

Prophetic impressions from the Mighty Men Conference

I had a spiritual experience about 15 years ago in which I saw the land of Israel as if I was looking at it from God's perspective. I saw Jerusalem as a focal point with hundreds of paths leading to it. It was just before Passover and all across Israel thousands of people were travelling to celebrate the feast at Jerusalem. It was as if I was feeling God's pleasure at seeing His people gathering unto Him and hearing the Songs of Ascent they were singing.

As we were on our way to Greytown for the Mighty Men Conference on Friday, we suddenly realised that it was two days before Passover and that we were fulfilling the ritual in the same way. We were part of the nation gathering together to celebrate a feast that reminds us about our deliverance from the bondage of sin. We were not singing the Songs of Ascent; we were talking about the miracle of Christ's life in us and the glory of allowing Him to live through us.

All around us other men were doing what we were doing – we were making a statement that we don't have the wisdom to live successfully. We were making a statement to our wives and children that we need God. As heads of our homes, owners of businesses, we made a statement that is difficult for men to make – we said we are in need. The supermarkets in the small towns were full of men. At the petrol stations it was clear who was on their way to Greytown. And we felt part of something greater – we felt part of God's ordained plan and we felt a new kind of unity that we are not accustomed to anymore.

The significance of Passover?

Angus was only made aware recently of the fact that the date he chose a year in advance was actually the Jewish Feast of Passover so this was not planned. The Feast of Passover was fulfilled by the events of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus to the very hour. The Lamb of God was crucified at the same moment as thousands of little lambs were slaughtered across Israel. The first feast day was followed by the Feast of Unleavened Bread. While Jesus was lying in the grave, the whole of Israel removed all leaven from their houses and ate unleavened bread for three days signifying their repentance from sin. The Feast culminated in the Feast of First Fruits that coincided exactly with the resurrection of Jesus from the dead as the first fruit of the massive harvest to come.

The messages Angus preached was to me significant of this Passover feast. Friday night his message was, "Consecrate yourselves for I want to do a mighty thing". On Saturday (Passover) he preached on the fear of the Lord and on the sin of pride. On Sunday he wanted to preach on "fulfilling your vision" but during their quiet time in the morning the Holy Spirit said to him, "Jesus is the vision, I want you to speak about Him." So he closed Sunday by speaking about Jesus – the fulfillment of our vision, the friendship of Jesus as the one thing we should seek and spending time with Him as the way to develop the friendship.

The NIRSA Consultation

Could it be significant that the NIRSA Consultation took place during the Feast of Unleavened Bread? Could it be that the Consultation was intended to signify a removal of leaven from our midst by the leaders of the church? Could it be that Father intended them to experience something of the resurrection power of Jesus? Is this the beginning of revival?

I had an amazing experience with Jesus on the Friday night during the worship. I started to cry like a baby and was overwhelmed with the sense that the revival had begun. Twenty four years ago, Jesus asked me to pray an hour a day for revival. I did it faithfully for a couple of months but it became hard after a while. One morning He said to me, "You are a bit ridiculous." I was quite offended because I was trying my best to be obedient! Then He said, "I want you to spend time with Me every day so that I can do a work in you to be ready when I give the revival you are asking for. The time and date has been set, it is you who needs the preparation of My presence." I felt on Friday night that I was experiencing the fulfillment of that promise and I was overwhelmed with gratitude.

Opening the bronze heavens over SA.

The other scene that came up in my spirit was that of John the Baptist preaching repentance in the desert. Someone asked me why this conference happened in the rural setting of the farm and not at a stadium in the city. I believe that we had to be desirous enough of the presence of the Lord to be willing to sacrifice house and comfort and endure some hardship to really make a statement of need. Like the Jews going to John we had to go to there.

I have read somewhere that John could have baptized hundreds of thousands of people coming from a relatively small geographical area who were convicted of sin and willing to make a public statement about it. He said, "I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." (Joh 1:31) The baptism that signified the repentance of thousands of people was the factor that opened the bronze heavens over Israel and allowed them to receive the ministry of Jesus.

At Shalom were 60 000 men who repented from sin and made a public statement about their need and it will be followed up by ten stadium events across the country this year with the same message and hopefully the same kind of repentance we saw on the weekend. Can it be that we are experiencing the same kind of drama that preceded the revival in Israel? In that scenario Angus could play the role of John the Baptist preaching repentance and the mass public confessions could be the beginning of the opening of the bronze heavens over this country. Can it be? I, for one believe it is possible.

Should we stay?

A segment of this country made a statement this week-end. More than 60% of them were Afrikaans and a great percentage was farmers. They are feeling the pinch. And they knew where to turn. The Spirit of the Lord is busy and I think during the next couple of years there will be a parallel worsening of the economic, political, moral and social condition in our country while we see people turning to Jesus as the solution.

It has been prophesied many times that the revival that will set Africa free from her bondage will start in the Southern tip and spread like fire from there. Revivals, like the one Jesus led usually happened when the social, economic and political fabric of the people came apart. We should expect this and look with the eye of faith to see the rise of the Kingdom so that we will be able to survive and open the way for others to come into the Kingdom and find the Light of Life in a dark time.

Mordecai sent this message to Esther when she wanted to run: For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance shall arise for the Jews (Africa?) from elsewhere, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows but that you

have come to the kingdom for such a time as this and for this very occasion? (Est 4:14) Jesus said, "Now My soul is troubled and distressed, and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour [of trial and agony]? But it was for this very purpose that I have come to this hour [that I might undergo it]. [Rather, I will say,] Father, glorify (honor and extol) Your [own] name! Then there came a voice out of heaven saying, I have already glorified it, and I will glorify it again. (Joh 12:27-28) AV