

Alleluia!

For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

Sunday, June 18, 2006

"I can't imagine anybody that's against Billy Graham." Lk. 6:26.
Heretic Graham – "How Great Thou Art" – hypocritical heresy.

"Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth."

"And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth." Rev. 19:6. Omnipotent (only here): absolute and universal sovereign.

The occasion for this glorious attribution of the eternal fate of every individual of mankind to the absolute sovereignty of God is seen in the immediate context. God has at long last commenced an everlasting course of punishment in avenging the blood of His servants at the hands of all their enemies – in the horrendous similitude of the Great Whore – and an everlasting course of blessing and rejoicing for his servants – under the joyous similitude of wedding festivities at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb and His Wife. Rev. 19:1-9. Vile Whore vs. Chaste Wife.

The thing that guarantees the everlasting bliss and glory of the righteous AND the everlasting misery of the wicked for their mistreatment of the righteous – is God's absolute sovereignty.

Indeed, the doctrine of the absolute sovereignty of God is – in its truest sense – the Gospel: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" Isa. 52:7-10.

Let men say among the nations, The Lord reigneth. 1 Chron. 16:31. God is a Great King of all the earth...sing praises with understanding: God reigneth over the heathen. Psalms 47:7-8. The Lord reigneth...Zion heard and was glad. Psalms 97:1.

All human history – rightly understood – is but a recitation of the glorious theme of a sovereign Captain leading a holy remnant to eternal happiness through a wilderness of earth-dwelling beasts bent upon the destruction of that remnant, which will eventuate in their everlasting doom. Certainly, such is the theme of Scripture.

Cyrus the Great

Carnal Israel – “Israel after the flesh” (1 Cor. 10:18) – is a metaphor for God’s elect – spiritual Israel, “the Israel of God” (Gal. 6:16). Often in Scripture, God’s dealings with carnal Israel symbolize and illustrate His dealings in a spiritual sense with spiritual Israel. For example, Jews have been amazingly separate and distinct from all other peoples though thoroughly dispersed and scattered throughout all nations for thousands of years.

The preservation of spiritual Israel – God’s elect – is marvelously depicted in God’s sovereign dealings with the heathen Persian King – Cyrus the Great – and the 70-year Babylonian captivity of the Jews which Cyrus brought to an end with split second timing when “the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus” to decisive action:

“Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord spoken by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the Lord God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? The Lord his God be with him, and let him go up.” 2 Chron. 36:22-23; & Ezra 1:1-4.

Cyrus was born to nobility but abandoned and brought up by humble shepherds. He read about himself in Isaiah’s prophecies where God called him by name and foretold his mission 200 years before he was born: “That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure; even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.” Isa. 44:21-28. “Thus saith the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him.” Isa. 45:1-17.

Britannica: “Cyrus was an outstanding soldier and statesman. He founded an empire that stretched from the Indus and Jaxartes to the Aegean and the borders of Egypt and left behind him a reputation for justice and clemency.”

God’s language addressed to Cyrus portrays God’s absolute sovereignty as it relates to the tender love for His elect and His resolute determination to see them safely through their earthly pilgrimage and ensconce them securely in the New Jerusalem – stirring up a thousand Cyruses to help them on the way.

America = Iraq = Babylon

Jeremiah 50 & 51 – 110 verses total – is one long prophecy concerning the horrific destruction of Babylon – expressed in language that accommodates the historical event under Cyrus (c. 535 B.C.) AND the imminent destruction of mystical Babylon of Rev. 17 – 19.

The holy language describing the destruction of Babylon rivals for fierceness that relating to the destruction of ancient Jerusalem – and is said to be God's vengeance and recompense for the way Babylon treated God's elect (Jer. 51:6) – and is said to last for ever and ever: "The violence done to me and to my flesh be upon Babylon, shall the inhabitant of Zion say; and my blood upon the inhabitants of Chaldea, shall Jerusalem say. Therefore thus saith the Lord; Behold, I will plead thy cause, and take vengeance for thee." Jer. 51:35.

Raising up Cyrus as the knowing intelligent agent whereby "the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God" destroyed Babylon and immediately thereupon returned His people to Jerusalem – for Babylon "refused to let them go" (Jer. 50:33) – illustrates how God is even now shaping all events whatsoever to bring about the everlasting doom of those who offend His people as He leads them triumphantly through all Babylon's obstacles – unerringly – to everlasting bliss in the New Jerusalem: "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Rev. 21:2.

Substitute "America" for "Babylon" and "Chaldea" wherever the context suggests the destruction of mystical Babylon is the subject. America = Iraq = Babylon. Rapidly unfolding events show that America intends to stay and effectively control Iraq for the indefinite future. E.g., a massive American embassy and staff in Baghdad, huge airstrips and military installations strategically located throughout Iraq, complete with streets, shopping centers, schools, municipal laws, automobile dealerships – the equivalent of medium-size American cities – and a permanent, substantial American military presence in Iraq and/or just outside Iraq (called, "redeploy-ment") where America already has military land, air and naval bases in such places as Kuwait, Dubai, UAE, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Israel.

There's a set time to favor Zion (Psa. 102:13) – a day certain – though of that day and hour knoweth no man nor angel. At that time Babylon will be destroyed with everlasting destruction, and God's elect will be safely ensconced in the New Jerusalem. Cyrus will see to that.