

THE MELTED SAINT

Psa. 107:26

Beloved of the Lord:

Oliver Cromwell lived in early English history and was called the Defender of the Commonwealth. One day when in great need of supplies for his army he sent soldiers to search a nearby Cathedral for gold or other valuables. On return, the general was told the search was in vain. "What! you found nothing?" he cried. "Nothing sir, only the silver statues of the saints". He roared, "Then take the saints down and put them in circulation!" How often God has to do this with His children. The crucible of trouble is the melting pot for them, but how much better to be a melted saint than a cold statue!

1 - THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WAS MELTED! - Psalm 22 is rightly called the Psalm of the Cross. It depicts the deep sufferings of Christ at the hands of God, Satan and man! "behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow" etc. - Lam.1:12. Notice the Saviour's own words in Psa. 22:14, saying - "My heart is like wax; it is MELTED in the midst of my bowels." Through that blessed ONE, the greatest flow of love and grace has come to a sinsick and a weary world, bringing eternal blessings to all who believe upon Him.

2 - THE NATION OF ISRAEL IS MELTED - Through the weeping prophet Jeremiah, God said - "Behold, I will MELT them, and try them; for how else could I do for the daughter of my people?" - Jer. 9:7. Among the nations, into the melting pot of trouble God cast His disobedient people. What grief has been, still is and shall yet be theirs! The horrible furnace of the Great Tribulation is still ahead! "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it; it is even the time of Jacob's trouble" - Jer.30:7. Yet the final result will make the nation to shine in the glory of God during their Messiah's earthly reign - Jer.30:9,9; Isa. 62:11,12.

3 - THE EARTH IS TO BE MELTED - "The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved; He uttered His voice, the earth MELTED!" - Psa. 46:6. Into the melting pot of God's wrath and the wrath of the Lamb will the nations be cast at the end of the Gentile age. Then God will speak, saying: - "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth" - Psa. 46:10. What a time of blessing will follow. when the saved of the nations enjoy the Millennium kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ! But not before the nations pass through "the hour of trial, which is about to come upon the WHOLE habitable world, to try them that dwell upon the earth" - Rev. 3:10. Surely today we see that day of world wide trouble approaching and very near! Men will say in that awful day - "to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us; and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of HIS wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" - Rev. 6:16,17.

4 - THE SAINTS ARE TO BE MELTED - "They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths; their soul is melted because of trouble!" - Psa. 107:26. Beloved, so proud and cold we may often appear to others, like lifeless statues instead of melted saints! God has to bring us down into the crucible of trouble and testing. Without trouble God cannot melt us; with trouble He is able to soften us, removing the harshness and coldness that is so often ours. Am I a melted saint? or a cold statue we can ask ourselves. Is my heart like "wax" - like my Lord's? The Psalmist wrote - " My soul MELTETH for sadness; strengthen me according to Thy Word" - Psa. 119:28. It is the melted saint who finds his or her strength in the Word of God. It is the melted saint who calls upon the Lord! Read Psalm 107 through and you will notice that men really seek the Lord when in trouble.

Beloved, the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ is very near without a shadow of doubt! I wonder, if before He calls us to meet Him in the air, the increasing pressure of life today will be or even is now being used to prepare our hearts to meet Him face to face. Bridal affection for His coming He greatly desires, that we shall be in harmony with the Spirit of God! - "The SPIRIT and the BRIDE say COME!" - Rev. 22:17. Are our hearts in perfect harmony with the Spirit of God in view of His coming? With His coming so imminent, is it possible - (????) - that we His people will be melted by the increasing trials of this scene, so that when we rise to meet Him in the air, we shall be "melted saints" - fervent and warm with love to HIM and for one another? Do not be surprised He may visit with "trouble" to prepare our hearts for His return! HE KNOWS!

Faithfully Yours in Christ

*W. J. Marshall*