TWO GLORIES ON EXHIBITION IN EARTH'S FINAL CRISIS

Part 1

In the final battle of the great conflict between God and Satan there will be two *glories* on exhibition.

Revelation 18: 1 tells us that one of those 2 glories will be the *glory of God*.

Rev. 18: 7 tells us that the second glory on exhibition will be Babylon's glory, man's glory, the glory of the kingdoms of this world according to Matthew 4: 8.

BABYLON'S DECEPTIVE GLORY WILL FALL

Rev. 18: 2 tells us that Babylon's glory will fall, the reason being that it is the glory of self-centredness or self-exaltation. And Paul tells us in Romans 8:6 that self-centered *thinking* or *mindset* is death.

But before its final fall, that glory, the glory of Babylon, would have deceived the majority of humans living in the end-time. How will this ultra-modern, highly educated, high- tech final generation be so massively deceived by Babylon's end-time glory?

THE ANSWER:

It will not be presented as a package of evil, otherwise it would be rejected outright by most people, especially religious people. So how will it be so deceptive? The answer must be that it will be presented as a package of *good and evil*, not merely as *evil* concealed in a covering of *good*, but as a system that offers good, according to Babylon's definition and standard, and punishes evil according to that same definition and standard. How can we prove that from the Bible?

THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL.

Right at the beginning of Earth's history, the God of **Love** and **Freedom** gave Adam and Eve the freedom and opportunity to choose which government they would want to be their government. Notice that God's government was represented by the *tree of Life*, whereas Satan's government was represented by the *tree of the knowledge of good and evil*. Genesis 2: 9 and 16,17.

Understand right away that Satan's government is a *hybrid*, a mixture of good and evil. This has a deeper meaning than meets the eye. It means not only good and evil mixed enough to deceive but, just as importantly, it means a system of *arbitrary* reward for good and *arbitrary* punishment for evil. Later on in the era of transition from Pagan to Papal Rome, Satan hybridized his day of worship as one specific change in God's law with the rest of the law unchanged (good and evil mixed) and then developed a system to punish those who transgressed his change of God's law (*arbitrary reward-punishment system*).

GOD'S GOVERNMENT AND CHARACTER NOT A HYBRID

In contrast to Satan's character and government which are hybridized, neither God's character nor His government is a mixture. God is singularly pure in character and government. Listen to scripture.

1 John 1:5 to 7; 1 John 4: 8,16; John 1: 1 to 4; James 1: 16,17; Matthew 4:16.

God's Agape unselfish, self-sacrificing Love is Light and Life. Darkness is selfishness, hatred, sin, evil, and death. In God there is no darkness at all, therefore He cannot be the Source of selfishness, hatred, sin, evil or death!! Just as light and darkness *cannot* coexist within God's essence of Agape Love, likewise life and death *cannot* coexist or proceed from Him, for Life is light and death is darkness, and God is light and in Him is no darkness at all!

In light there can be no darkness. Darkness is lack of light. Light and darkness cannot mix, they exist separately, and when light arrives darkness disappears. God can use no other method than that of Agape Love. 1Cor13: 4 to 8; Romans13: 10.

The earth was dark through misapprehension of God. That the gloomy shadows might be lightened, that the world might be brought back to God, Satan's deceptive power was to be broken. This could not be done by force. The exercise of force is contrary to the principles of God's government; He desires only the service of love; and love cannot be commanded; it cannot be won by force or authority. Only by love is love awakened. To know God is to love Him; His character must be manifested in contrast to the character of Satan. This work only one Being in all the universe could do. Only He who knew the height and depth of the love of God could make it known. Upon the world's dark night the Sun of Righteousness must rise, "with healing in His wings." Malachi 4:2. { DA 22.1}

HYBRIDIZATION IN SINFUL HUMAN CHARACTER AND SYSTEMS

In choosing to accept Satan's government, all men as sinners exhibit his character-hybridization. Listen to scripture. Talking about speech (tongue) which expresses our *thinking* (*phonero*) James tells us:

James 3: 8 to 12

Then he contrasts worldly wisdom with Divine Wisdom, again showing that God's character is not a mixture of light and darkness. Verses 13 to 18.

