

SATAN; A DEFEATED FOE. COLOSSIANS 2:13- 15(NIV)

“When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, *having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness*, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them , triumphing over them by the cross”

Since Satan was defeated at Calvary, he knows that his time is limited and so like a roaring lion he seeks whom he may devour. 1 Peter 5:6-11

THE THREE END-TIME SHAKINGS

NUMBER ONE: THE LAODICEAN SHAKING

The Message of the True and Faithful Witness to the Laodicean church (Leadership and individual members) is written down in Revelation 3 : 14-22. There are only two possible responses :

(1) **Acceptance** of the **Message** which produces deep heart-felt **repentance** and a true gospel **righteousness by faith new Covenant** experience of growth and progressive victory over defects of character. **Acceptance** of the Laodicean Message, like conversion, must be daily (Luke 9: 23). **OR** (2) **Rejection** of the Message which means remaining lukewarm while feeling spiritually rich and “in need of nothing”. This will result in being ultimately “spewed out”. *The Laodicean shaking is not a persecutory shaking but rather a doctrinal and revival- reformation shaking.*

NUMBER TWO: The Mark of The Beast Shaking Before Probation’s Closure

This shaking will include both deception and persecution. It will occur at the time of the implementation and enforcement of the image and mark of the beast (Rev.13: 12- 17)

NUMBER THREE: The Time of Jacob’s Trouble. The Most Severe Test For The End-time Remnant. Daniel 21:1; Jeremiah 30:6,7; “How awful that day will be! No other will be like it. It will be a time of trouble for Jacob, but he will be saved out of it.” Jeremiah 30:7 NIV. In our next study we will examine what the Spirit of Prophecy says about these Shakings.

IN THE TIME OF THE FINAL SHAKINGS

“See that ye refuse not Him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall we not escape , if we turn away from Him that speaketh from heaven. *Whose voice then shook the earth: but now He hath promised, saying ,YET ONCE MORE I SHAKE NOT THE EARTH ONLY, BUT ALSO HEAVEN.*” Hebrews 12:25, 26.

As the world turns away from the Holy Spirit ,the earth and its associated heaven, will experience increasing *shaking* at all levels. But first we want to focus on spiritual Shakings using *Sola scriptura*. Then next time we will see what the *Spirit of Prophecy* says about the subject.

SPIRITUAL SHAKINGS

BASIC TEXTS AND DEFINITIONS

1. Luke 22:31: “And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, *behold, Satan hath desired (to have) you, that he may sift (you) as wheat*”

The Greek word translated sift is σινιάσαι /siniasai, it means literally to sift, shake in a sieve. Spiritually it means: to try one’s faith to the point of overthrow.

THAYER’S. STRONGS NT 4617

σινιάζω: 1 aorist infinitive σινιάσαι; (σινίον <a sieve,> <winnowing-van>; an ecclesiastical and Byzantine word (cf. Macarius, homil. 5, p. 73f (496 a., Migne edition); = **to sift, shake in a sieve**: τινα ὡς τόν σῖτον, i. e., dropping the figure, by inward agitation to try one’s faith to the verge of overthrow, Luke 22:31.

Read Luke 22:31 to 34, and Amos 9:9,10

²⁷*And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.*

²⁸Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: ²⁹For our God is a consuming fire. Hebrews 12:27 to 29

STRONGS NT 4579: shake: Greek: **σειώ seió σειώ**; future σεισω (Hebrews 12:26 L T Tr WH); passive, present participle σειόμενος; 1 aorist ἐσεισθην; from Homer down; the Sept. chiefly for שָׁעַר; **to shake, agitate, cause to tremble:** Revelation 6:13; τήν γῆν, Hebrews 12:26 after Haggai 2:6.

