of grains of sand on all the shores of all the seas of the world. Gen. 32:12 The Lord has said that they cannot be measured or numbered and will be called, Sons of the living God. Hos. 1:10 Selah!

Monday, August 18, 2003 (55)

REBEKAH MEETING ISAAC FOR THE FIRST TIME. The reference made to the well Lahai-roi Is significant because of the meaning of its name, The well of the living God who sees me. It was here that Hagar met with the Lord and received the promises of the Lord. Gen. 16:14 It was an oasis in the desert and was the dwelling place of Isaac. Gen. 24:62. Gen. 25:11 Though in a dry place, it is evident that once again the blessing of the Lord is found by its inhabitant, for the Lord blessed Isaac. He went out in the cool of the evening to think, and meditate on the Lord and to pray. Then he saw the caravan bringing his wife approaching. Being a spiritual man his experience in the desert could have been like that of the Psalmist who meditated on the mighty works of the Lord and found himself having a great thirst for the Lord.

Ps. 143:5 No doubt that there was an excitement, an anticipation in the heart as to the success or failure of the servant having obtained a bride for him. The same may well be said concerning Rebekah as she approached what would be an entirely new way of life for her.

SHE LIGHTED OFF HER CAMEL. The camel which had been her method of transportation was now abandoned, she had reached her destination, the wedding was eminent. It is interesting to note that originally the servant had taken ten of Abraham's camels. Gen. 24:10 Ten is the number of the Commandments. The Law which was a schoolmaster of holiness and righteousness bringing us to Christ. But now, we live and walk by faith. No longer under the tutoring of a rigid Law, but now under the amazing grace of Christ Jesus. Gal. 3:24-25 She lifted her eyes, she caught sight of Isaac, she fixed her eyes on him. Her emotions would have been greatly stirred, here he was, the one for whom she had made this separation from her family and journeyed into a strange land. We have not seen Jesus, yet we love Him and rejoice, in Him, with a joy that cannot be explained by words. The majestic blessing of the Lord Jesus which is full of the glory of the Lord. 1 Peter 1:8 Rebekah took her wedding veil and placed it over herself. According to the customs of this area this was a special wedding veil which covered, or concealed the individual. She gave a sign to Isaac that she was ready and willing for the marriage to take place. Gen. 24:66 There are definite standards for the Bride of Christ which if met will assure one of being in the Bride. They are recorded in the Word of the Lord but too often are ignored of minimized and made to be meaningless. Among them, the putting on of the new man, the garments of righteousness and true holiness. Eph. 4:24 The Lord has given us a very strong warning concerning these garments. Those who neglect them will be caught uncovered at a most crucial time. The time when, to the ungodly, the unprepared, He will appear as a thief in the night, ushering in the end time events which eventually lead to the end of this world and the establishment of a New Heavens and New Earth.

Tuesday, August 19, 2003 (56)

OF CONSIDERATION. Rebekah was noted for her beauty. <u>Gen. 26:7</u> As a type of the woman of Revelation twelve it is becoming her that she should be beautiful. Most definitely, as we view the Bride she is

clothed with great and perfect beauty. It was the desire and prayer of Moses that the beauty of the Lord be seen on His people. Ps. 90:17 That cry is still to be found in the hearts of all who follow the Lord. He has placed a strong desire in His people to be clothed with all the beauty of the Lord. King David had a mind set and a great desire to live in the house of the Lord, permanently, that he might behold the beauty of the LORD. This, ONE thing was that which he sought after. It is evident that these great men of Bible history longed for a beauty that they knew was resident in the presence of the Lord. Ps. 27:4

WORSHIP IS TO BE EXERCISED IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS.

The beauty of the Lord is manifest through His holiness. Beauty and holiness are both attributes of the Lord. They feebly express His nature and being. He is so much more and so far, far greater than our understanding of words which are used to express His being. Only in a worship where the Spirit of the Lord lifts us out of our humanity into the realms of the Spirit can we know and comprehend how beautiful and holy He is. True worship arises from a heart of holiness and is a thing of beauty. 1 Chr. 16:29

