

March 18. 1678. This Is an Interpretation of the Former Vision.

by Jane Lead

The sermon emphasizes the need for the Spiritual Seed to overcome the Earthly Man and its curse through faith, perseverance, and the power of the Conquering Spirit, ultimately leading to a new era of peace and a celestial marriage with God.

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 10:3, Ephesians 6:12, Colossians 2:15, Revelation 20:2

Topics: "Spiritual Warfare", "Holy Spirit"

Description

Jane Lead preaches about the spiritual battle between the Earthly Man and the Heavenly Spirit, emphasizing the need for the Earthly Man to yield to the High-Born Spirit for true salvation and glory. She discusses the challenges faced by the Heaven-born Spirit in a world filled with oppression and violence, highlighting the continuous war against the evil forces that seek to keep the Heavenly-Plant suppressed. Jane Lead encourages believers to engage in spiritual warfare, trusting in the all-conquering Spirit to lead them to victory and reign over the Earthly-Principle with purity and holiness, ultimately bringing forth a time of peace and glory where all kingdoms and nations will serve the Kingly Priesthood.

Transcript

Some Days after the appearing of the former Vision, I had this Reviving of it again in these Words. Who is a Ruler over Nations for to subdue them, but such as are of a just and perfect Spirit, that have hung upon the Cross of Humiliation and Patience, till the Conquering Star is risen for full Salvation. These Words were as a Precious distilling Doctrine, the Holy Spirit spake them, and the same doth open and apply them. As first the plain Husbandman, which I did see in the Vision bow, it was shewn, and expressly given me to know, it signified the first Adam, that now is in a Tilling Garb, which now indeed doth become the Man of the Earth. Whose Image each one does bear. And it is appropriated unto us, as Internal and External. The first hereof to be considered, is the Beastly Corporeal Figure, that we do bear from Adam, which hath degraded us, because Sin entering in did turn us into this Evil Corruptible shape, but that is not all the hurt, and dishonour, it hath done us. But the deformity is more inward upon the Face and Image of the Mind, there lieth the greatest disguise, that caused the Banishment out of Paradise into this wild and rude Earth. Where he as a Lord in his degenerated State doth rule in the Might and Strong Reason, and is Potent in a Principle, that does lie under the Curse, and bereaved of the Blessing of Immortality. Where no Death should ever have been known? But the springing Source of Life from God, the infinite Goodness.

Where neither Toyl, Sorrow, nor Pain could have enterven'd, had he but stood in his first Station. But we may now cry Woe and Alas for the Earthly Man, whom the Holy and Just One hath so far removed out of his sight, into a Place suited to his gross Mortal Spirit and Figure, there to generate and multiply according to his own kind, and so the Earth is over-spread with a Corrupted Seed. As we do see this Day, all fill'd with Creatures of Oppression and Violence, exacters in unrighteousness. Oh deplorable World, who dost consist of these kind of Inhabitants, and yet does not so deeply take in the sense of the Apostatizing, as it for to lament, and for to be all uneasie, while tossed to and fro in the Sweat of thy Brow, as a Fugitive and Vagabond: and yet thou dost it yet scarce consider, and know. For the very best Estate, that yet hath been arrived to by any, who doth abide in an untransfigured Life, is much short and wide of the Angelical degree, and God-life Perfection. To which, if we do not return again, all will be in vain, that we have laboured for, as to matter of Renovation, and Mortification, in reference to the immediate sight and fruition of the Princely-Majesty. Who will receive none into his settled Place of Glory, but such who are come unto the Body of Glory in the Beauty of Holiness.

