

Habakkuk's Two Tables #69

PART SEVEN: JOSIAH

FIRST TEN VERSES

And, behold, there came **a man of God out of Judah** by the word of the Lord unto Bethel: and **Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense**. And he cried against the altar in the word of the Lord, and said, O **altar, altar**, thus saith the Lord; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, **Josiah** by name; and **upon thee** shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee.

And he gave a sign the same day, saying, This *is* the sign which the Lord hath spoken; Behold, **the altar shall be rent**, and the ashes that *are* upon it shall be poured out.

And it came to pass, when king Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God, which had cried against the altar in Bethel, that he put forth his hand from the altar, saying, Lay hold on him. And his hand, which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it in again to him. The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the Lord.

And the king answered and said unto the man of God, Entreat now the face of the Lord thy God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored me again. And the man of God besought the Lord, and the king's hand was restored him again, and became as *it was* before.

And the king said unto the man of God, Come home with me, and refresh thyself, and I will give thee a reward. And the man of God said unto the king, If thou wilt give me half thine house, I will not go in with thee, neither will I eat bread nor drink water in this place: For so was it charged me by the word of the Lord, saying, Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that thou camest.

So he went another way, and returned not by the way that he came to Bethel.

VERSES ELEVEN THROUGH THIRTY-FOUR

Now there dwelt **an old prophet in Bethel**; and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Bethel: the words which he had spoken unto the king, them they told also to their father. And their father said unto them, What way went he? For his sons had seen what way the man of God went, which came from Judah.

And he said unto his sons, Saddle me the ass. So they saddled him the ass: and he rode thereon, And went after the man of God, and found him **sitting under an oak**: and he said unto him, *Art* thou the man of God that camest from Judah?

And he said, I *am*. Then he said unto him, Come home with me, and eat bread. And he said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place: For it was said to me by the

word of the Lord, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest.

He said unto him, **I am a prophet also** as thou *art*; and **an angel spake unto me** by the word of the Lord, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. **But he lied unto him.**

So he went back with him, and did eat bread in his house, and drank water. And it came to pass, as they sat at the table, that the word of the Lord came unto the prophet that brought him back:

And he cried unto the man of God that came from Judah, saying, Thus saith the Lord, Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the mouth of the Lord, and hast not kept the commandment which the Lord thy God commanded thee, But camest back, and hast eaten bread and drunk water in the place, of the which *the Lord* did say to thee, Eat no bread, and drink no water; thy carcase shall not come unto the sepulchre of thy fathers.

And it came to pass, after he had eaten bread, and after he had drunk, that he saddled for him the ass, *to wit*, for the prophet whom he had brought back.

And when he was gone, **a lion met him by the way**, and slew him: and his carcase was **cast in the way**, and **the ass stood by it**, **the lion also** stood by the carcase.

And, behold, men passed by, and saw the carcase cast in the way, and the lion standing by the carcase: and they came and told *it* in the city where the old prophet dwelt. And when the prophet that brought him back from the way heard *thereof*, he said,

It *is* the man of God, who was disobedient unto the word of the Lord: therefore **the Lord hath delivered him unto the lion**, which hath torn him, and slain him, **according to the word of the Lord**, which he spake unto him. And he spake to his sons, saying, Saddle me the ass. And they saddled *him*.

And he went and found his carcase cast in the way, and the ass and the lion standing by the carcase: **the lion had not eaten the carcase, nor torn the ass.**

And the prophet took up the carcase of the man of God, and laid it upon the ass, and brought it back: and the old prophet came to the city, to mourn and to bury him. And he laid his carcase in his own grave; and they mourned over him, *saying*, **Alas, my brother!**

And it came to pass, after he had buried him, that he spake to his sons, saying, When I am dead, then bury me in the sepulchre wherein the man of God *is* buried; lay my bones beside his bones: For the saying which he cried by the word of the Lord against the altar in Bethel, and against all the houses of the high places which *are* in the cities of Samaria, **shall surely come to pass.**

After this thing Jeroboam returned not from his evil way, but made again of **the lowest of the people priests of the high places**: whosoever would, he consecrated him, and he became *one* of the priests of the high places. And this thing became sin unto the house of Jeroboam, even to cut *it* off, and to destroy *it* from off the face of the earth.

THE FALSE PROPHET FROM BETHEL

He said unto him, I *am* a prophet also as thou *art*; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the Lord, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. *But* he lied unto him. 1 Kings 13:18.

But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. Galatians 1:8.

A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies. Proverbs 14:5.

BE YE SEPARATE

Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. 2 Corinthians 6:17, 18.

And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. Revelation 14:8.

SHADOW

Psalms 36:7; 91:1; Isaiah 4; 30:13

“Shall the education given in our schools be after God’s order, **or after the wisdom of this world**, which the Lord pronounces foolishness? Shall the hearts of students become estranged from God by eating of **the tree of knowledge**, which hardens the heart into disobedience, and ministers to vanity and pride? Shall not the education given in our schools be of that character which will give a more decided knowledge of God’s Word, and which will bring the soul into a vital connection with God, keeping God before the mind’s eye, and arousing every better feeling in the soul? This is the kind of education which is as enduring as eternity.” *Pamphlets*, 140.

“From God, the fountain of wisdom, proceeds all the knowledge that is of value to man, all that the intellect can grasp or retain. The fruit of the tree representing good and evil is not to be eagerly plucked, because it is recommended by one who was once a bright angel in glory. He has said that if men eat thereof, they shall know good and evil. **But let it alone.** The true knowledge comes not from infidels or wicked men. The word of God is light and truth. The true light shines from Jesus Christ, who ‘lighteth every man that cometh into the world.’ From the Holy Spirit proceeds divine knowledge. He knows what humanity needs to promote peace, happiness, and restfulness here in this world, and secure eternal rest in the kingdom of God.” *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 437.

Matthew 7:13–27

THE LION

And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. The first *was* like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. Daniel 7:3, 4.

THE ASS

And the angel of the Lord said unto her, Behold, thou *art* with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the Lord hath heard thy affliction. And he will be a **wild** man; his hand *will be* against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren. Genesis 16:11, 12.

ASS:H6501—(Jeremiah 2:24) from 6500; 1) wild ass. *Strong's*.

A wild ass used to the wilderness, *that* snuffeth up the wind at her pleasure; in her occasion who can turn her away? all they that seek her will not weary themselves; in her month they shall find her. Jeremiah 2:24.

THE WAY

Matthew 7:13