

MADNESS! MADNESS!

The World Scene Today, from a Biblical Standpoint

By Arlen L. Chitwood

The title of this pamphlet has been taken from the closing words uttered by an Englishman in the 1957 film, "Bridge on the River Kwai" — a WWII film about American and English POWs being forced by their Japanese captors to build a railway bridge over the River Kwai in Burma.

These words — "Madness! Madness!" — were uttered at the very end of the film, in the last scene, as the Englishman looked, in total disbelief and wonder, at the destruction which he was witnessing — the bridge, shortly following completion, being blown up by allied forces (the same forces which had built the bridge) just as the first train was about to cross the bridge.

The scene was horrific, with the bridge collapsing into the river and the train, unable to stop, running off of a collapsing end of the bridge and falling headlong into the river some distance below.

And if one wants a picture of where present deteriorating conditions in the world are headed — particularly conditions in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East — one would, in reality, be hard-pressed to find a better descriptive depiction than the one ending this film, *using a worldly scene to depict a worldly scene*.

As well, one would be hard-pressed to find better words than those uttered by the Englishman as he surveyed the scene from his vantage point, *completing the existing picture*.

The Builders, the Destroyers

In the movie, the *SAME* forces which built the bridge destroyed the bridge.

Today, the *SAME* ones who built the world in which we live are *NOT ONLY* trying to destroy this world *BUT* are trying to destroy themselves in the process.

And, if time would permit, Scripture plainly states that the human race would succeed in destroying itself (Matt. 24:21, 22). That is, apart from the Lord's intervention, total destruction would be the ultimate end of the direction in which man has taken things in the world.

How/Why has man allowed himself to end up on a path which will ultimately take him to the place previously described? The response to that question, of course, *can ONLY be singular*.

Man, relative to the matter at hand, has been looking for answers to problems in all of the wrong places, leaving him with all of the wrong answers.

That is to say, carrying matters from where man is presently looking to where man should be looking:

- 1) Man, in all his finite wisdom and knowledge, can search for and come up with answers, *as he is presently doing, none of which can be other than flawed*.
- 2) Or, the created can look to the Creator, in His infinite wisdom and knowledge, to provide the answers, *which are clearly revealed in His Word, which will always prove to be completely correct*.

And, in many instances, *it's NOT JUST unsaved man* looking in all the wrong places and coming up with wrong answers *BUT it's often the vast majority of Christians*, including most of today's Bible teachers as well.

The world, of course, could not be expected to go to the Scriptures and come up with correct answers concerning things about the present state of affairs.

But Christians are another matter entirely. They are capable of spiritual discernment and would be expected to go to the Scriptures and come up with correct answers, particularly the Bible teachers.

However, what would be expected and what is actually done by Christians *are too often NOT the same*.

So, let's look at the matter.

And we want to approach the matter *SOLELY from a Scriptural standpoint, the ONLY approach* which is completely correct, *the ONLY approach* where completely correct answers can be found.

Moses, the Psalms, and the Prophets

Thus, if one wants to come up with completely correct answers, *there is ONLY one place to go*. The person *MUST* begin at Moses and move on to the Psalms and the Prophets (one of Scripture's ways to express the whole of the O.T., beginning at the proper place [Luke 24:27, 44; cf. Isa. 8:20; Mal. 4:4-6]).

NO other way exists, which is where man has too often made his mistake.

(One could, conceivably, see a problem distinguishing between material in the five books which Moses wrote [Genesis through Deuteronomy] and the seventeen books comprising the major and minor Prophets [Isaiah through Malachi], for *any of the five books which Moses wrote are just as prophetic in nature as any of the seventeen prophetic books*.)

Generally, God has recorded the matter after one fashion in Moses [largely through types] and after another fashion in the Prophets [largely non-typical, though numerous types do exist in the Prophets (*e.g.*, large parts of Daniel and Jonah)].

And these types are just as important, valid, and completely accurate as anything seen in any other part of the O.T. *They simply form one of the numerous ways in which God has structured His Word [Heb. 1:1, 2], often containing information not found elsewhere in the Word*.

Thus, a person disdaining or ignoring the types, as many do, is disdaining or ignoring *a major part of the Word*. Treating the types after this fashion could only be comparable to treating *any other part of the Word after this same fashion*.

As well, relative to the preceding, the figure often given relating how much of the O.T. is prophetic is usually about one-fourth. But, if one begins looking at and including the types, that figure would have

to be more than reversed — *i.e.*, not near twenty-five percent but probably above seventy-five percent.)

