


# THE MOUSE AND THE PLOUGH

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For over a decade my wife and I served a very warm-hearted Ayrshire Baptist Fellowship where the lovely River Afton flows. Robert Burns the ploughman poet immortalised beautiful glens and pleasant nooks not least because he fell into the bosom of a lassie thereabouts. As a ploughman he worked several local fields at the Laight beside the Afton River. He wrote a classic poem about a "mouse" which scurried away from his ploughshare on one occasion.

## TO A MOUSE

Wee sleekit cow'rin tim'rous beastie,  
O what a panic's in thy breastie!  
Thou need na start awa sae hasty,  
Wi bickering brattle!  
I wad be laith to fin and chase thee,  
Wi murdering pattle!

## MOUSE ALARM

The surge of the poet's plough created a predicament for the "mouse" and fearing utter catastrophe the little creature fled in an instant. To switch context within the setting of divine judgment and the return of Christ we would do well to take a lesson from the mouse. The season of judgment that the world is acutely unprepared to face may linger yet but come it surely will and that literally "with a vengeance."

## THE WORLD IS WAITING. THE CHURCH IS .....ING

Each believer should fill in the blank in the participle very conscientiously.

The Church too is cosy enough in its western culture. You and I who are part of that divinely called body are advised to be watchful and would do well to pay more attention to what his appearing means.

Prophetic signals are at red alert as we enter the 21st century. Israel is a heavy stone to the nations and little loved the world over. The days when knowledge is increasing expeditiously are upon us. The emergence of a more powerful empire upon which the mantle of Old Rome has fallen is a reality and the coverage of the world with gospel witness and biblical literacy is doable in the lifetime of this generation.

## **WHERE IS THE SPIRAL LEADING?**

Watchman what of the night? What will happen next? Well if I am not mistaken many followers of Christ expect the LORD to emerge and set up his kingdom and continue the good run of fortune it is considered the prima donna religion of the world has enjoyed.

## **THE FACT IS BAD TIMES ARE AHEAD IN THIS OLD WORLD.**

(1) We are headed for the Rapture-the catching away. **1Thess.4.17** The "ecclesia"(the "called-out "ones) which is the New Testament name for the church is not set to enter the turmoil which scripture calls the great tribulation "for God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live together with him...according to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive who are left till the coming of the Lord will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

That's the "catching away" -but it in view of the work of the intensely disturbing work of the sickle.

(2) The harvest is coming. Nations that have walked in their own imagination since the heady days of ancient Babylon are come upon halcyon times. A great conflict looms and is destined to break out in

the mid-east and engulf the world in a short and nasty war which you can read about in **Ezekiel 38-39**.

(3) The undoing of these days ahead calls for a top practitioner of the diplomatic art. Just such a hero turned fiend is predicted in scripture to emerge on the world stage.

(4) After a time, this Anti-Christ (the one who appears before and in place of Christ) will become engrossed in power and intrigue and become besotted with religious hubris not known since the times of NIMROD and Nebuchadnezzar.

(5) To bring this runaway end time cyclone of trouble and release the vice-grip of Satanic power the Lord who will slay the man of sin with the word of his mouth will return in glory.

## **ETERNITY WILL BREAK IN!**

The neo modern idea that *without a rapture* and *without a mid east war* and *without Antichrist* and without *Jacob's trouble* and without *a millennium* and without *the destruction of the present world* with "burning fire" and *without the rolling up of the present heavens* as a scroll" and without the appearance of a "*new heaven and earth descending from God*" this old world will just go on and on is a devastating and unbelievably naive assumption devoid of scriptural warrant. Perhaps sadder than that the view consciously or unconsciously mimics the error that Jehovah Witnesses have pedalled over 50 years that this earth has no end at all. The RUSSELLITES at least warn of preliminary quakes and trouble but what does the church tell us of trouble ahead? We need to be advised that Jesus said, "When they say Peace and security sudden calamity comes upon them as travail of a woman in childbirth. There is no way we can avoid what is set forth in scripture by the Spirit of prophecy and it is a gross abdication of responsibility to replace truth with error.

## **REMEMBER PHARAOH'S NIGHT - BELSHAZZAR'S NIGHT AND TELL THEM THAT THE NIGHT COMETH!**

The mouse was disturbed in springtime-the world will be vastly shaken in the autumn of God's harvest-time. That whole section of *Revelation extending from chapter 5 to chapter 18* runs past the reader the horrific scenes that must happen before the Kingdom of Christ will come on earth. Watchman what of the night? The Night cometh and also the morning!

## **JESUS'SHORTEST PARABLE**

Our Lord told of the “good man of the house” (ironically an utterly unprepared prelate or leader of the OIKOUMENE of latter days) who would find post-rapture that the church organisation he led was diminished and left as a mere shell after the “thief”(Christ) had come to take what he wanted-the elect whose lamps were burning. Read all about these two shepherds in Matthew24.43 and Luke 12.39.

Jesus is our Shepherd for the sheep He bled  
Every lamb is sprinkled with the blood He shed  
Then on each He setteth His own sacred sign,  
They that have my Spirit-these saith He are MINE!

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*AramaicBibleCompanion Classics*