

“God’s Word, Alive!”

May/June 2002

A Biblical Teaching Ministry Dedicated to “Holding Forth the Word of Life”
by Velma Sanders

“*When Towers Fall*”

The LOFTY looks of man shall be humbled, and the HAUGHTINESS of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one who is PROUD and LOFTY, and upon every one who is LIFTED UP, and he shall be brought low: And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are HIGH and LIFTED UP, and upon all the oaks of Bashan, And upon all the HIGH mountains, and upon all the hills that are LIFTED UP, And upon every HIGH tower

and upon every fortified wall, And upon all the ships of Tarshish and upon all pleasant pictures. And the LOFTINESS of man shall be bowed down, and the HAUGHTINESS of men shall be made low; and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols He shall utterly abolish. And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of His majesty, when He ariseth to shake terribly the earth.

(Isaiah 2:11-19, King James Version)

It has only been a short time since the famous World Trade Center Twin Towers of New York City were attacked and destroyed by terrorists. On September 11, 2001, we lived to see one of those infamous moments that many will live to tell their children and their children’s children about. It is one of those junctures in time when most will remember where they were when they first heard the breaking news. September 11, 2001 has come to be known as “the day when the towers fell.” There have been numerous editorials and articles, conversations and thoughts, both Christian and non-Christian, with various views on the why and the how of the events of that day. From a worldwide perspective, some highly esteem and rejoice in the happenings of that day, while others detest in horror and become sorrowful in the events of that same day.

When we search the Bible, it is interesting to see what is said about towers. From Genesis onward, there are over 60 references. Sometimes “tower” is used in a figurative sense such as in Song of Solomon 4:4, where it is stated of the Shulamite, “*Thy neck is like the tower of David builded for an armory, on which there hang a thousand bucklers, all shields of mighty men.*” However, the majority of Scripture references to “towers” are literal and refers to those high and spectacular buildings that stand apart and soar above us in height and sometimes reach to the point of loftiness.

It is commonly known among students of God's Word that Genesis is the "Book of Beginnings." It is in Genesis that we have the "genes" of the major doctrines and themes of the Bible. It is also to be noted that the first place a word, person or circumstance occurs in the Bible expresses what is primary, fundamental and key. It is an indication of subsequent teachings and further amplifications throughout the remainder of the Bible. The first occurrence of "towers" is found in Genesis chapter 11, verses 1 through 9. This passage of Scripture is commonly called The Tower of Babel.

The Tower of Babel

And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. And they said one to another, Go to (Come), let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. And they said, *Go to (Come), let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven;* and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. *And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower,* which the children of men builded. And the LORD said,

Behold, the people are one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to (Come), let us go down and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. *So the LORD scattered them abroad from there upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build (ceased building) the city.* Therefore is the name of it called Babel, because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth; and from there did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

Let us consider several points concerning the Tower of Babel:

First, the tower was built in Shinar; that ancient city from which cursed Babylon emerges. **Second**, the people did not acknowledge God. They did not seek His will, His guidance or His blessing. **Third**, it was Lucifer who said, "I will." Following in Lucifer's likeness, these earthly men said, "Come, let us." Their words revealed that their hearts were filled with pride. They were interested in the glorification and exalting of their own names rather than glorying in the name of the Lord. **Fourth**, they were seeking self-preservation instead of depending upon God for life. **Lastly**, these men sought to build a monumental tower and city to symbolize their importance and to memorialize their accomplishments without God.

Before judging their worldly intentions and carnal efforts, the LORD came down to see the city and the tower. God's verdict upon the men of Shinar and their humanistic society was threefold and is recorded for all to read. First, God scattered these men. Then, He stopped the building of the city. Afterwards, He confounded their language. In a simple statement, the Lord judged and condemned that which opposed and sought to exist without Him.

