

Kingdom of God Preparation

Preparation gives us the opportunity to utilize the promise that the LORD has invested in us. Speaking of opportunity in the Kingdom of God, this, too, is on a sure foundation. It is also a long-standing and proven foundation, which we revere as being ancient of days. For, opportunity for mankind, in the Kingdom of God, was made evident in the Beginning: *the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden.*

These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.

The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.

And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.

And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria.

And the fourth river is Euphrates.

And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

(Genesis 2:4-15)

Even after the incident of Adam, opportunity was re-placed for mankind (and it is ever available to us as we move in the Kingdom of God). Its re-placement is expressed thusly: *seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.*

*And God spake unto Noah, saying,
Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives
with thee. Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all
flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth
upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be
fruitful, and multiply upon the earth.*

*And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with
him: Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever
creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark.*

*And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean
beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.*

*And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I
will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the
imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again
smite any more every thing living, as I have done.*

*While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat,
and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.*

(Genesis 8:15-22)

By way of Scripture, the LORD declares the means of everlasting opportunity, in the Kingdom of God. Okay, it would be more appropriate to say that the LORD directed one of His friends to declares it, as follows:

*Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments,
which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess
the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you. Ye shall not add
unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from
it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I
command you.*

*Your eyes have seen what the LORD did because of Baalpeor: for all
the men that followed Baalpeor, the LORD thy God hath destroyed them
from among you. But ye that did cleave unto the LORD your God are
alive every one of you this day.*

(Deuteronomy 4:1-4)

Also, at that time, the LORD gave us an introduction to our part in securing opportunity in the Kingdom of God. At that time, the ambassador of the LORD, Moses, told us about the first phases of preparation that God has done for us.

*Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my
God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to
possess it. Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your*

understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.

For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for? And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

(Deuteronomy 4:5-8)

Also, at that time, the ambassador of the LORD, Moses, spoke of the preparation that we must do, in the Kingdom of God. This is preparation that equips us to move beyond the beginning. It is, though, only the stepping off point for a long string of preparations that we need to do, which will be needed for various situations we will face.

Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons; Specially the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in Horeb, when the LORD said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children.

(Deuteronomy 4:9-10)

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Individuals are not the only category of things of Creation that have promise that they need to utilize. Thus, individuals are not the only category of Creation that needs to concentrate on preparation for service. Groups--such as, nations--also have opportunity in the Kingdom of God. One of the chosen rulers of one of the worlds of the kingdom of man was introduced to a most potent flow of national opportunity. It is a flow that begins at the time when the power of the example that is in the redeemed congregation of Israel was put on hold by the LORD. The flow spans forward from that time, all the way up to the Living Transition's ministry of re-ordering existence, in the new world of the New Age. The introduction to it is mystical; in the form of dark speeches.

*Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation.*

*The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof?*

*Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, show unto the king; But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these; As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass. But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.*

*Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible.*

*This image's head was of fine gold,  
his breast and his arms of silver,  
his belly and his thighs of brass,*

*His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.*

*Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.*

*This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.*

(Daniel 2:25-36)

The next part of the revelation is a clearer sort of prophecy. It moves up from dark speech, to the point of being the bearer of advance warnings about things to come. This is the clearer revelation that would become obvious history. This is the collection of events that is recorded in the books of the kingdom of man, as past annals of nation preparation, spawning the birth of empires.

*Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold.*

*And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee,*

*and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth.*

*And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.*

*And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.*

(Daniel 2:37-43)

Then, after the prophet Daniel gives us a clear and measurable set of events, he again returns to dark speech. You might wonder why there was a switch. Why give us clarity? Well, in the way of prophecy, a portion of clarity is required. It is as the LORD told the children of Israel . . .

*And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken?*

*When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.*

(Deuteronomy 18:21-22)

So, once the proof text was given, the dark speech continued. It tells us of a mystery that would not be revealed until the time of the New Age. This, too, is preparation that is for the purpose of national birth and growth, up to the spawning of empires.

*And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.*

(Daniel 2:44-45)

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Opportunity flows in reality; proceeding from a time that is shortly after birth, to a time that is just beyond physical life. This is true, as well, for very large groups, as we have seen for nations and empires. But it is also true for even larger chunks of reality, such as, groups of time, known as Ages. Setting these groups in order is too a part of the preparation of the kingdom of man, and, too, of its various members. These entities of reality must be equipped for their assignments in the Kingdom of God. To illustrate this, God described the time of the death of an Age.

For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low: And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan, And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up, And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall, And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures. And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols he shall utterly abolish.

And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.

In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.

(Isaiah 2:12-21)

Through the prophet Daniel, the LORD revealed the associated earth-based events that would herald the death of the Age that was brought to an end by *the day of the LORD of hosts*. We now refer to that Age as, the Old Testament times.

I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three

fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

Thus he said,

The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

(Daniel 7:16-25)

Now, please understand that death is not a permanent cessation of Promise, in the Kingdom of God. After any death in the Kingdom of God, there is a new birth. The LORD described how this works in the death of the Old Testament Age, leading into the birth of the New Age. Daniel described this in his prophecy of the beginning of the New Age.

But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

(Daniel 7:26-27)

To augment Daniel's description, and identify it in history; a scribe of the New Age described the activation of Promise, in the New Age.

Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

(Revelation 3:11-12)

In the Old Testament Age, up to its death, the promises of the Kingdom of God are faithful and true. Oh, you ask, "What gives me the right (logically) to speak of the death of the Old Testament Age"? In answer to you, I borrow from the wisdom of Paul. First, Paul reviews the life of the Old Testament Age, and the power of the Old Covenant.

Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the showbread; which is called the sanctuary. And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly.

Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God.

(Hebrews 9:1-6)

Next, the apostle Paul tells us why Creation needed a change of Age.

But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people: The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.

(Hebrews 9:7-10)

Then, as a capstone to our faith, and as an open declaration of the key reason that we are required to be prepared for service, the apostle Paul introduces us to the newly released Age: the New Age of *the new testament*. This is the seat of our greatest promise in the Kingdom of God. This, the New Age, is the key reason we must prepare our self. The New Age is the child that was born into reality for mankind to nurture to maturity.

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer

sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.

(Hebrews 9:11-16)

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As we move beyond death, Promise still flows, in a continuum. On a national level, we see this in the continuous environment of the lands of the Bible. The environment's continuity is as the LORD declared. The environment's continuity is a continuity of components, not necessarily a continuity of behavior. The winds will blow, and our relationship with the continuity will change. Thus, in that continuous environment, the components of the environment will experience change. For instance, the nations will be put under stresses that require them to reenter a state of preparation.

It is not sufficient for the components that exist in the various spaces of reality to become settled in the notion that they will always be in a state of readiness. For, they (and we) do not know when the LORD will perform a reset of our environment, toward the end of moving us to the next level. In the following Scripture, we see how three geographical areas of the Old Testament Age had to be continually ready to prepare themselves anew.

*In that day shall there be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar at the border thereof to the LORD. And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt: for they shall cry unto the LORD because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them. And the LORD shall be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians shall know the LORD in that day, and shall do sacrifice and oblation; yea, they shall vow a vow unto the LORD, and perform it. And the LORD shall smite Egypt: he shall smite and heal it: and they shall return even to the LORD, and he shall be entreated of them, and shall heal them.*

*In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians.*

