

## I. Introduction

- a. The true church is yearning for the coming of our beloved, King Jesus. (Phil 3:20) This yearning is somewhat hidden in all varieties of eschatological perspectives. Our goals in this yearning must be clear and the paradigm (read model) must be clear as well.
- b. This vision of the future and our motivation on how to live the present must be sourced in the Heart of God.
- c. A shift in the present eschatological paradigms is necessary to align with the true desire of the Father for His Son.
- d. The common paradigms:
  - i. Many address a series of events and either deny their involvement as church bride in the midst of the great and terrible day of the Lord or get lost in the details of a tribulation period of time. You probably would recognize some of the terminology of this polemic (controversy).
  - ii. Others completely deny our part in the soon coming period of upheaval and simply expect an appearance of the messiah in a state where He does it all and no preparation is required but to live out our faith in simplicity. "I don't worry about a cataclysmic thing happening. I just paddle along here, live each day in faith, do the best I can, instruct other people along the way, and that's just how I live." In other words. There is no millennial kingdom and we simply fade into eternal bliss.
  - iii. These paradigms all bear parts of the truth but are missing the Heart of God.

## II. The shift:

- a. The eschatological paradigm is not focused on a 7 year period of history (pivotal point, yes) but on a bride (even a wife) preparing for and living in an eternal Kingdom where we rule and reign with Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom King.
- b. The Heart of the Father is reflected in Psalms 2:8, I (the Father) will give you (Jesus) the nations as your inheritance, and the ends of the earth as Your possession."
  - i. The Father is pursuing, and will have, a family for Himself that includes faithful children and an equally yoked Bride for Jesus as His eternal companion. The Father's Heart is a Heart of Love.
  - ii. The Bride is pursuing (running hard after) the Beloved and passionately desires His coming, even speeding His return through pursuit (obedience) leading to holy conduct and godliness. 2 Pet 3:11 (more on this later)

- c. What is the endeavor of this paradigm? A church that embraces wholehearted preparation while expecting the soon arrival of her Bridegroom King and the ensuing role of the Bride as a lover of Jesus, a co-inheritor, and ruler with Jesus of an everlasting Kingdom.
  - i. This Bride is foremost fully aware of the desire of her Beloved and the Lover of her soul. There's a zealous pursuit of the knowledge of His love and the on-going kindling of passion for the Beloved. The first commandment of loving God with all of our spirit, soul, mind and body is foremost and frames every intent and action.
  - ii. This preparation involves a praying church (read worship and intercession) full of faith. It is the identity of the church within the context of intimacy to rule now by agreeing with and declaring or decreeing what the Father is saying. This is Holy Spirit government on the earth manifest (Eph. 6). What are the weapons of our warfare? Why do we war unless it's to take territory? God isn't on the defensive but the offensive as the Kingdom of God continues to advance. Righteousness, peace and joy continue to increase in the hearts of believers all around the world. Many suffer even unto martyrdom and enter fully that Kingdom which is here now and to come as well. The world is impacted by such influence and power. Healing, deliverance, righteous systems pushing back the darkness.
  - iii. 1 Tim. 6:14 describes a spotless church. One which has given herself fully to abandoned obedience to the Father's desires and the Bridegroom's wooing. This is the holy calling (1 Pet. 1:15). Also, 2 Pet. 3:10 connects this call to holiness to the preparation unto His coming and beyond.

### III. Conclusion

- a. The Heart of God has a clear vision for the eschatological paradigm, again: The eschatological paradigm is not focused on a 7 year period of history but on preparing for and living in an eternal Kingdom where we rule and reign with Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom King.
- b. The Heart of the Father is for His Son, Jesus, and for his children, full of love in truth.
- c. The response of the church is abandoned faith-filled love, obedience, prayer and a pursuit of holiness and righteousness while resolutely impacting a dark world.