

Proverbs 30

Sunday 4/12/2020

SEC: The Significance of Proverbs 30 and the 1948 Generation

Last week in Proverbs 30, we got into some incredible material that deals with the greatest generation that we know of in our time, and that is the generation of 1948. This is talked about in Matthew 24, which really begins the beginning of the end for life on Earth as we know it, as God moves toward bringing back the nation of Israel, gathering them, restoring them, and ultimately leading to the Second Coming of Christ when the Lord comes back and establishes them.

We have seen some extraordinary things out of Proverbs 30. It really opens up some things. Then we slid right into it again on Thursday night when somebody asked about the Antichrist, and we got into a great study on that, going way beyond where most people are when it comes to the Bible. Yesterday in Bible Institute, we got into the Millennial Reign of Christ, and there again, a very deep understanding of what really goes on. All of it, I know that when I came through it years and years ago, it broadened my understanding of really the greatest time period in the Bible as far as I am concerned, and that is the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

That is God's day in the Bible, called the Lord's Day, that day. Proverbs 30 has been a goldmine of truth in so many ways. I think one of the simplest ways it has done this is to show you that all you need is your Bible. The Bible is its own dictionary; the Bible is its own commentary. You do not need to go someplace else to find somebody defining for you what the Word of God says.

I understand that when you first get saved, you go through discipleship, and people help you, but that trails off after a while, or it should. You should come to the place in your life where all you need is the Holy Spirit of God to teach you the Bible. That does not mean you do not keep coming to church; that is God's structure, and you keep learning; that is God's format. But for your own personal study, it is you and God, and getting to that place in your life is my goal to try to help you to do that.

I look at it that the closer you get to God, the more you get into the Word of God, the less you need me. The less you need me simply means that the more you can help others, and that is exactly what Christianity should be.

SEC: God's Three People Groups and His Master Plan

All this is dealing, as I said, with that great generation when God begins to establish the nation of Israel. In our lifetime, the restoration of the nation of Israel was paramount. For almost 2,000 or 2,400 years, they had been without a nation, cast adrift, so to speak, in the world with no homeland, no country to call their own. God did an amazing thing by bringing those Jews back in 1948, and we showed you how that process prophetically worked all the way down through the line.

If you have been around here any length of time, you should also know that the Bible itself is built around and addresses three people groups. Understanding this will help you. First of all, we know that the Bible is written to the nation of Israel. Then there are sections of the Bible that are

written specifically to Gentiles, and then there are certain parts of the Bible that are just written to New Testament Christians.

I say this all the time: all the Bible is written for you, but not all the Bible is written directly to you. The way people get messed up in the Bible, and heresy gets into play, and bad teaching, is the fact that the first question you want to ask yourself when you open up your Bible and start to read it, to set the context, is simply, "Who is this speaking to? Who is He talking to here?"

If you are in the Old Testament, you are most likely assured He is talking to the Jews. If you are in some of the prophets, there is a chance He is talking to the Gentiles, which He does in Ezekiel, Jeremiah, and Isaiah. If you are in the New Testament, chances are if you are in the Pauline epistles, He is talking to you, the church. That is how you establish a context, by asking yourself, "Who is He speaking to?" because three people groups are addressed in the Bible, and the Bible is written to them, and all three of these will fit into God's plan that He is going to fulfill, and we have talked about that many times.

Right now, in 2020, we are seeing the last-minute details of what God is doing for His plan to unfold in the future. Along with God's three people groups and God's master plan, He has three places that will be their place in His plan when He begins to unfold it. You never want to forget God's overall plan. If you lose sight of this or you never see this, then this is where you get messed up.

We have over here on our sidewall, we use it for Bible study and Bible Institute, our chart that represents Genesis 1 all the way up into Revelation 22 and beyond. It is probably the best detailed chart that is easy to understand that I have ever seen. Originally, it was in a little book, and then it made a little folder of it. When I had this done, I took it to a place in Raytown, and they actually printed it off in large scale and did a marvelous job on it and created that. There is no way you can just go by one that big. Down in the front, right underneath the beginning of the Old Testament, there is a little paragraph, and it talks about God's original plan. I want to read it to you:

God's original purpose was to populate an infinite universe with a people made in His image, subject to Him as Almighty Sovereign. The first trial ends in Genesis 1:2 with a rebellion of these spiritual beings and a recreation and recommission for man, made lower than the angels, to begin the work anew. This trial ends in Genesis 3:1-13. The subsequent revelation of God is devoted to an accurate record of God Himself becoming a man to redeem a fallen creation and to absolutely ensure that God will finish to perfection His original plan. His original plan is for a universe populated with sinless beings that would love Him and fellowship with Him through all of eternity.

I certainly hope you do not think, and maybe this is the shallowness of your understanding of God, and that does not mean you are a bad person, it just means that you have never really got into it, but I hope you would begin to understand that God has to have a bigger plan than what is going on around us. I am going to illustrate that a little bit later on with some, I think, good illustrations that actually helped me years ago that I saw in the life of Solomon when I studied it.

I told the people in Bible Institute yesterday, take your finger and draw a line about 12 to 14 inches like that. At this end, you want to put a parenthesis. At this end, you want to put another parenthesis. Then at each one of those parentheses, you want to draw that line out for maybe another 36 inches on each side. Then you want to write on this side of the parenthesis, "Eternity Past." On the other side of the parenthesis, you want to write "Eternity Future." In the middle of that little 12 or 14 inches, you want to write "Time on Planet Earth." Because what God has done, according to that chart, according to the Word of God, in God's infinite plan that spans eternity, He has put a little parenthesis called "Time," which runs about 7,000 years. In that time frame, He has given everything that He has created, every spiritual being that He has created, man in particular, He has given them the choice to either accept or reject and be with Him in eternity or not. This is laid out so clearly in Isaiah 9:7.

Isaiah 9:7

Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

This is talking about the throne of David.

Now, not only do you have three people groups, but you have three places found in the Bible that will match up to those three people groups. When God begins His eternal plan out there past the parenthesis, based on where we are with this generation, you are going to find in Revelation 20, 21, and 22, and again in Isaiah 65 and 66, where He talks about a new heavens, a new earth, and a new Jerusalem.

We do not have time to get into all of this this morning. We are certainly going to get into it in the next couple of weeks in Bible Institute as we move into the end of everything. But suffice it to say, the new heavens are going to be for one of the people groups, the new Jerusalem is going to be for another one of the people groups, and a new Earth is going to be for yet one of the other three people groups.

SEC: Free Will and the Choice for Eternity

As God moved down through history to bring man into His plan, and as I said, that is the whole scope of the Bible. The Bible covers many things. The Bible is a very accurate history book. The Bible is a very accurate scientific book. The Bible is a very active book on outer space and all the things that it does, inner Earth and all of those things. But I think most importantly, at least for me, the Bible is a book that shows me that down through history, from the beginning of time in that parenthesis until it ends in that short 7,000-year period, God, through man's free will, has said to man, no matter how, no matter where in the Bible, "Look,