

THE GOSHEN FACTOR

MOVING INTO THE CURSE FREE ZONE

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Goshen Factor: Moving Into The Curse Free Zone

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1	Goshen living in an Egyptian World	1
CHAPTER 2	Take up Thy Bed	29
CHAPTER 3	Take Up The Cross	49
CHAPTER 4	Take Up The Yoke	63
CHAPTER 5	Take Up The Fish	77
CHAPTER 6	They Shall Take Up Serpents	91
CHAPTER 7	The Wagons Are Ready	105

GOSHEN LIVING IN AN EGYPTIAN WORLD (BLESSED IN A CURSED WORLD)

Gen 45:10-11

And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast: And there will I nourish thee . . .

There is a vital issue that the people of God must confront until the Coming of the Lord. It is the question of how we are to survive until the promised trumpet sounds and the command is given to come up higher.

There are specific passages in the Scriptures which graphically portray prevailing conditions of the Endtime. Jesus stated that the mayhem which existed in Noah's day would surface again and dominate the culture.

He also signaled the conditions of Sodom as a fitting comparison to Endtime trends.

Luke 17:28-29

Likewise as was in the days of Lot, they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded. But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

This passage presents a picture of Endtime society. It reveals Last Day culture, and even depicts economic factors. The Lord underscored that a preoccupation with material concerns would go hand in hand with debasing immorality. The prophetic Word accurately projected global, societal, military, and even moral patterns. When it comes to how believers are to react to the perils of this unique prophetic hour, the Word of God showcases the deliverance of the Hebrews from Egypt as a model of our soon exodus from this judgment-bound world.

The Apostle Paul defined the mindset and activities which constitute “perilous times” in his second letter to Timothy. After describing the moral and spiritual devastation of satan’s last day assault, he wrote the spirit of Egypt would assert itself again.

Just as in ancient Egypt, the culture will experience an explosion of knowledge and technology, but depraved minds can never properly appreciate the facts which they’ve discovered.

2 Timothy 3:7-8 (King James Version)

Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the Faith.”

Jannes and Jambres were Pharaoh's magicians. They counterfeited the first three miracles of Moses and then discovered the limits of satanic power. They mimicked Moses by appearing to turn their rods into serpents, but Moses' rod swallowed their fabricated miracle. They could turn water into blood on a small scale; in contrast the God of Moses turned the entire Nile into a river of blood. They could duplicate the plague of frogs, but couldn't stop the misery that it caused. Pharaoh was compelled to implore Moses to call off the frogs.

When it came to changing dust into lice, the magicians had exhausted their demonic energy. Only the true God can change dust. He created man from dust, promised to make Abraham's seed as numerous as the dust, made dust to burn on Elijah's altar, and announced that one day the dust in the grave of His redeemed people will sing when their resurrected bodies burst forth in eternal triumph.

The only thing the devil can do with dust is choke on it. The Hebrew word for serpent actually means the "dust eater". The Scripture repeatedly refers to satan as the "old serpent", the "old dust eater." Perhaps the greatest reason that Jesus instructed His disciples to shake the dust off their feet when they were ill treated, was to turn the tide against our adversary. The only way the serpent can be silenced is to gag him with the dust of sorrow and frustration which he thought to put on us. Through the power of Jesus' Name, we can overturn the strategies of the Wicked One.

Those believers who appropriate the promise to "tread on serpents" cause our arch-enemy severe indigestion when we refuse to let the difficulty of the moment destroy our faith, nullify our joy, or silence our praise.

Pharaoh's magicians had to admit that when dust became lice to afflict their idolatrous land, it was nothing less than "the finger of God." If the Lord follows the Exodus pattern of mass deliverance today, then we can expect satan's Endtime agents to soon come to the limits of their ability. When the

The Goshen Factor: Moving into the Curse Free Zone

enemies of righteousness behold the superior power of our God in signs, wonders, and miracles, they will realize what the Lord can do with something as trivial as dust.

The enemies of the Gospel are about to witness a demonstration of “the finger of God.”

The Psalmist said, “For he knoweth our frame; he remembers that we are dust.” (Ps. 103:14) Despite the culture’s defamation of committed believers, the finger of God will anoint the dust of human frailty to defeat the works of darkness. Soon our enemies will have to admit that the Greater One abides in us. (Deut. 32:31)

In these days we can expect the Lord to continue His age-old pattern of using the foolish things of the world to confound the wise.

THE SPIRIT OF EGYPT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ESCALATION OF DEMONIC ACTIVITY

I Timothy 4:1 (King James Version)

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils.”

The Last Days will witness an exponential increase of devilish power. This unprecedented demonic activity is aimed at destroying humanity’s conscience and blurring the distinction between good and evil. The Apostle Paul reveals the objective of demonic spirits is to promote lies of hypocrisy which sear the conscience.

The spirit of Egypt will be responsible for enormous pressure and stress in the Last Days. There will be nothing like it in the annals of history.

