

Sunday April 27th 2014
Malachi – God’s Messenger
Part Twenty Two

1). Mal 4:1 ¶ *"For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the LORD of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves. 3 You shall trample the wicked, For they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet On the day that I do this," Says the LORD of hosts.*

a). We had seen in our last study the promise that God reiterates to His chosen people of spiritual healing and restoration and blessing – the promise once again that they will exercise the rights of the firstborn both as rulers in a Theocracy and as the conduit for God’s blessing of the Gentile nations just as God had spoken through Noah following the flood - Ge 9:26 *And he said: "Blessed be the LORD, The God of Shem, And may Canaan be his servant. 27 May God enlarge Japheth, And may he dwell in the tents of Shem; And may Canaan be his servant."*

b). However, the fulfillment of this promise can only come about in conjunction with Israel’s national repentance from the sin of unbelief and the centuries of disobedience that have accompanied it – and for Israel to come to the place of repentance can only be accomplished through judgment, just as we have seen already in - Mal 3:2 *"But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire And like launderer's soap. 3 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness. 4 "Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem Will be pleasant to the LORD, As in the days of old, As in former years.*

And just as we have seen in - Ho 6:1 ¶ *Come, and let us return to the LORD; For He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up. 2 After two days He will revive us; On the third day He will raise us up, That we may live in His sight.*

c). And this judgment as we know will occur during the time we know as the Tribulation – the period of time that we have been studying through the charts in our previous weeks of study.

d). And with respect to this 7 year period, the Tribulation, we had seen last time how the opening of the first 4 seals of the 7 sealed scroll that we find in Revelation Chapter 6, along with the word pictures that accompany their opening, provides for us a complete, overall account of the events that will transpire on the earth during these 7 years.

e). So before we move on we will spend a short amount of time in review of that which we looked at last time.

2). Now before we talk a little more about the opening of the final seals, along with the trumpet and bowl judgments I would like to develop a chart to help us to see how the events of the Tribulation can be clearly seen through putting together the OT types given to reveal this subject.

a). And there are 2 foundations upon which the remainder of the OT types can be built, the first of these coming in - *Ge 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."*

b). And the second can be found after Cain has killed Abel in – *Ge 4:14 "Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me." 15 And the LORD said to him, "Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD set a mark on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him.*

c). So, with these 2 foundations in place we can begin to add more detail to the picture through the numerical significance attached to certain individuals with regards to the generations counted from Adam –

Ge 5:21 ¶ Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah. 22 After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. 23 So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. 24 And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

We will remember that Enoch is the 7th generation from Adam, 7 being a number of completion, denoting here a complete period of time.

d). *Ge 5:28 ¶ Lamech lived one hundred and eighty-two years, and had a son. 29 And he called his name Noah, saying, "This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the*

LORD has cursed." 30 After he begot Noah, Lamech lived five hundred and ninety-five years, and had sons and daughters.

Noah of course is the 10th generation from Adam, ten being another number showing completion, hence another complete period of time.

e). And as we had seen in a previous week of study Enoch provides a type for the 'Church' – all Christians being taken into heaven to the Judgment Seat of Christ, some of whom will be raptured, not experiencing physical death just as Enoch – and this will happen after a complete period of time – the 2 days or 2000 years of this dispensation.

f). Following this, after another complete period of time, we come to Noah whose family is kept safe through the world wide flood, picturing for us Israel, the family of Jacob descended from Noah's son Shem, who will pass through the Tribulation to a new beginning - Ge 6:11 ¶ *The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. 13 ¶ And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.*

That pictured for us here in Genesis Chapter 6 aptly describes the condition to be found yet future in the worldwide kingdom of Antichrist and just as God could not allow the continuance of the corrupted inhabitants of the earth in Noah's day, nor can He allow the continuance of the corrupted inhabitants of the earth in the days of Antichrist.

3). So far then we have seen the antagonism that must exist between the Seed of the Woman, the Christ and by extension the Jewish people of whom the Christ is One and the seed of the serpent, the Antichrist, and by extension Gentile world power under the control of Satan.

a). We then added into this the consequences for Gentile world power setting its hand against the Jewish people through the promise given to Cain, even though he killed his brother Abel, that a sevenfold vengeance would come on those who would kill him.

b). The extent of God's vengeance is then given to us through the picture of the world wide flood where the inhabitants of the earth are utterly destroyed with the family of one man spared in order to come to a new beginning.

c). Putting all this together will begin to help us in our understanding of the events in the Book of the Revelation and to see what has been told prophetically concerning the future of the earth and its inhabitants.

