

# Collateral Damage and the Heart of God

## Part Six

(Base of the Base)

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### Meditating on the Bible

#### Isaiah 11:9-13

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim.

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Prior to the settling of the New Age pioneers of the teaching ministry of faith, there are twenty four other pioneers that need our attention. Scripture describes these pioneers as being integral to the structure upon which we will all depend, in the Spirit. This is the awesome way that these twenty four pioneers are described.

*And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;*

*And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:*

*On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.*

*And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.*

(Revelation 21:10-14)

These all rest on the construction that is the body of this Heavenly Pioneer.

*But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*

*For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.*

*And again, I will put my trust in him.*

*And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me.*

(Hebrews 2:9-13)

In the books of the Bible, the lives of the twenty-four pioneers are presented for our edification. This is why we say that; both of the Testaments--Old and New--are essential to our development in the LORD. They are essential as additions to our store of wisdom; for us to understand that, the world is made up of the good things, and the, so called, bad things, of the earth. Our perception of endurance is the way we categorize those things.

Endurance is at the center of what we must do in the world, and of what we must accept in the world. We must do our part in enduring; and, too, we must do our part to assist others in their endurance. Lamentation has a very short useful life: its main purpose is to drive us to seek the LORD. This is a foundational principle that we received from the base of the teaching ministry. In the matter of endurance and teaching, I am reminded of this event of the life of king David.

*And when king David came to Bahurim, behold, thence came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera: he came forth, and cursed still as he came. And he cast stones at David, and at all the servants of king David: and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.*

*And thus said Shimei when he cursed, Come out, come out, thou bloody man, and thou man of Belial: The LORD hath returned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and the LORD hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son: and, behold, thou art taken in thy mischief, because thou art a bloody man.*

*Then said Abishai the son of Zeruiah unto the king, Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? let me go over, I pray thee, and take off his head.*

(2 Samuel 16:5-9)

The response of king David is one that we should, all, take to heart. In the response, David converts a potentially lamentable situation, into a reason to draw nigh to God.

*And the king said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah? so let him curse, because the LORD hath said unto him, Curse David. Who shall then say, Wherefore hast thou done so?*

*And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants, Behold, my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life: how much more now may this Benjamite do it? let him alone, and let him curse; for the LORD hath bidden him. It may be that the LORD will look on mine affliction, and that the LORD will requite me good for his cursing this day.*

(2 Samuel 16:10-12)

This tells us that, portions of the base of our teaching ministry experienced damage. In David's case--as being in the Judah *gates* of the *twelve angels* of the New Covenant--it was damage to his ability to reach out to the world, as through his reputation. There will be times, when we, too, have chunks of our reputation damaged by life, or, even, totally removed, as by failure. We must endure through those times. To do that, we need to stretch out on the LORD, with the help of lessons from the lives, and ministries, of the teaching pioneers that God has provided to drive us to Him. Oh, let me step aside, and let one of the pioneers tell you how to do that.

*Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.*

(2 Timothy 2:14-16)

Yes, it can become wearisome, to try to continually absorb the things of Scripture. This sort of thing was even burdensome for the wisest man of record, of his day.

*And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs. The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth.*

*The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd. And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.*

(Ecclesiastes 12:9-12)

Remember, though; we are not doing this in a vacuum. As we release our self to God, we will feel the presence of the Comforter that Christ described. Even so; this does not eliminate our personality. If that was the case; then, we would have no need for Scripture such as the following one.

*In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit.*  
(1 Thessalonians 5:18-19)

*Quench not the Spirit:* that is a powerful statement, in that; it seems to indicate that, we can overrule God. Do not get too far ahead of your self; no, you cannot overrule God. What happens is that; you are allowed to walk in a path that is tangential to the way of the LORD, but not totally in it. This is one of the ways that God uses, to allow us to learn from the pioneers--Old Testament and New Testament.

Be careful: the tangential is also open to the possibility that, we will substitute some of the more modern pseudo-pioneers, as put in the place of the true base of the teaching ministry. These are the ones that take advantage of our difficult situations; situations such as, this one.

*When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.*

*And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.*

(Matthew 24:15-22)

The difficult time of Matthew 24:15-22 is an image of the category of situations for which, we must have a goodly measure of outside intervention. The most commonly accepted source of that intervention is this: the one that originated the process that must be mastered.

In most cases, the most highly accepted intervention comes from the original pioneer of the process. At such times, beware of imitation pioneers--ones that masquerade as, so called, subject matter experts. In the walk with the LORD, as in the way of Christ; among those experts / pioneers are these ones.

*Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it*

*not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.*

(Matthew 24:23-24)

Such ones try to persuade you that, they are the base of wisdom. As a portion of our weight of service to God, we must keep our spirit open to such variants; even, as they try to interfere with the flow of grace that the true base of wisdom set in motion, as it was described, here.

*Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.*

*For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.*

(Matthew 5:17-20)

We have to both, learn of them (both the pioneers and the pretenders), and, learn from them. There are nuggets of wisdom in both populations. In the case of the pioneers that are of the Old Testament and New Testament, we already have the LORD'S certification of their wise contribution.

*But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

(2 Timothy 3:14-17)

For the pretenders, we have to gauge their contribution, as through the testing of their words, as set against the words and life actions of the original pioneers. That is done in this fashion.

*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*

*Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that*

*Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.*

(1 John 4:1-3)

So, how long does this learning thing have to go on?

The short answer is: as long as we are alive.

Yes, it does end after death, and the principles will all fall into place, then.

As you enter that time, the following Scripture activates:

*Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.*

*When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.*

(1 Corinthians 13:8-12)

But, before that time comes, we have to do some critical analysis; right here, and, right now. In your beginning of devotion to the LORD, my advice is this: set your sights on the teaching ministries that the Spirit introduces to you; not, the ones that solicit your involvement. How do you detect these ones? The beginning of that understanding is contained in this Scripture, here.

*Now therefore, what have I here, saith the LORD, that my people is taken away for nought? they that rule over them make them to howl, saith the LORD; and my name continually every day is blasphemed. Therefore my people shall know my name: therefore they shall know in that day that I am he that doth speak: behold, it is I. How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!*

*Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.*

*Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD. For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for the LORD will go before you; and the God of Israel will be your rereward.*

(Isaiah 52:5-12)

. . . And, in this one . . .

*Thus saith the LORD; Though they be quiet, and likewise many, yet thus shall they be cut down, when he shall pass through. Though I have afflicted thee, I will afflict thee no more. For now will I break his yoke from off thee, and will burst thy bonds in sunder. And the LORD hath given a commandment concerning thee, that no more of thy name be sown: out of the house of thy gods will I cut off the graven image and the molten image: I will make thy grave; for thou art vile.*

*Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.*

(Nahum 1:12-15)

. . . And, too, in this one . . . as found in the New Age representations of the grace of God . . .

*For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.  
How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?  
and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?  
and how shall they hear without a preacher?  
And how shall they preach, except they be sent?  
as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!  
But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?*

*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

(Romans 10:13-17)

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**Next In**  
**Collateral Damage and**  
**The Heart of God**  
(Spreading the Base)

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