



Helping to Fill the Void in God's People

August 2011—October 2011

Vol. 1 No. 13

It Came To Pass

Part 2

By Mark E. Benjamin

Continued from last issue...

Two For The Price Of One

We see here two nested time frames that start with that statement, “it came to pass”. The first one is the immediate, and that ended about the time chapter four of Genesis ends. The second and larger time frame ended many years later. The situation with Cain and his non-par offerings were to end. There was a reason for it to come, but it was not to stick around. It came to pass.

God has commandments that He has put in place. It is irrelevant whether or not we like them or agree with them, but we must follow them. Cain did something that was not in accordance to those commandments. It is also irrelevant what precisely the issue was with Cain’s offering. It’s the end result that matters here. The passing, not the coming of the situation.

What was the end result of this historical event of Cain bringing forth his offering? It is not the death of Abel nor is it the punishment of Cain. Those things are incidents within the event. Although those are important and tragic, the true result of the initial actions of Cain is far more significant and even farther in reach.

Grace Within The Tragedy

Over the months that followed me losing my job, my income dropped to almost nil. The unemployment check went entirely to paying for insurance. Fortunately, I was able to help an Un-

cle and he would pay some wages for my services. However, the total income was only a small percentage of what we were used to having.

That was when the miracles started to become so very evident. First off, I paid off my car loan nine months ahead of time. Something I thought would be a good idea in case things became even worse. At least nobody would be trying to take my car from me.

One evening we found on our porch a cooler packed in dry ice and more hamburger and chicken to feed the family for a very long time. Plus, it wasn’t just in the packages from the store, it was all neatly vacuumed packed in convenient portions. Other similar events like these happened continuously while I was out of work.

During this time, I also wrestled with tithing. The principle of giving back to the Lord ten percent of the income He has already giving to you is something I have tried to follow for some time. But the way I saw it was ten percent of next to nothing is nothing. Nevertheless, I stayed the course and gave my offering to the Lord as if my income never changed. Some how, like the baskets collected after feeding the 5,000 ([Matthew 14:15 – 21](#)) our bank account never had a higher balance in all the many years of our marriage. We were far more financially well off with much less of an income.

God is good. Amen?

Adam and Eve lost two sons, one from murder and the other from exile. Nevertheless, even in this tumult-

uous time for them, God still blessed them as well. They became more blessed than before. God gave them a miracle. He gave them Seth.

Can you imagine losing two sons and the pain that is associated with that devastating experience? Now try to imagine receiving a new child, a third son. Oh, how much Adam and Eve must have loved Seth. How grateful they must have been for him. How thankful to God for his gift of mercy and joy within their family’s depression of two lost sons.

God is good indeed. Amen?

Continue next issue...

VoydPhil News

Anniversary

This September will mark the third year anniversary of the VoydPhil newsletter. Although VoydPhil goes back further than that—the website started in late 2005 and the idea of VoydPhil decades earlier. I want to give a big thank you to our readers. We have grown a lot in three years and Lord willing we will continue to grow.

Thank you for a wonderful three years!



If you have any comments, questions or suggestions on topics in this issue, please go to www.VoydPhil.org and fill out our comment form. We love to hear them.

Israel News

Arab Spring

... the term used to describe the latest events in the Mid-East; where groups of rebels have overthrown their governments, like in Egypt - or are trying to, as in Syria and Libya. And all in the name of democracy and better jobs, or any other buzzwords that automatically gain the support of Western nations.

Let me first make it clear that I did not support those that have fallen or support the governments of those that seem to be teetering. I just am not so easily convinced that Arab Spring is a good thing; not for their own countries and certainly not for Israel.

Forget for now the occasional outcries that the underlying instigators in all of this is Israel's arch-enemy Iran. Even if this is true, it is at best hard to prove. Let's stick to what can be proven.

Egypt, for example. Where it has now been said that their exporting of natural gas to Israel may be limited or at least an increase in prices. Also

that their border with Gaza has been opened; allowing not only easier access of weapons but also the terrorist. Plus there has been talk that the peace accords between Cairo and Jerusalem are invalid since they were made under the old "evil" regime.

The same is true on the Northern boarder. True Syria and Israel have had an ongoing tension over the Golan Heights, but for the last few decades it hasn't been much more than a war of words. But the people of Syria have time and again stated that enough is enough and that the Golan should be retaken. These are the same people that the West supports in their quest to overthrow the current government.

Let's also not forget that if this all goes as made to believe, then Biblical prophecy for Israel would seem unlikely to occur - and this certainly is not true.

I hope in 12 months/years I'm proven wrong, but I will not be surprised if Arab Spring is nothing more than jumping from the pan and into the fire.

Many are contributing this to new jobs being created and other typical answers like that. I wonder if it could simply be the Lord looking out for and protecting His Chosen People? **Psalm 111:5 "He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever."**

Jobs For Everyone

The unemployment rate in Israel has fallen to an all-time low of only 5.7% in May. Compared to 6.7 last year and a three year high of 7.7% in 2009. Definitely a trend that is going in the right direction.

Upcoming Holidays

Holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the date listed.

Tisha B'Av

(9th of Av)
9 Av 5771
August 9 (Tue)

Rosh HaShanah

(New Years)
1 Tishrei 5772
September 29 (Thr)

Yom Kippur

(Day of Atonement)
10 Tishrei
October 8 (Sat)

Sukkot

(Feast of Tabernacles)
15 Tishrei
October 13 (Thr)

Shemini Atzeret

(8th Day of Assembly)
22 Tishrei
October 20 (Thr)

Simhat Torah

(Celebrating The Torah)
23 Tishrei
October 21 (Fri)

"Peace is more than a resting place on the road to war. I cannot make peace with one who denies my right to exist."

UK Chief Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Born: 08Mar1948
Office 1991 – present

Mark E. Benjamin

Is available for

Church or Synagogue
Youth Group
Torah or Bible study
Classroom
Seminars

Men's, Woman's, Single's, Couples' groups

Topics Can Include

Passover
Seder
Sukkot

Bringing Jews and Christians closer together
Understanding the Christian or Jew
Jewish Holidays
Law and Grace
And others

For more information, please go to

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