THE SERPENT HAS DECEIVED THE WHOLE WORLD

Satan has deceived the world into believing that God's character is a hybrid mixture of light and darkness, arbitrary reward for good and arbitrary punishment for wrong. So most people and especially religionists, believe that both good and evil, life and death, order and chaos, health and disease, construction and destruction all come from God. Rev.12: 9. Even unfallen Angels were left with questions in their minds, which questions are answered by the redemptive work of Christ through His church. Eph.3: 10.

Especially dangerous, though, is the Satanic deception that the system of arbitrary reward and punishment is God's system. That is the reason so many religionists worship God to get a reward and to escape His punishment and they are afraid of Him. The Apostle John who wrote in 1 John 1:5 that "God is light and in Him is no darkness at all" went further and explained that God's Agape Love has nothing to do with punishment. We are not to try to love God for reward or be afraid of Him because of believing that He punishes us. Rather we are to love Him because He first loved us. Listen to John in 1John 4: 16 to 19! And remember what God told Abram in Genesis 15: 1.

Satan asserted that his system of government was better than God's, so our God Jehovah, the God of love and liberty, has allowed, and continues to allow, Satan to fully demonstrate his system of government. God, therefore, has allowed (*Greek word: tasso*, translated ordain in the KJV Romans 13) civil government to reward 'good' and punish evil in order to prevent chaos and preserve some measure of order in society, but if people at the individual level do not submit to God's Agape Love in Christ to practice righteousness, sooner or later civil government will be unable to maintain law and order and therefore there will be the call for church and state to cooperate and eventually to unite to save society. This is the basic *modus operandi* of Satan's strategy.

In the final crisis of the ages, Satan will mastermind a global system offering the so called *good* of saving the world from crime, lawlessness, and corruption and also (notice how deceptive he is) saving the world from God's punishments, but concealing the *evil* of 'changing' God's law and trying to exalt himself above God. At the same time he will fully develop his church-state legislative machinery for the arbitrary reward of those who will be loyal to the *Image and Mark of the Beast* and the arbitrary punishment of those who will reject his system and will instead keep the commandments of God because they will have the mind-set, faith and victory of Christ fully developed in their characters. The system will be so insidiously deceptive that professedly protestant Sunday- keeping Christians will sentence the minority Sabbath- keeping remnant to death and will believe that they will be doing God a service! But Jesus explains that they will do that because they have no true knowledge of the Father or the Son. John 16:1 to 3

THE CHARACTER OF GOD MESSAGE

Only those who know and experience the *truth of God's character*, that His character is <u>not</u> a mixture or hybrid of light and darkness or a character of arbitrary reward or punishment,

but only pure Agape Love as fully revealed through the plan of redemption will be fool- proof against Satan's deceptions and will be able to glorify God as Jesus did! The plan of redemption, the true gospel has fully revealed God's Agape Love and character showing that darkness, destruction, death, evil can never come from God, but all of them are the direct results of Satan's hybrid government of the tree of the knowledge good and evil! Therefore the knowledge and experience of the true gospel and God's character are absolutely essential for the finishing of God's work in the earth. Those who reject these while claiming that they are finishing the work of God by their various strategies can be at best a holding-station for God's people (like the Sardis churches) until the people hear and decide for or against the true gospel and the truth of God's character or at worst be what Jesus said of the Jews in Matt.23:15.

Our calling is to the establish and disseminate these present truths and to be ripened by such truth as it is in Jesus for the harvest! That is our work! May we be faithful thereto and not be side- tracked by empty noises that reject the Character of God message and the 1888 gospel message.

Satan's efforts to misrepresent the character of God, to cause men to cherish a false conception of the Creator, and thus to regard Him with fear and hate rather than with love; his endeavors to set aside the divine law, leading the people to think themselves free from its requirements; and his persecution of those who dare to resist his deceptions, have been steadfastly pursued in all ages. They may be traced in the history of patriarchs, prophets, and apostles, of martyrs and reformers.

In the great final conflict, Satan will employ the same policy, manifest the same spirit, and work for the same end as in all preceding ages. That which has been, will be, except that the coming struggle will be marked with a terrible intensity such as the world has never witnessed. Satan's deceptions will be more subtle, his assaults more determined. If it were possible, he would lead astray the elect. Mark 13:22, R.V. { GC xi.1}