SEE THE SALVATION OF THE LORD. The strange battle of Judah or how to win a war without fighting. King Jehoshaphat, Judah and Jerusalem facing an enemy were filled with consternation. As usual, facing a difficult situation, they prayed. The Lord assured them that they would not have to be engaged in this battle and would win it. The secret of their success and subsequent victory was in their willingness to go to battle as the Lord directed. It was an act of obedience and faith. As they believed the Lord, they were to be supported and cared for. As they obeyed the word of their prophets they were to prosper. The blessing of the Lord was upon their commitment to the Lord in great measure. Singers were appointed to, of all things, go before the army of Judah. Hardly a fearsome group sent out in the forefront to confront the enemy. The responsibility of the singers was to praise the beauty of holiness. They went forth singing and praising the Lord. The Lord wrought great confusion and their enemies helped to destroy one another. The battle field before them was filled with dead bodies, so much so, that none of the enemy had escaped. 2 Chron. 20:20-25 So tremendous was the spoil that they spent three days in gathering it all. The fourth day, they came together in the valley of Berachah, the valley of blessing and prosperity. When we apply these truths to our lives we find the Lord to be the same in our day. All things are possible to those who believe. We may be certain that the Lord will meet and satisfy the daily needs of our lives. Praise Him in the beauty of holiness.

Wednesday, August 20, 2003 (57)

WHEN BEAUTY IS NOT OF VALUE. Standing immediately before the throne of the Lord is a most handsome creature. He is a part of the creation of the Lord. It is well that we always remember that this being is one whom the Lord created. He does not possess the capabilities of the Lord. He is definitely not omnipresent. He was not brought forth to be what he is now, a fallen creature. He is the very epitome of all that is evil, unrighteous and wicked. Among other names, he is called the accuser of our brethren. He is standing 24/7 before the throne of the Lord with the latest accusation and report of the faults and failures of the brethren. Rev. 12:10 Since he is so occupied night and day, he could hardly be the one who personally opposes and attacks us in this life.

HE IS PORTRAYED BY THE KING OF TYRUS. Tyrus, means a rock or a flint, a knife. It comes from a root word meaning, adversary or assault. How typical of the powers of darkness to copy and imitate the things of the Lord. The LORD is the true rock. Ps. 18:2 This person, of whom Tyrus is a type was the extreme example, the full sum, the ultimate, the apex of the perfection of the handy work of the Lord. The complete measure of all that is beautiful was upon him. Perfect in both beauty and wisdom. He is still using his corrupted beauty and wisdom to fool and deceive mankind. Eze. 28:12 He was as close to the Godhead as any created being was situated. He was a visitor to the garden of the Lord, Eden as well as being in the glorious, eternal presence of the Lord. How unfortunate that he was able to present an act of disobedience to Adam and Eve, causing sin to be commonplace for all men. Every stone of value was a covering for him. Stones of value and great price. Their great variety of colors would but add to the beauty of this creature. In this instance there are nine stones which are mentioned. Nine is a number associated with the Holy Spirit. Nine gifts, nine fruit and nine virtues. His position was of great importance. They were set in gold, an emblem of the righteousness and eternity of the Lord. Music was a part of the ability which the Lord had incorporated in him in the day of his creation. This, he has greatly corrupted and is destined to be destroyed and silenced. <u>Eze. 26:13</u>

HE WAS PERFECT IN THE DAY OF HIS CREATION. And continued to be the perfect example of perfection until iniquity was discovered in him. It is very apparent that he was a being with a free will and not created as a puppet or a clone. Eze. 28:30 His judgment is certain and set. In the very place of his creation he will be judged and destroyed. Jesus witnessed the loss of his position of holiness before the throne. Lk. 10:18 The woman of Revelation twelve and the child born to her are responsible for the ultimate casting down of the devil. They, both are important key factors in the plan of the Lord which will in the end, result in the New Heavens and the New Earth. Rev. 12:12

Thursday, August 21, 2003 (58)

A MOST ASTONISHING PLACEMENT. He was the anointed cherub. The anointing was accomplished by use of the Holy anointing oil. What is of greater value than the holy anointing oil of the Lord. The anointing is that which represents the presence of the Holy Spirit. It must be firmly stated that he was not in any sense of the word, a part of the Godhead. He was not God, though he thought himself to be. Nevertheless, from the high rank and position given him, he was the very closest to the Lord.

THE SACRED ANOINTING OIL. That which was utilized in the tabernacle and temple was composed of five ingredients. Ex. 30:23-24 Five is the number of atonement. Four were spices, the number of the earth. The fifth was a hin of olive oil. The spices represent the Godhead. There were three measurements of 500 shekels blended into the anointing oil. The central measurement was divided into two measurements. Each of 250 shekels, for a total of 500 shekels. Two or the middle one, symbolizing the Lord Jesus. He was crucified between two thieves. This mixture of the two equal amounts of spice connote the perfect blend of God and Man. Those who ministered in the tabernacle and temple were anointed with then sacred oil, for ministry. The tabernacle, the temple and all the furnishings were anointed for dedication and service. Ex. 30:26-31 The ointment was not to be copied, nor used solely as a perfume under the punishment of being cut down. Nor was it to be placed on mans flesh. This shows us the

high standard with which this oil was held. It also helps us to understand the extremely high position held by the devil prior to his downfall.