4). Further detail on this overview is then given in Genesis Chapter 10 with the introduction of Nimrod who was the first king of Babylon - *Ge 10:8 Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth. 9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD." 10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. 11 From that land he went to Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah, 12 and Resen between Nineveh and Calah (that is the principal city).*

a). Nimrod being 'a mighty hunter before the Lord' is a direct parallel with the rider on the white horse who goes forth 'conquering and to conquer'.

b). It is here that the connection with Babylon and Assyria is established with respect to the seed of the serpent, a connection that must remain in place throughout the rest of scripture – which of course it does through the Assyrian Pharaoh in Moses day, the Babylonian captivity begun by Nebuchadnezzar, the great image standing in Babylon recorded in Daniel and the ultimate fulfillment of all of these with the Antichrist, who is himself an Assyrian - *Isa 14:24 ¶ The LORD of hosts has sworn, saying, "Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, And as I have purposed, so it shall stand: 25 That I will break the Assyrian in My land, And on My mountains tread him underfoot. Then his yoke shall be removed from them, And his burden removed from their shoulders.*

c). As a result of the establishment of Nimrod's kingdom we see this in - *Ge 11:1 ¶ Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. 2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. 3 Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. 4 And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." 5 ¶ But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6 And the LORD said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. 7 "Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad*

from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. 9 Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Here in Genesis Chapter 11 we have a picture of the one world government of Antichrist that seeks to exalt itself and set itself above the rule of God – and again we see God’s intervention to bring to naught the plans of those who have set themselves against the Lord and against His Christ. This then is a repetition after a slightly different fashion of the detail given in the flood of Noah - Da 8:24 *His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people. 25 "Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; But he shall be broken without human means.*

5). Then towards the end of Genesis Chapter 11 we have the introduction of Abraham, a descendant of Shem, who is called to go into a particular land in order to receive an inheritance and through whom the Gentile nations, the descendants of Ham and Japheth, along with the non-Hebrew descendants of Shem, will be blessed- Ge 12:1 ¶ *Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. 2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*

a). Here then, through Abraham, we have the panoramic type for the experience of Israel, who will be re-gathered from the nations into which they had been scattered at the conclusion of the Tribulation and returned to the land covenanted to Abraham to receive their inheritance and be a blessing to the Gentile nations, including the Arabic nations.

b). The destruction of Gentile world power that we have seen through the flood of Noah and the destruction of Nimrod’s Tower at Babel we also find repeated in the account of Abraham in the battle of the kings - Ge 14:11 *Then they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. 12 They also took Lot, Abram's brother's son who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed. 13 ¶ Then one who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew, for he dwelt by the terebinth trees of Mamre the*

Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner; and they were allies with Abram. 14 Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained servants who were born in his own house, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. 15 He divided his forces against them by night, and he and his servants attacked them and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus. 16 So he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his brother Lot and his goods, as well as the women and the people. 17 ¶ And the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley), after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him. 18 Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. 19 And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; 20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all.

c). And we see this again from a slightly different perspective with the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities of the plain –
Ge 19:24 ¶ Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the LORD out of the heavens. 25 So He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.

d). *Eze 38:17 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Are you he of whom I have spoken in former days by My servants the prophets of Israel, who prophesied for years in those days that I would bring you against them? 18 "And it will come to pass at the same time, when Gog comes against the land of Israel," says the Lord GOD, "that My fury will show in My face..... 21 "I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains," says the Lord GOD. "Every man's sword will be against his brother. 22 "And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. 23 "Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD."'*

e). And we would see this again pictured in the world wide famine of Joseph's day, prior to him making himself known to his brothers and blessing them with his brothers then going forth with a singular message –
Ge 45:26 And they told him, saying, "Joseph is still alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt."

The very thing Israel will do in the antitype during the Millennial Kingdom.

