



AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

November 8, 2017 Part 12 Pastor Grant Williams

We have studied during this series that the Flood was restrained from coming until certain things happened, just like Jesus will not return or is restrained from returning until some “things” happen. At the return of Christ, these same “things” that prevented the Flood from coming until it happened are seen in a pattern that must happen before the return of Jesus Christ.

Ecclesiastes 1:9-10 KJV

9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

10 Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.

The first **thing** we studied was the **Fullness Of Time**, meaning certain **things** have to take place that have been foretold before judgment comes.

This was true in the Days of Noah prior to the Flood or judgment by water, certain **things** had to take place. There are **things** in God's Word that were foretold that must take place prior to the Rapture and the judgment by fire as well.

The second **thing** or **sign** that we studied that needs to take place is the **Fullness of Iniquity**. That pertains to the one world religion which is the apostate Christian religion that will be led by the False Prophet or Great Whore.

Last week we finished with looking at another **thing** or **sign** that has to be full after the **Fullness of Time**, and the **Fullness of Iniquity**, and that is the **Gospel Must Be Preached**.

The next **thing** or **sign** that is withholding or restraining Christ's return is the: **The right amount or correct number of people have to be in the Kingdom**.

Romans 11:25 KJV

25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

Romans 11:25 AMPC

25 Lest you be self-opinionated (wise in your own conceits), I do not want you to miss this hidden truth and mystery, brethren: a hardening (insensibility) has [temporarily] befallen a part of Israel [to last] until the full number of the ingathering of the Gentiles has come in,

What does the phrase, “*until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.*” referring to in Romans 11:25 mean? Below, I’ve given you the break down from several different commentaries regarding this portion of the passage in Romans 11:25.

Romans 11:25 KJV

25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, **until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.**

“Until the abundance or the great multitude of the gentiles shall be converted.”

- Barnes’ Notes

Romans 11:25 KJV

25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, **until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.**

“And this blindness will continue until the church of the Gentiles be fully completed-till the gospel be preached through all the nations of the earth, and multitudes of heathens every where embrace the faith.”

- Adam Clarkes Commentary

Romans 11:25 KJV

25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, **until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.**

“Until the Gentiles have had their full time of the visible Church all to themselves.”

- Jameson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary

I love what the Wycliffe Bible commentary has to say...

Romans 11:25 KJV

25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, **until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.**

“Till the full number of the Gentiles comes in.”

- Wycliffe Bible Commentary

This passage, it appears to me is saying that there is a certain set number of people that God knows will accept Him before the Rapture of the Church. This is not predestination, but rather, God knows the ending from the beginning and who will accept Him and when. So when that number of people becomes full then the “gathering together” takes place.

Ephesians 1:9-10 KJV

9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

*10 That in the dispensation of the **fulness of times** he might **gather together** in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:*

Note: Following the Rapture of the Church, the signing of the 7 year peace treaty takes place which begins the seven year Tribulation.

At the time of Noah there were eight people who decided to “***come out from among them***” (2 Corinthians 6:17) and “***gather together***” at the time of Noah.

Genesis 8:15-16 KJV

15 And God spake unto Noah, saying,

16 Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons (Shem, Ham and Japheth), and thy sons' wives with thee.

At the time of Lot there were four people who decided to come out from among them, Lot, his two daughters and his wife. But, his wife turned back, back slid or chose not to be gathered together with them. She chose to separate herself from God’s protection.

Genesis 19:16 KJV

16 And while he (Lot) lingered, the men (angels) laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the Lord being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.

Genesis 19:26 KJV

26 But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

Where was Sodom and Gomorrah?



Archaeologists believe that the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah lie underneath the southern end of the Dead Sea. There are several reasons for this conclusion. The Bible refers to the “cities of the plain”, which included Sodom, Gomorrah, Zoar, Zebolim, and Admah. The Bible mentions the kings of these cities joined forces to battle a coalition of Mesopotamian kings and that they were located in the Valley of Siddim or Salt Sea (which clearly refers to the Dead Sea).

The Bible also notes that Abraham was camped at Mamre (near Hebron) and that he looked out and saw the smoke and ruins of the smoldering cities. In the present day, a person atop Mamre would have a direct view towards the Dead Sea.

