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Signs of the approaching harvest



"And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe," Revelation 14:15.

My mind turned to this verse when I recently saw the increasing number of statements from government sources regarding 'vaccination passports'. One such headline said: "Covid: Vaccine passport talks ongoing with foreign nations as hopes rise for domestic holidays".

These headlines give us some idea just where society is heading. Business men are already trying to introduce it for new employees. "UK companies look to make Covid-19 vaccinations mandatory".

As I considered these and many other variations of the same theme, one saying one thing and another contradicting it and saying the opposite - all designed to confuse and bring in surreptitiously a system that would discriminate against any who for conscience sake refuse the present vaccinations on offer.

I have no sympathy with the foolish notions put forth by silly people regarding the matter of the Covid-19 vaccines, stating that they would change one's DNA, implant a 'micro chip' and other rather ludicrous ideas. I have absolutely no doubt that such ideas are of the devil to bring ridicule upon those who for moral, ethical and Biblical reasons refuse the present vaccinations on offer.

There are many statements and articles countering such claims as those put forth by' the anti-vaccination' advocates. However, there is little or no attempt to counter the arguments of those who oppose the present Covid-19 vaccinations that the government is providing on the grounds that their manufacture involved the use of the cells of an aborted baby. Such objectors are not against vaccinations per se. They are against abortion and refuse a vaccination that made use of the cells of a murdered child, no matter how long ago the abortion took place.

Their views have not been challenged because aborted baby cells have been used in the manufacture of the main vaccinations offered to the populace. There are vaccinations which were not manufactured by such a method. They are ethical and many Christians are requesting the government to make such available. **See here.**

The of pressure that seems to be rising, demanding that there be compulsory inoculation under threat of no employment, no travel, no entrance to shops etc, be allowed without it, reminded me of the verse at the beginning of this article.

The verse clearly shows that there is a harvest coming to this earth. It is the harvest of the evil planting of the devil since the dawn of mankind's history. It is said of the devil: "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning," 1 John 3:8. This indicates who is the the author of sin. It is the devil. The parable of the 'wheat and tares', as told by the Saviour, endorses this truth. After He taught the parable, He explained it to his disciples. "The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; the enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world (age); and the reapers are the angels," Matthew 13:38-39.

At this very time that harvest is ever ripening and nearing its fulness! We may look around us and see the evil planting of the devil proliferating everywhere!

As one may go into a field in the summer that is planted with grain and see in embryo what will be there in the harvest-time. The seeds are yet small and green yet they clearly show us something of what they will



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be when fully matured.

Likewise, we may look out on the world today and view what is rapidly reaching its harvest fulness and see just what it will become when fully developed.

Thus, when I considered the calls for 'compulsory vaccination or else . . .' I believe I saw in a rudimentary form that which in its fulness in revealed to us in Revelation chapter 13.

"And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. . . . And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name," verses 11, 16-17.

Not The Mark Of The Beast

Now I would wish to stress that the Covid-19 vaccination is not the mark of the beast as some have been foolish enough to put forth! Such a claim is but another ploy of the devil to confuse and mislead the child of God and distract him from the truth of God.

However, developing around the vaccination programme is a spirit which is demanding a compelling of all, irrespective of their views and convictions, to be vaccinated with the drugs offered by the government. This is but that which is seen in its fulness in Revelation 13:16-17, budding and growing!

History provides us with other foreshadowing of the full harvest. That spirit was seen in Pharaoh's demand for the utter compliance of the Hebrews to his wishes. It was likewise seen in Goliath's attempt at the utter domination of Israel and again in Rabshakeh and Nebuchadnezzar's demands for a yielding to their wills (Exodus 1:8-11; 1 Samuel 17:4-10; 2 Kings 18:28-30; Jeremiah 52:5-14).

That spirit will be seen again, this time in its fulness in the day that the final Antichrist is manifested, in the final three and a half years of this age. The devil has ever been pressing to bring about 'his' day but the Lord has hindered him for He has a purpose and a plan to which He is working. "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance," 2 Peter 3:8-9. What men have often counted as 'slackness' in fulfilling His promise to return on the part of the Lord is but Him working out to its fulness His purpose to redeem a people chosen from all eternity "whose names are in the book of life," Philippians 4:3.

As the Lord may delay the harvests of the field by His power over the weather even so He has curtailed the devil's efforts to bring about the fulness of rebellion he so much desires. The Lord has kept a curb, a rein upon the devil for he would desire to bring in his reign of lawlessness and rebellion just as soon as he could. What we read of in Genesis 11:8-9, "So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth." This was but the Lord frustrating an early attempt by the devil to overthrow God's purpose for mankind and bring in his own regime. The overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah was another example of the Lord thwarting another satanic attempt to overthrow God's order.

Paul refers to this blocking and preventing of the devil's purpose in 2 Thessalonians 2:6-7. "And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way."

The instances that I have referred to above are but occasions when "the mystery of iniquity" was at work. But as Paul tells us the Lord was withholding and restraining the spirit of apostasy until the time that He has appointed, or "his time" as Paul puts it, verse 6. The Greek word translated here as 'withholdeth' and 'let' is



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a word meaning 'to restrain and hold back'. As the devil held back the devil from killing Job, as he undoubtedly would have done but for God's power restraining him (Job 2:6), so that same almighty hand has held back the devil from pushing forward with his rebellious desires until it is God's time.

I believe that we can see a slackening of God's hold upon the devil in our generation. Things are done today, indeed have become so commonplace that they are now embodied in legislation, that were utterly unknown amongst our nation in former times! In times past, the long prison sentences or even the death penalty, quite rightly, followed the activities that are today deemed 'human rights'!

This is but a mark of the ripening of the harvest which will be reaped by the Lord and that soon.

The One spoken of as "him that sat on the cloud" is the Lord Jesus. Verse 14 makes that clear. "And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle."

Dear Christian, be patient! The Lord is but sharpening that 'sharp sickle' that is here seen in His hand. O how powerfully and irresistibly He will wield it when the time to reap comes!

Ezekiel the prophet fell upon his face and cried when he witnessed in a vision the judgment coming upon wicked Jerusalem. "And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem?" Ezekiel 9:8.

We cannot but share to some degree at least the feelings of the prophet as we contemplate the awful reaping that sinners all around us, who live to defy God and His Law, are going to encounter!

We surely recall that such were we but a short time ago and we would still be, were it not for the mercy of the Lord to our sinful souls.

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; that being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life," Titus 3:5-7.

If you are reading this article and you have not made Christ your Saviour by faith in Him alone, then you have been shown what awaits if you continue in unbelief. Today, repent of your sins and believe the gospel report and come to Christ, believing what He has said: ". . . him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. . . . Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life," John 6:37, 47.

Come without delay.

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Saturday 20th February 2021.