

The Gospel, 1844, and Judgment Lesson 9 3Q 2006

The Day – Year Principle

Any questions regarding this principle?

The picture is communicating in our language as we, in modern society have 365 days in a year, but in Bible prophecy and reckoning 1 year was 360 days.

We see in the lesson the Memory Text in which in that passage a day for a year is proscribed. How do we know this principle should be applied to the time periods in Daniel?

1. Daniel was distressed when he was told it would be 490 days until the end of the time for his people and the finishing of the problem with sin – if it was going to be less than 18 months away would he have been so distressed?
2. The prophecies are all in symbolic language, why would the time period be literal? (another reason why the sanctuary is symbolic of the Spirit Temple)
3. The application of the day-year principle works out perfectly

Why would God use symbols and symbolic language to start with? Why not just state things plainly the way they are so people can readily and easily understand?

1. language changes over time and a description today explicitly stated may mean something different years/millennia down the timeline. (Gay fellow means something different today than 90 years ago).
2. Symbols allow each person's imagination to explore aspects of the meaning that might be lost if explicitly stated – particularly when talking about attributes of God who is infinite
3. When a teacher teaches a pupil, is it wise merely to recite to the pupil the correct answers to problems? Or is it better to present unknowns with principles for the pupil to grapple with and learn how to work out the answers? Does God want us to be merely able to recite the right answers or does He want us to reason out the truth? Why? Because in reasoning for ourselves we are transformed and grow and become settled into the truth such we cannot be moved.

SABBATH

First paragraph – read – is it obvious that this temple referred to in Daniel which needs cleansing is in heaven? Why or why not?

SUNDAY

Bottom blue question "What evidence do you see that we are living in 'the end' that Daniel talked about?" Thoughts?

1. The 2300 day/year prophecy ended 1844
2. 1260 years prophecy ended 1798
3. Wars and rumors of wars
4. Love is growing cold
5. Disease and famine
6. Easier communication
7. Bible printed in many languages

What about "There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars." LUKE 21:25. "The sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory." MARK 13:24-26. "There was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon become as blood." REV. 6:12.

We have traditionally interpreted these events as the Lisbon earthquake of 1755, the dark day of May 19, 1780 and that night when the moon initially wasn't visible and then appeared as blood, which apparently affected the New England States of the US, and the great meteor shower of November 13, 1833 over North America.

Are these signs helpful for you? And if they occurred 250 years ago can we still call them "signs of the times"? Will they be repeated before Christ comes again?

The first, second, and third angels' messages are to be repeated. The call is to be given to the church: "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. . . . Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." {RH, October 31, 1899 par. 11}

Many who went forth to meet the Bridegroom under the messages of the first and second angels, refused the third, the last testing message to be given to the world, and a similar position will be taken when the last call is made. {RH, October 31, 1899 par. 12}

This afternoon in our Let's Talk we will explore more fully the aspects of the delay and why the delay has occurred and what we can do to hasten the day, but currently, did you notice, the message of the 3 angels is to be repeated? Why? Because the generation who first heard it is dead! The generation living on the earth today has not heard the message of the 3 angels. And who is the message directed toward? The church!

What about the signs in the heavens and earth? Well, the Lisbon earthquake was a 9.1 Richter scale quake, and guess what? The earthquake in the Indian Ocean which caused the tsunami which killed over 200,000 people was a 9.1 Richter scale quake. I wouldn't be surprised, that God being as gracious as He is wouldn't be willing to repeat the signs in the heaven and earth for the generation actually alive to see Him coming.

WEDNESDAY

In the middle italics section read – what do you think it means “Rome’s attack on Christ’s heavenly ministry”?

Did Rome go into heaven and do something in heaven? Did Rome do something which defiled the heavenly realms? No, so what is going on? What did Rome do? It promulgated a system which defiled the Spirit Temple, which darkened the mind, which distorted the truth about God, which caused superstition to rise, which displaced love and promote selfishness, which obscured the healing truth brought by Christ.

In the teacher's comments it says, “Daniel 7-9 predicts the course of history to the end of time when God will crush all earthly kingdoms, along with false religious systems. Before those final days dawn upon the earth, God's last time prophecy predicts the restoration of the sanctuary. That is the purpose of the 2300 days.”

Thoughts? How will God crush the earthly kingdoms and the false systems? How does God wage war? Christ said in Matthew 10:34 that He did not come to bring peace but a sword. 2 Cor 10:3-5, the weapons of God are not the weapons of the world... The Sword of the Spirit is the Word of God (Ephesians 6:17, Hebrews 4:12) God doesn't fight with might and power but by the Spirit (Zech 4:6).

So how does God destroy these powers? By presenting the truth, which restores trust and then the HS comes in and cleanses the heart and minds of those who trust – His Temple, the cleansing of the Sanctuary and thus the powers of darkness are defeated and then Christ comes and takes us to be with Him.

ISA 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven,
O morning star, son of the dawn!
You have been cast down to the earth,
you who once laid low the nations!

ISA 14:13 You said in your heart,
"I will ascend to heaven;
I will raise my throne
above the stars of God;
I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly,
on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain.

ISA 14:14 I will ascend above the tops of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High."

ISA 14:15 But you are brought down to the grave,
to the depths of the pit.

ISA 14:16 Those who see you stare at you,
they ponder your fate:
"Is this the man who shook the earth
and made kingdoms tremble,

ISA 14:17 the man who made the world a desert,
who overthrew its cities
and would not let his captives go home?"

THURSDAY

Teacher's comments asks, "According to the prophecies, we are in the last phases of earth's history. Time is running out. And still we are lukewarm and laid back. We are content to sit back, relax and wait for the Second Coming. Knowing our place in time, through Daniel's prophecy, shouldn't we utilize every moment we have? Why aren't we on fire, making use of our short time?"

Thoughts? What can we do to spread the truth to prepare the world for Christ's coming?

In the teachers comments it talks about Einstein's theory of relativity. The relationship between speed, time and gravity as either time or gravity increases then time slows down. So if you have two people one on earth and the other traveling near the speed of light, while years go by on earth

it would be mere seconds for the person traveling at the speed of light. Also, as gravity increases, then time slows down, so a few minutes near a black hole would be many years here on earth. What significance is this for our understanding of spiritual things? God is not locked in time like we are. When Peter said with the Lord a day is like a 1000 years, he might have been speaking more than metaphorical.