THE ANOINTED CHERUB THAT COVERETH. Cherub represent the Father and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead. For instance the garden of Eden was protected by Cherubim and a flaming sword, lest man reenter the garden and partake of the tree of life. Gen. 3:24 The sword is the Lord Jesus. The word made flesh. Eph. 5:6 The cherubim and the mercy seat were to be made of one piece of gold. A majestically true and beautiful type of the Godhead. Three, two cherubim and the mercy seat all hammered out of one solid piece of gold. A marvelous type of the unity and oneness that comprises our Lord. Christ is our propitiation, the true mercy seat, the place of the highest and only true atonement. 1 John 4:10 He carried His blood into the heavenly, eternal temple and offered it before His Father as the price of salvation for all who will believe. Jesus is not only the mercy seat, He is also the offering, the atonement. 1 Jn. 2:2 As the cherub gazed upon the mercy seat and the offerings presented there, so the Father views the redeemed through the blood sacrifice of His dear Son. It is inconceivable that one of such high rank and standing should be a turn coat and manifest a spirit of insurrection in the very presence of the Lord, but he did and like a plague man is born into sin. Jesus died to save us from our sins. Complete and absolute atonement is in Jesus.

Friday, August 22, 2003 (59)

THE SPIRIT OF REBELLION HAD ITS START IN HEAVEN. Most amazing is the situating of this creature who was afforded such an extremely high position. In the infinite wisdom of the Lord, it is He who gave him this status. This establishes a precedent which is continued throughout the Word of the Lord. The enemy is not an outsider but one who dwells within the inner circle and is in a position of leadership. Do not expect the antichrist to be someone from outside the church. Lets take a look at an example of one who was one of the twelve disciples of the Lord Jesus, a man called Judas Iscariot. He is a type of the antichrist, one of the inner circle. Jesus in choosing the twelve said, One of you is a devil. John 6:70 We could not ask for a more specific statement. Jesus also made known the fact that one of

them did not believe. Jesus knew who he was and what he would do. John 6:64 Lest we think that it would be very obvious who it was that would betray Jesus, consider the words of Peter in his initial sermon, on the day of Pentecost. He [Judas], was numbered with us. One who associated with the Lord Jesus and the other disciples, and was acknowledged by them as one of the brethren. Then he, obtained a part in this ministry. When Jesus sent them out two by two, he was a definite, positive part of all that took place. Miracles and healings do not always verify the veracity of an individual. Acts 1:17 Jesus warned us concerning false Christs and prophets, manifesting great signs and wonders. Mt. 24:24 The church needs to be on constant alert and discern that which is of the true Spirit and that which is not. The antichrist will originate from the midst of the greatest church of this dispensation, a perfect church. He and his will work great deception and havoc up to a certain point and then they will be separated from the true body of Christ.

IN AN AGE OF WAR, THERE WILL EVEN BE WAR IN HEAVEN. Michael (Who is like God), and certainly He is, for Michael is the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. This skirmish, will be a full fledged war resulting in the complete eradication of the great dragon, the devil, from the kingdom of the Lord. This action is triggered by the birth of the manchild, who immediately is caught up to the Lord, in heaven. Rev. 12:7-9 There is a special warning of that which is about to transpire on the earth now that the devil has been so solidly defeated, uprooted from his high position and cast down to the earth. He will be manifest in the person of the antichrist and the ungodly trio of the dragon, the false prophet and the antichrist will dominate the inhabitants of the earth. His spirit will be that of great wrath, for he knows the brevity of his time to rule on earth. His first attack will be against the woman of Revelation twelve. But she will be wondrously delivered from his attack. He will then turn against those who are Christians but did not measure up to the requirements necessary to be a part of the Bride and make war with them. Rev. 12:17 They are the tribulation saints who are seen before the throne, Rev. 7:14.