Now, it is to be noted, with no undue certainty, that God is amazingly patient in His dealings with mankind. God could justly bring immediate and swift judgment upon sin. But, instead, during this current “Day of Salvation,” which has now lasted for over 2,000 years, He gently warns and patiently waits, giving man time to repent of sin and to place faith in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ. The Psalmist has declared that, “The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion, slow to anger, and of great mercy. The LORD is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works.” God, however, will not wait always and tolerate man’s sinfulness. David prophesied in another place, “God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day. If he turn not, He will whet His sword; He hath bent His bow and made it ready.” God is wonderfully patient, but He will ultimately judge the sins of mankind. (Psalm 7:11, 12; 145:8, 9)

The devastation that most of us witnessed on our televisions on September 11, 2001 was, without question, a horrendous act with far-reaching consequences and ramifications. There are many lessons, on many different levels, which can be learned from the happenings of that day. One lesson is that God often uses tragedies that happen in the earthly realm to awaken “sleeping” mankind to the fleetingness of life that they may “seek ye the Lord while He may be found.” Tragic events in the everyday affairs of life serve also to teach those with “ears to hear” spiritual and eternal truths. (Isaiah 55:6, 7)

Concerning our subject, “When Towers Fall,” the Bible has much to teach us. Isaiah 25:11, 12 states, “And He shall spread forth His hands in the midst of them, as he that swimmeth spreadeth forth his hands to swim; and He shall bring down their pride together with the spoils of their hands. And **the fortress of the high fort of thy walls shall He bring down, lay low, and bring to the ground, even to the dust.**” Literally, as well as figuratively, “every wall” and “every tower” will fall. God is not against high towers. It is what the towers often represent that is an abomination to Him. The future destruction of all towers by God will be a judgment upon man’s haughtiness and pride. The world system, man without God, has for hundreds and even thousands of years sought to exalt itself and to live as if God, Creator and Ruler of Heaven and Earth, did not exist and have rightful ownership and any say upon man’s actions.

Man is indeed the crown of God’s creation and has been commanded by Him to subdue the earth. However, it is man’s responsibility and privilege to exalt the Lord and to worship Him. In our Scripture from Isaiah 2:11-19, it is revealed that man, instead of giving God the glory, becomes lofty, haughty, proud, high and lifted up. God has declared, “*I am the LORD; that is My Name; and My glory will I not give to another, neither My praise to graven images.*” Whenever anyone seeks to take from God the glory that is due to Him alone, the end result will be destruction. (Genesis 1:28; Isaiah 42:8; Revelation 4:11)

When we look up at the many towers in the cities of our day they appear to be so magnificent in their stature and transcendent in their grandeur. It is hard for us to imagine a day when they will crumble to the ground.

However, it has been prophesied in Isaiah 30:25, “*And there shall be upon every high mountain and upon every high hill, rivers and streams of waters in the day of the great slaughter, **when the towers fall.***” There it is, prophesied in the Holy Scriptures that there

will be a day when the towers, all of the towers, shall fall. Contained within the seventh bowl of wrath in the book of Revelation it is stated, “*And the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. And the great city was divided into three parts, and **the cities of the nations fell.***”
(Revelation 16:17-19a)

One could not have imagined the enormous effects that resulted from the destruction of the World Trade Center Twin Towers. And, as massive as that event was try multiplying that same scene worldwide, with all towers of all cities of all nations falling.

Speaking of that future Day of Judgment, it is prophesied in Ezekiel 38:19-23, “*For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath have I spoken, surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel, So that the fish of the sea, and the fowls of the heavens, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth shall shake at My presence, and **the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.***”

In Luke 13:2-5, Jesus Christ speaks of a tower falling, “*And Jesus, answering, said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay. But, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew (killed) them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay. But, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.*” It is with sadness of heart that so many lives were senselessly lost on September 11, 2001. But, Christ Jesus would have us to know that those who perished were not necessarily evil people. His warning to us that are yet alive and have not passed through the door of death is to repent of sin and to turn to Him that we may not perish in everlasting destruction.

When we reflect on those mighty Twin Towers falling in such a short time, it is comforting to know that there is “A High Tower” that will never ever fall, and that “High Tower” is Jesus Christ Himself. The Psalmist David sang this song to the Lord in 2 Samuel 22:1-3, “***The LORD is my Rock, and my Fortress, and my Deliverer, The God of my Rock, in Him will I trust. He is my Shield, and the Horn of my Salvation, MY HIGH TOWER!***”

“The Name of the LORD is A STRONG TOWER, the righteous runneth into it and is safe.”
(Proverbs 18:10)

Written by: Velma Jean Sanders
“God’s Word, Alive!” P.O. Box 34215, Omaha, NE 68134, www.GodsWordAlive.NET
Copyright © 2006, 2018 All Rights Reserved