Jesus warned of the cares of this life, men’s hearts failing them for fear, wars, rumors of wars, pestilence, and earthquakes.

The upheaval will take its toll. Hatred of the Faith will reach new levels. Persecution of Christians in the recent past has been largely confined to Communist and Islamic countries. But given the increased hostility toward Bible believers in America, it may not be long until real Christians experience an all out assault. Jesus said, “They shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my Name’s sake.” (Luke 21:12)

Luke 21:16 (King James Version)

And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolk, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death.

The spirit of Egypt will instigate widespread betrayal. The Name of the Lord will be so despised that we who claim and worship Him as the only Savior will become the victims of politically correct hatred. God’s response to this pervasive iniquity is to position the globe for seven years of unprecedented travail. Undiluted judgment will be poured out.

Matt 24:21-22 (King James Version)

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.

The powers of the upper atmosphere shall be shaken. The entire planet will become unsteady and its normal rotation cycle disturbed. The weight of man’s sin will cause the globe to sway on its axis. The delicate infrastructure of earth’s ecosystem will be disrupted.

The Goshen Factor: Moving into the Curse Free Zone

Isaiah 24:19-21 (King James Version)

The earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is moved exceedingly. The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again.

The Word of God foretells coming catastrophes to do more than inform us of future events. The Holy Spirit included this information in the Scripture so that God's people would not be unduly alarmed when these events begin to come to pass. We have the promise that "God has not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Thess. 5:9 King James Version)

The promise of a sudden catching away of the church is a clear word from the Lord. (I Thes. 4:16) No one who *rightly divides* the Scripture can honestly dispute the promise of His Return (I Cor. 15: 52) The theological gymnastics of pseudo clergymen cannot alter the truth that God is planning to rapture His Church in the not-to-distant future.

Rev. 3:10 (King James Version)

*Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will **keep thee from** the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.*

The wording of the Master's promise is precise and specific. He did not say that He would take us *through* or *out of* the hour of temptation, but keep the believer *from* it. The "hour of temptation" is a reference to a specific period of time which try those who are attached to this world. A close examination of the passage reveals that Jesus is speaking about the prophesied seven years of Tribulation revealed

in Daniel 9:27. The Apostle John recorded a chronological description of those years in Revelation chapters six through nineteen.

No doctrine of the New Testament is assailed any more than the promise of a pre-Tribulation rapture. This promise is the first to be compromised and the first to be abandoned by those who seek a modified Christianity. False brethren who are fond of the pleasures and carnal lifestyles of this world loath the prospect that God may soon call His church home.

Fanciful theories are currently promoted which suggest that God has cancelled the Rapture for lack of interest. Eschatology professors are now advancing a notion that all prophecies of a coming Tribulation can be avoided. The Church is under tremendous pressure to adopt a more politically correct version of the Endtimes.

Seminaries are teaching their ministerial students that we can have the Kingdom without the King. Not a few voices are gaining popularity with their teaching that once the church has been relieved of its Biblical baggage, a new day of utopian unity will dawn with a new world government and one world religion.

These are just some of the lies spoken in hypocrisy. The denial of the Rapture is a part of the strong delusion which Paul warned about in II Thess. 2:11. A Rapture-less Gospel is a travesty and danger that will mislead multitudes into accepting the proposed solutions of a false church. It is advocated by those who seek to redefine the status and mission of the Body of Christ.

There is a paradigm shift in the ministry. Instead of calling the unsaved from the broad way of destruction to walk the narrow path of eternal life, a host of "pseudo apostles and deceitful workers" are seeking common ground with false religions and ideologies. They are substituting environmental causes and social justice issues for the Gospel. Reprehensible agents of satan are wrapping themselves in

The Goshen Factor: Moving into the Curse Free Zone

clerical robes and pretending to be ministers of righteousness. (2 Cor. 11:15) A Gospel that denies the imminent Return of the Lord Jesus is not the Gospel of God.

The promise of Revelation 3:10 echoes the Lord's statement made from the Mount of Olives:

Luke 21:36 (King James Version)

*Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy **to escape all** these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.*

Beneath all the promises of our ultimate deliverance is the question of what we do in the mean time. How do we handle the pressure?

What do we do about the trend to depart from the Faith? How do we survive the onslaught of "seducing spirits and doctrines of devils?" How do we overcome when we must simultaneously face spiritual, physical, mental, and financial pressure? How do we deal with problems that are overwhelming and stress that is all too often overpowering?

The Word of God contains divine directives for overcoming the immense challenges of these times. Amid the many instructions which teach the believer to *occupy till He comes* is a depiction of our deliverance. The Hebrews in Egypt is a picture of the redeemed of the Lord in this present day world. Egypt always appears in the Scripture to represent the world's system and ideology. Egypt is called *the house of bondage and rebellion*.

Isa 30:1-2 (King James Version)

*Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin: **That walk to go down into Egypt,***