But ways other than typical in the manner God has structured His Word can be found in Moses as well. And *the BASE* for things being shown in the next section of this pamphlet fall into this category more so than the typical.

Attention has been called to the typical, with time spent in this realm, because when one moves on from the things alluded to in the previous paragraph he will quite often find himself in typical teachings drawn from the Word.

BUT, a major problem exists.

Correct teachings on *the BASE* are largely absent in Christendom today; accordingly, any thought of going on to or dealing with the types, which is almost never done anyway, would be of limited value.

Three Racial Divisions in the Word

We're living in a world which is rapidly coming apart at the seams. The world is on a fast track, a non-stop speeding train which is gaining momentum with each passing day, hour, minute, and second, going where no one could possibly want to go, with no one able to stop it.

No one alive today has ever seen anything even closely related to what is presently happening, particularly in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East. And everything is accelerating in an already out-of-control situation, with, again, no one able to do anything about it.

So, what is this all about? Why is the world in this uncontrollable situation?

There are answers if one goes to *the correct source*, though few seem to want to believe these answers, including most of those who go to the correct source for the answers.

For the subject at hand, the place to begin could only be the three prophecies of Noah regarding his three sons in Gen. 9:25-27 (though things preceding that in Gen. 1-9a *MUST* be recognized and taken into account as well).

And, if one would *correctly understand the BASE* for all of what is happening in the world today, he has no alternative but to begin with Noah's three prophecies in Genesis, understand what's happening at this point in Scripture, and take the matter from there, going on to other parts of the Word.

Everyone in the world today is *NOT ONLY* a descendant of Adam *BUT* also a descendant of one of Noah's three sons as well. And Noah's prophecies, — having to do with far more than just his three sons, along with being prophecies remaining in effect throughout the remainder of Man's Day — have to do with *federal headship and the destiny of the nations descending from these three sons* (Noah's three sons as federal heads of *the three divisions of mankind* [as Adam occupies this same position over *all mankind*, extending through and including Noah's three sons and their descendants]).

In these three prophecies, one son (Ham), through his seed, *has been cursed*; another son (Shem), the only son with a God, *has been blessed*, which would extend through his seed; and the remaining son (Japheth), *would populate an earth whose descendants would be affected by that stated about the other two sons*.

In the World Today

We're living in a world populated mainly by the descendants of Japheth, though the descendants of Shem through Abraham and mainly Ishmael populate a large part of north Africa and the Middle East. And the descendants of Ham, seen more in central Africa, though scattered throughout other parts of the world, particularly the United States, are quite numerous as well.

But the descendants of Shem through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are small in number — only between about thirteen to fourteen million in the world today — some eighteen million preceding the WWII Holocaust, which destroyed six million.

Though major problems exist between the descendants of two sons of Abraham today (both descendants of Shem), *the reason why this problem*

exists and the base for ALL of the turmoil among nations in the Middle East, which is spilling over into Europe and the world at large, drop back behind Abraham's two sons, ALL the way to Shem in Genesis chapter nine.

And one has to begin at this point in Scripture, understand Noah's prophecies, and understand what is really happening by Israel's forbidden presence back in the land at this juncture in history to have any understanding at all of *what's happening in the Middle East, spilling over into the world at large*.

Then, to understand *the base for ALL of the turmoil presently occurring in the United States, again spilling over into the world at large as well* (largely because of the position which this country occupies in world affairs), *one has to begin at the same point in Genesis chapter nine and proceed from there*.

In the Middle East, matters have to do with *the descendants of Shem occupying a land in an unrepentant state before the time* (Matt. 12:43-45; 23:37-39).

In the United States, *matters have to do centrally with repercussions from a descendant of Ham, in recent times (2009-2016), holding the highest office in the land for eight years* (Prov. 30:21-23).

Then, in Europe, somewhat caught in the middle, *major repercussions from the whole panorama exist — trouble emanating from the Middle East to the east and southeast and trouble emanating from the United States to the west*.

God's plans and purposes for nations and that which He has decreed in His Word simply CANNOT be circumnavigated.

But man has tried, and all an individual has to do to see the results is look at world affairs today.

(For further information on this overall subject, refer to the author's pamphlets, "The Sons of Noah" [Parts I, II], "When a Servant Reigns," and "70 Years, 490 Years" [Parts I, II, III].)

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