In addition, the depth of the Dead Sea on its southern end is much shallower than the northern end. This indicates a more recent formation. And finally, Zoar (where Lot asked to flee to) is on the southern end of the Dead Sea. Archaeologists have found evidence of settlements on the southern end of the Dead Sea related to Sodom or Gomorrah.

The fate of Sodom and Gomorrah is used as a warning to those who reject the gospel...

Matthew 10:15 KJV

15 Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment, than for that city.

Matthew 11:24 GNT

24 You can be sure that on the Judgment Day God will show more mercy to Sodom than to you!”

2 Peter 2:6 AMPC

6 And He condemned to ruin and extinction the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, reducing them to ashes [and thus] set them forth as an example to those who would be ungodly;

Jude 1:7 AMPC

7 [The wicked are sentenced to suffer] just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the adjacent towns—which likewise gave themselves over to impurity and indulged in unnatural vice and sensual perversity—are laid out [in plain sight] as an exhibit of perpetual punishment [to warn] of everlasting fire.

Sodom is used in a typical sense in Revelation 11:8.

Revelation 11:8 KJV

8 And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

So, there is a certain set number that God is waiting for that He knows that will accept Him prior to the Rapture and He also knows those who will accept Him during the Tribulation but not until then.

Now, I want to share with you some information that I believe is very important that we understand today that was handed down in the Days of Noah from different historical sources.

Throughout history (in cycles) up until the time of Noah there have been many times when many righteous people died in close proximity regarding time prior to destruction. After the days of Noah this has happened as well and we know through the pattern of the Bible that this will happen at the Time of The End as well. Righteous leaders, preachers of the gospel will die in greater numbers as we get closer to the time of destruction.

Jasher 5:5-6

5 And all who followed the Lord died in those days, **before they saw the evil** which God declared to do upon earth.

6 And after the lapse of many years, in the four hundred and eightieth year of the life of Noah, **when all those men, who followed the Lord had died away from amongst the sons of men,** and only Methuselah was then left...

God left one voice from the early generations that knew Adam which was Methuselah up until the destruction by the Flood and all the other righteous people died - only eight people believed.

In the book of Jasher, he gives an account of the twelve sons of Jacob and when they died. Then the wicked pharaoh rose up...

The Sons of Jacob

When they died after Israel Came Into Egypt

Zebulun	in the 72nd year	Issachar	in the 81st year
Simeon	in the 75th year	Asher	in the 82nd year
Reuben	in the 79th year	Gad	in the 83rd year
Dan	in the 80th year	Levi	in the 93rd year

Jasher 63:2

2 And it came to pass after the death of Levi, when all Egypt saw that the sons of Jacob the brethren of Joseph were dead, all the Egyptians began to afflict the children of Jacob, and to embitter their lives...

This historical account written in Jasher is also confirmed in Exodus...

Exodus 1:6-8 KJV

6 And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation.

7 And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

8 Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.

When all 12 tribes died, something shifted and the pharaoh, which is a picture of the antichrist comes to power. This is the spirit of bondage.

Judges 2:10 KJV

10 And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.

This is another example: you have Moses, Joshua and the Elders and then suddenly you come to a generation after the righteous die, they begin to backslide or turn away from the faith of their forefathers.

Let's go back at the time of Jesus Christ in the New Testament with the 12 disciples...after Judas was replaced.

Acts 1:1-26 AMPC

1 In the former account [which I prepared], O Theophilus, I made [a continuous report] dealing with all the things which Jesus began to do and to teach

2 Until the day when He ascended, after He through the Holy Spirit had instructed and commanded the apostles (special messengers) whom He had chosen.

3 To them also He showed Himself alive after His passion (His suffering in the garden and on the cross) by [a series of] many convincing demonstrations [unquestionable evidences and infallible proofs], appearing to them during forty days and talking [to them] about the things of the kingdom of God.

4 And while being in their company and eating with them, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for what the Father had promised, Of which [He said] you have heard Me speak.

5 For John baptized with water, but not many days from now you shall be baptized with (placed in, introduced into) the Holy Spirit.