DEFINITION OF SHAKING

A *sifting* or *shaking* is a **test** or a **trial** or any **adversity**, or **persecution** which challenges one's faith or one's complacency or the *status quo*. A *shaking* may affect a single individual (examples: Simon Peter, Job) or a congregation (the Galatians) or the entire church(Smyrna) or a nation (Ancient Israel).

TYPES OF SHAKING

1. A *message* from God, either a **doctrinal truth**, or a **warning** or **invitation** which may be **accepted** or **rejected** by His professed people (Isaiah 65:2; Gal.3:1-3; Rev.3: 14-22).(The Holy Spirit moves upon us to accept, Satan moves upon us to reject)
2. **False doctrine** originated by Satan ,intended to displace truth. (1Tim.4:16)
3. **Deceptive miracles and other spiritualistic phenomena** (Rev.13:13,14)
4. **Persecution** which may show whether an individual or congregation is **deeply** rooted in Christ or **not**.(2Tim.3: 10-12; Matt.13: 20,21)
5. **Adversity** such as sickness, or natural disaster or an accident or criminal attack or tragic loss, which may cause a professed believer to **question** or **doubt** God's love and/OR **deepen** the believer's **abiding** relationship in union with Christ. (Romans 8:18; 2Cor.4:8-12, 17,18)
6. **Special tests**(which may include any of the above) to prove certain critical points in the great controversy. (Abraham; Job; the 144000 in the Time of Jacob's Trouble
7. **Messianic Shaking:** No one has been tested, tempted, tried,and shaken like the Man Christ Jesus (Hebrews 2: 10- 18 ; 5: 7- 9)

THE ORIGIN OF SHAKING

The origin of *shaking* (or *testing* or *sifting*) is inextricably connected with the origin of sin and the charges Satan instigated against God's Character and Kingdom. Hebrews 12: 28 tells us that **God's Kingdom cannot be moved**, yet Satan determined in his self-centred mind to try to overthrow God's Government of unselfish Agape Love. Since God is the God of Love and freedom of choice He could not prevent Satan from choosing to oppose the Divine Government. Satan's rebellion against God's Kingdom is the **root cause of sin and evil** and therefore (*directly or indirectly*) of *shaking* or *testing* or *tempting* or *persecuting* or any kind of *adversity*.

HOW GOD DEFEATED SATAN BY CHRIST'S SACRIFICE

God has defeated and will continue to defeat and will finish defeating Satan **not by force, but by right as against might**,(Zech.4:6) **through the principle of Self-sacrificing Agape Love** revealed and demonstrated in the gift and infinite sacrifice of His only-begotten eternal Son, Who offered Himself (Heb.9:14) through the eternal Spirit. The perfect complete sacrificial atonement at Calvary defeated Satan, the perfect intercessory atonement in the Heavenly Sanctuary continued and continues to defeat Satan , and the final atonement in the Most Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary will finish off the defeat of Satan's government. That is what Jesus meant when He cried out in John 19:30 "**It is finished**". The Greek word is **TETELESTAI** it means that Christ **finished** the work He came to do , the debt has been paid in full, Christ has reconciled the world to God. Let us read John 17:4; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 1Peter4:1.

The Greek word **TETELESTAI** is in the Greek **perfect** tense. *The Greek perfect tense means that an action has been completed in the past with results continuing into the present and results continuing onward into the future! It was finished, it is still being finished and it will be finished and it's efficacy with be eternal!*

The Son of God bore our full corporate human sin and guilt and suffered the full consequences, the complete separation from His Father (called the wrath of God) for us. **His enduring the infinite horror of separation from His Father, with its resultant sufferings and death, is the only basis of our redemption. His righteousness is imputed to the believer as a free gift apart from any works so that the believer is justified by the faith of Jesus and not by our good works. The believer is born again and spiritual growth begins and continues in the abiding relationship producing obedience , good works and progressive character transformation to Christian character perfection!** (Galatians2:16-21; Ephesians 2: 8-10; 1Peter 2:2; John 15: 1-8; Ephesians 4: 13-16)