Monday, August 25, 2003 (60)

A FIRE WALKER. The liberties afforded this created being were complete. His high and lofty position and status in the presence of the

Lord is astonishing. Satan had walked up and down, had felt at ease, in the midst or the heart of the stones of fire. Both fire and stones create an interesting analogue here. Peter introduced us to the Living stone, the Lord Jesus Christ. This stone is repeatedly referred to in the scriptures and is a great and necessary theme, which we need to study and comprehend. 1 Pet. 2:4 Jesus is every thing to this spiritual building, from architect to builder. To the supplier of the materials used to the very material itself. He is the foundation and the capstone. Then Peter makes it even more interesting, by referring to the church as being constituted of lively stones. That which is to be built up and made to be the spiritual, eternal house of the Lord. 1 Pet. 2:5 There is also the possibility that these stones are the precious stones [Eze. 28:13] glittering and scintillating with the fiery light reflected from the glory of the Lord shining from the throne of the Lord. The whole scene of the throne of the Lord is majestic beyond description, and satan was an integral part of its beauty and splendor.

OUR GOD IS A CONSUMING FIRE. The very being and essence of the true and the living God, is fire. Harmful and destructive to His foes, but glorious and marvelous to His own. For our God is a consuming fire. Heb. 12:29 He is to become one who baptizes His followers with the Holy Ghost and fire. A good fire, one which warms the individual with the zeal of the Lord Himself. At the same time, its purpose is to consume the chaff, to sanctify and purify the one baptized. Luke 3:16-17 What a tremendous privilege granted those who believe on the Lord Jesus. It is His will that we all become stones of fire. Filled and unctionized by the power of the Spirit. He is desirous of His church being lively stones filled with the Holy Ghost and fire. Ezekiel saw the throne of fire and the being of fire and brightness or light who occupied it. Eze. 1:26 He likewise saw the four living creatures who were before the throne of the Lord. These men in whom the power and revelation of the Lord was seen. Their appearance was like burning, glowing coals of fire. There was a light or flaming torch which was extremely active, flashing up and down in their midst. Also there were flashes of lightening streaking out from them. Surely stones of fire. Satan associated with the leadership of the kingdom of the Lord. Not to be excluded from this thought is the fact that John saw a sea of glass, like crystal, mixed with fire, which was situated before the throne of the Lord. Once again the four living creatures are in attendance. A crystal is six sided and is a type of man. Therefore we

see the redeemed of all ages standing in worship and adoration before the throne of the Lord. Rev. 4:6 Our conclusion can only be that satan in his creation and placement in the kingdom was allotted an extremely high position and associated with the very elite of heaven. He was, and still is a being of great beauty and attractiveness.

Tuesday, August 26, 2003 (61)

REBEKAH WAS BARREN. This is a condition that is common in the scriptures to many of the women who are a type of the Bride. Through intercessory prayer by Isaac she was able to conceive and gave birth to twins. From the very beginning there is strong evidence of the competition that was to exist between them. They were anything but identical twins. Gen. 25:21 Even in the womb of Rebekah, these two were in conflict, fighting with one another, a situation that was to prevail in their life time and on into that of their descendants. Two nations to be born, diametrically opposite one to the other in almost every detail of their lives. The younger was to be the progenitor of the Godly line and would be stronger, prevailing in leadership and ruling. This however is not our objective at this particular time, though we may return to it in the future.

THE BARREN BECOME VERY FRUITFUL. A prophetically utterance pertaining to the Bride of Christ. She too, is seen as being childless as these others who were to become the mothers of races, though initially barren. As within them all, she is to become exceedingly fruitful. Though she had not born children she is destined to have more children than the woman who had been married and previously had children. She is instructed to sing and will most certainly produce sounds of joy and gladness for her deliverance from being barren. <u>Isa.</u> 54:1 The Apostle Paul affiliated this prophecy with the true church, the body of Christ. He termed it to be the Jerusalem which is from above, the free Jerusalem, the heavenly, the Spiritual, who is the mother of us all. That is all those who like Isaac are children of the promise. Gal. 4:26-28 There is a subtle meaning involved which goes beyond the new birth and is revealed in the birth of the man child. It is he to whom the reference is made concerning the fruitless becoming fruitful. Rev. 12:5

PHENOMENAL GROWTH. It is thrilling to hear of the expectation of the church in general speaking of revival in these last days. Look in the text books of yesteryear and you will find an entirely different teaching. The days of Noah doctrine, proclaiming that just a few would be saved in the end days. Contrariwise the Lord is saying, get ready, enlarge you tent. Prepare for a mighty move of the Spirit of the Lord, and a great influx into the church. <u>Isa. 54:1-3</u> The call of the Lord came to her in a time of great difficulty, where she felt abandoned and forlorn, but He has not forgotten and He will reveal Himself to His