6 So when they were assembled, they asked Him, Lord, is this the time when You will reestablish the kingdom and restore it to Israel?

7 He said to them, It is not for you to become acquainted with and know what time brings [the things and events of time and their definite periods] or fixed years and seasons (their critical niche in time), which the Father has appointed (fixed and reserved) by His own choice and authority and personal power.

8 *But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends (the very bounds) of the earth.*

9 *And when He had said this, even as they were looking [at Him], He was caught up, and a cloud received and carried Him away out of their sight.*

10 *And while they were gazing intently into heaven as He went, behold, two men [dressed] in white robes suddenly stood beside them,*

11 *Who said, Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing into heaven? This same Jesus, Who was caught away and lifted up from among you into heaven, will return in [just] the same way in which you saw Him go into heaven.*

12 *Then [the disciples] went back to Jerusalem from the hill called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, [only] a Sabbath day's journey (three-quarters of a mile) away.*

13 *And when they had entered [the city], they mounted [the stairs] to the upper room where they were [indefinitely] staying —Peter and John and James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas [son] of James.*

14 *All of these with their minds in full agreement devoted themselves steadfastly to prayer, [waiting together] with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.*

15 *Now on one of those days Peter arose among the brethren, the whole number of whom gathered together was about a hundred and twenty.*

16 Brethren, he said, it was necessary that the Scripture be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit foretold by the lips of David, about Judas who acted as guide to those who arrested Jesus.

17 For he was counted among us and received [by divine allotment] his portion in this ministry.

18 Now this man obtained a piece of land with the [money paid him as a] reward for his treachery and wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle [of his body] and all his intestines poured forth.

19 And all the residents of Jerusalem became acquainted with the facts, so that they called the piece of land in their own dialect—Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.

20 For in the book of Psalms it is written, Let his place of residence become deserted and gloomy, and let there be no one to live in it; and [again], Let another take his position or overseership.

21 So one of the [other] men who have accompanied us [apostles] during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,

22 From the baptism of John at the outset until the day when He was taken up from among us—one of these men must join with us and become a witness to testify to His resurrection.

23 And they accordingly proposed (nominated) two men, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

24 And they prayed and said, You, Lord, Who know all hearts (their thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, purposes, and endeavors), indicate to us which one of these two You have chosen

25 To take the place in this ministry and receive the position of an apostle, from which Judas fell away and went astray to go [where he belonged] to his own [proper] place.

26 And they drew lots [between the two], and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to and counted with the eleven apostles (special messengers).

By 69 A.D., just before the destruction of the Temple most of the disciples had been martyred. For instance James died in 44 A.D.

Acts 12:1-2 AMPC

1 About that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to afflict and oppress and torment some who belonged to the church (assembly).

2 And he killed James the brother of John with a sword;

All of the disciples except two died up until the time of the destruction of the Temple. In the early life of the N.T. Church, you have the apostles die and only John and possibly one more still living, that is when destruction came to Jerusalem. God didn't allow destruction to come as long as the apostles were in the city, preaching the gospel and winning souls. When they started to die, things began to shift, the Christians began to leave in 66 A.D. and the destruction was in 70 A.D.

There is a link between Godly, righteous people living and preaching the true gospel of repentance and then suddenly a cycle happens where most are taken away prior to destruction with only a remnant left. Why are they taken away ? This is what God's Word says...

Isaiah 57:1 AMPC

1 The righteous man perishes, and no one lays it to heart; and merciful and devout men are taken away, with no one considering that the uncompromisingly upright and godly person is taken away from the calamity and evil to come [even through wickedness].

Isaiah 57:1 KJV

1 The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come.

Why does God take them away? So they won't see the evil that will fall or come upon the earth in it's fullness. This is also a great passage about the coming of the Lord, the righteous are taken away, or caught up together to prevent them from seeing the evil. This is a pre tribulation verse as well....

But, let's go back to the original intent. There is a generation of righteous people being taken away that I believe that are so Godly that they couldn't take what is happening **in the Church**, the fullness of iniquity, the apostasy. Their hearts would literally break if they saw what is happening and going to happen in the earth and especially in the Church.

My grandfather and father, if they were alive today, wouldn't even be able to sleep if they saw the wickedness of what is happening within the government. From the immoral legislation and laws that have been implemented by former administrations in this nation that was founded on God's Word.

