

Episode #802 Matthew 12 Part 3-A Neglected Prophecy

I. The purpose of the gospel of Matthew is to present Jesus as the Christ, the King of Israel. It is another grand treatise like John to prove to Israel Who Jesus really is. It is the book of being “in Israel,” in contrast to believers today who are “in Christ.”

II. In Matthew 12, the Lord was avoiding conflict with His enemies in order for Isaiah 42:1-4 to be fulfilled. This does not mean it was fulfilled at that time, for it was not, but that He did not get into a conflict so that in the future, when His kingdom takes over without violence, it could not be said that He had done violence for it far in the past.

III. Victory Without Violence. Matthew 12:15-21.

- A. Verse 18. This passage is ignored by expositors because it does not fit with their prophetic schemes! This cannot be the second coming of Christ because He descends from heaven with a shout, and some people are going to get hurt, II Thess. 1:7-8.
 - 1. “Servant” is *pais*, child or young man, the Lord being less than 40.
 - 2. “Chosen” is designated.
 - 3. “Beloved” is *agapetos*, loved with a self-sacrificing love.
 - 4. God speaks of Himself as a soul! Meaning here His Person.
 - 5. Since His Spirit was upon Him, everything He did was God doing it.
 - 6. Justice refers to the ability to make right determinations. The nations today in many ways show no concept of justice, but God will give it to them someday. Isaiah 26:9. Justice has to do with light, truth, and discernment.
 - 7. “Gentiles” is *ethnesin*, meaning “nations.” Israel will certainly need this too!
- B. Verse 19. No quarreling or shouting, as is normal when one government takes over another. He once cried out, “Lazarus, come forth!” this same word. (The religious leaders cried for Christ’s crucifixion, and the riotous Jerusalem mob cried out for Paul’s blood, but the Lord cried for resurrection!) In His second coming He descends from heaven with a shout. But when His government takes over, there are no cries. Trouble is stirred in the streets during the rabble-rousing that goes on to stir people up to overthrow their government, or when outside invaders come in to take over a neighboring government. But no such commotion when He takes over!
- C. Verse 20. A reed when bent is very fragile. If you bend it the other way, it will simply break off. A smoking wick can be easily extinguished. Even those most vulnerable will not be hurt when His government takes over. “Sends forth” has the idea of broadcasting. His justice will conquer the earth, not His invading army!
- D. Verse 21. Today nations put their trust in their arms, equipment, manpower, alliances, etc. Someday, they will put their trust in God. “Gentiles” is again the word for nations, as the Jews will as well. “Trust” is the Greek *elpizo*, and means they place their hope or expectation in Him.
- E. How does this fulfill the prophecy? The idea is of filling it fuller, not of the prediction now coming true. His avoiding conflict at this time was in line with what He will do at the time He fulfills that future prophecy.

IV. Conclusion: When God’s kingdom comes, there will be no fighting or crying out and no violence in the name of Christ to bring His government to earth, but He will get the victory without violence. This takes place not at the second coming, when He gets vengeance on all who do not obey God, but before then, before God’s premillennial kingdom.