6). So far then we have seen the antagonism that must exist between the Seed of the Woman, the Christ and by extension the Jewish people of whom the Christ is One and the seed of the serpent, the Antichrist, and by extension Gentile world power under the control of Satan.

a). We then added into this the consequences for Gentile world power setting its hand against the Jewish people through the promise given to Cain, even though he killed his brother Abel, that a sevenfold vengeance would come on those who would kill him.

b). The extent of God's vengeance is then given through the world wide flood where the inhabitants of the earth are utterly destroyed with the family of one man spared in order to come to a new beginning.

c). More detail is added to this through the account of Nimrod, which sets in place an unalterable type in relation to the Antichrist and once again shows the destruction of Gentile world power.

d). As a result of the picture given by Abraham we see the ultimate end for the nation of Israel being that of blessing, both of themselves and of the nations through them, just as we saw in that prophesied to Shem.

e). And again, this ultimate conclusion must come within the context of the overthrow of Gentile world power pictured through the battle of the kings and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities of the plain.

7). *Ex 1:8 ¶ Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. 9 And he said to his people, "Look, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we; 10 "come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land." 11 Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh supply cities, Pithom and Raamses. 12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were in dread of the children of Israel. 13 So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor. 14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage-in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor.*

a). The Book of Exodus begins with another type having to do with Israel during the coming Tribulation – we see Israel being persecuted in Egypt, a type of the world, by an Assyrian Pharaoh, typifying the Antichrist.

b). And the Book continues in typical form by showing that which will occur when the Jews, scattered throughout the world and persecuted by the Assyrian, Antichrist, are brought to the place where they can endure no more

and call out to the God of their fathers for deliverance - Ex 2:24 *So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. 25 And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God acknowledged them.*

c). And having acknowledged the Children of Israel God sends Moses, a type of Christ, to deliver the nation that they might receive their inheritance in the land covenanted to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

d). And then as a result of that which God had said to Cain and promised to Abraham, in consequence of the Assyrian Pharaoh setting his hand against God's chosen people the power of Egypt is utterly destroyed in the Red Sea, once again picturing, and pointing to, the certainty of the total destruction of Gentile world power under Antichrist following the end of the Tribulation – Re 14:19 *So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.*

Re 19:19 *And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. 20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21 And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.*

8). Then the final piece to set in place for today – the Book of Esther – Es 3:1 ¶ *After these things King Ahasuerus promoted Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him and set his seat above all the princes who were with him. 2 And all the king's servants who were within the king's gate bowed and paid homage to Haman, for so the king had commanded concerning him. But Mordecai would not bow or pay homage. 3 Then the king's servants who were within the king's gate said to Mordecai, "Why do you transgress the king's command?" 4 Now it happened, when they spoke to him daily and he would not listen to them, that they told it to Haman, to see whether Mordecai's words would stand; for Mordecai had told them that he was a Jew. 5 When Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow or pay him homage, Haman was filled with wrath. 6 But he disdained to lay hands on Mordecai alone, for they*

had told him of the people of Mordecai. Instead, Haman sought to destroy all the Jews who were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus-the people of Mordecai.

a). Almost this entire Book presents in typical form the experience of Israel during the Tribulation, where Haman, a type of the Antichrist, seeks to destroy the whole Jewish nation - Es 3:13 *And the letters were sent by couriers into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all the Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their possessions.*

b). This by now should be providing us with a familiar picture – a picture that ends with the same conclusion – for that it must as that which God has set in place from the beginning will be brought to pass - Es 7:9 *Now Harbonah, one of the eunuchs, said to the king, "Look! The gallows, fifty cubits high, which Haman made for Mordecai, who spoke good on the king's behalf, is standing at the house of Haman." Then the king said, "Hang him on it!" 10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the king's wrath subsided.*

Es 8:1 ¶ *On that day King Ahasuerus gave Queen Esther the house of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her. 2 So the king took off his signet ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it to Mordecai; and Esther appointed Mordecai over the house of Haman. 3 ¶ Now Esther spoke again to the king, fell down at his feet, and implored him with tears to counteract the evil of Haman the Agagite, and the scheme which he had devised against the Jews. 4 And the king held out the golden scepter toward Esther. So Esther arose and stood before the king.....7 Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther and Mordecai the Jew, "Indeed, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and they have hanged him on the gallows because he tried to lay his hand on the Jews.*

c). What we will realize then is that the Lord has given to us through the OT types the key to understanding the events we find in the Book of Revelation and particularly as they would relate to our study of Malachi. And so the eyes of our understanding become enlightened as the Holy Spirit brings all these different facets of the complete picture together for us.

d). We will continue with this next time – if the Lord is willing.