From self professing Christians who are in positions of authority in media, government, education, entertainment, science etc, who are truly vile, godless, and they sin openly regarding what is considered an abomination by God with no repentance.

Then you have the iniquity that is happening in the Church, the divisions that continue to happen over what is truth, what is relevant, what is culturally acceptable, it is not a stretch to see how the heart has and will become faint and weary.

But, there is a generation that must see these “*things*” or “*signs*” take place. There must be a Godly remnant that will live in the time of iniquity that will rise up to pray, fast, have revival, win souls, preach the truth up until the time of the Rapture of the Church when Christ is going to return.

John 17:14-15 KJV

14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

John 17:14-15 AMPC

14 I have given and delivered to them Your word (message) and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world [do not belong to the world], just as I am not of the world.

15 I do not ask that You will take them out of the world, but that You will keep and protect them from the evil one.

Revelation 3:10 AMPC

10 Because you have guarded and kept My word of patient endurance [have held fast the lesson of My patience with the expectant endurance that I give you], I also will keep you [safe] from the hour of trial (testing) which is coming on the whole world to try those who dwell upon the earth.

There is a generation that God will preserve and keep as evil spreads, drunkenness in the Church increases, false teaching in the Church abounds, a form of godliness but denying the power is the norm, not changing but staying in a sinful lifestyle is considered God's grace. This remnant generation will preach, teach and live up until the Rapture of the Church without compromise and will be hated.

God will prosper that uncompromising remnant generation for His plan and His purposes. He is asking you and I to stay with the Word, read the Word, be obedient to the Word because there isn't much time left before He comes.

It can be disheartening when the Lord calls Godly people home. God may even separate you for a season to a new place to be that remnant and it can be difficult, but He will always raise people up and call people home because there is a specific number of people that needs to be in the "ark of protection" and a remnant that remains until the end.

In the New Testament, Herodias asked for the head of John the Baptist on a platter thinking she stopped the remnant, but God, and only God raised up one more - Jesus Christ.

Matthew 14:8 AMPC

8 And she, being put forward and prompted by her mother, said, Give me the head of John the Baptist right here on a platter.

Jesus Christ takes John's disciples (the remnant) with Him and carries on the ministry. He preaches the same message that John The Baptist preached found here in Matthew 3.

Matthew 3:2 AMPC

*2 And saying, **Repent (think differently; change your mind, regretting your sins and changing your conduct), for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.***

Then Jesus after fasting for 40 days, having the entire world offered to Him by satan, tempting Him to do a different plan, after He found out about the news of John The Baptist...

Matthew 4:12-17 AMPC

*12 Now **when Jesus heard that John had been arrested and put in prison, He withdrew into Galilee.***

13 And leaving Nazareth, He went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the country of Zebulun and Naphtali—

14 That what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be brought to pass:

15 The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, in the [a]way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles [of the peoples who are not of Israel]

16 The people who sat (dwelt enveloped) in darkness have seen a great Light, and for those who sat in the land and shadow of death Light has dawned.

17 From that time Jesus began to preach, crying out, Repent (change your mind for the better, heartily amend your ways, with abhorrence of your past sins), for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

In the time of the teacher from the church in Thyatira in Revelation 2:18-29... She was giving false words over people trying to make herself look like a prophetess. She was doing things contrary to God's Word so God said don't worry about it, I will deal with her and her spiritual children and the Church will keep going. How will it keep going? Because of the remnant. Read what Paul wrote referring back to the time when King Ahab and Queen Jezebel were killing off the prophets...

Romans 11:3-5 AMPC

3 Lord, they have killed Your prophets; they have demolished Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.

4 But what is God's reply to him? I have kept for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal!

*5 So too **at the present time there is a remnant** (a small believing minority), selected (chosen) by grace (by God's unmerited favor and graciousness).*

You and I are not alone. Sometime we may feel like it because others have left the faith. They have listened to a false teacher, life's worries have over taken them, they lost hope... but there is still a Remnant. Great men and women of the faith may have been called home but you and I are still here, we are the remnant!

Remnant means: what remains when the others have left.