But the great Query now is? How this Earthly Man, that is gone into such Power and Lordship in his own Principle shall be made to bow to that, which is of a Superiour Birth and Nature? Who is come to know its Original dignity, but is over-charged and set upon by the great Leviathan. Who hath made all very strong in this Terrestrial World on his side, to Imprison, Bind, and keep down, and afflict by Thousand ways, that do belong to his Territories, the poor Innocent Seed, that is come into Corporeal Nature. For this end, to work out its freedom from all those violent Impositions, which the Sin and Curse hath brought in, and hath all surrounded this Heavenly-Plant, and as a Briery-Wood does twist about to suppress its growing up, to a Stature of Strength. These are the great disadvantages, that the Heaven-born Spirit doth meet with, so soon as it begins to know it self. The question is put now to the Gracious, Wise, Compassionate Father of this Spiritual-Birth, to know whether or not we may not come to Reign over all, that the evil One hath introduced into the Mind and Will of a Corporeal Animal, as so as to put down all the Rule and Authority of Sin, joyned with the Servitude to the Worldly Rudiments, wherein all Bondage and Misery consisteth. And this things have stood ever since Adam's going out of Paradise, very few having reached to the Crown-Dominion. Some instances we have, As first in him, who is the First-Born from the Dead, and others, who were followers of him in Suffering and Dying, are entred into the Mystery of Glory through Conquest. Though indeed their visible Reign on this Earth over evil Men was not so apparent in that Age, for they were not totally in Subjection under them. But reserved for the last Days, of which I shall unfold, as the Spirit hath it shewn. But first we are to give you the Lord's Mind, as to the Query, which without all contradiction according to the Vision seen, The Earthly-Man by an irrevocable Law and Decree, is to yield up all, that he hath gotten by his rational Subtlety, to the High-Born Spirit.

Objection, But how is this to be done? He will never give up voluntarily, nay, though contended, and though we have constant War against him, yet he holds us out of our Paradisical-Dominion. Therefore what shall more be done? That we may come to our Princely Kingdom. Well, this is granted, that Usurper will not willingly yield, he knows he is upon great advantages against the Superiour Life. That being to act in and through a Corporeal Form, which hath Maladies and Sickesses, that are incident from Gross, Fleshly, and Sinful Bodies.

But that is not the least, though sometimes we find it heavy enough, to stop the Divine actuation of Life. But secondly, The numerous Provocations that arise from the Inhabitants, fixed in the law of Reason, all these are promoting, and strengthening, the same within us, as Good, Lawful, and orderly to be obeyed. Then backed these are with Throne-Powers, and Principalities, that have such Authority in this Region,

that without subscribing to them, though working in all their deceiveableness of lying Wonders; Yet there is no living in this Necessitous Body, without Comforming and Paying Homage to the Beast.

Who beareth all Pomp, having now Headed himself with the Dragons' Power and Might, according as it is said, Who is able to make War against his Seat, and Throne? Thus we see how hard the Spiritual-Seed is beset, all which considered might make one doubtful, that ever these should be brought under, and made to bow. But I shall rehearse the Word, which did Sound in me, saying, At all this be not terrified, for these are those Kings and Nobles, that shall be bound in Fetters of Iron, by my Star, and Scepter rising, that will be given to them, who do hold out against Gog and Magog, who are to be continually fought against, for it is the Habitation of all Violence, and Oppression, maintained by the Serpently-Seed, in Bodily forms.

Now what remains for us, but to abide evermore in a posture of War. We have no other way to regain the lost Kingdom, but by the Flaming-Sword of the Spirit, which will be able to deal with Legions of Infernal Spirits, for of this more Secret and Pernitious kind, we have to deal withal. And therefore answerable Armour we all need to have from the Strength of the everlasting Tower. For so it is, the only all-Conquering Spirit beareth the Standard, and display the Colours, and thereby wins the Prize, Triumphant over the strong Enemy.

But now it may be consider'd, how long may be this Time of Spirituall War? For it seems to be somewhat severe and tedious, to be all our Life-long in Conflict and War against the Nations in our selves, and also with an Evil, Cruel World, that can never agree with a Heavenly-Born Spirit. True it is, that Universally in all Ages past, the controversie betwixt the Earthly unregenerated part, and the Heavenly have held out the whole term of Life, and it hath been as much, as the Spiritual Man could do to keep him at the Weapons end, to prevent an Invasion, or being carried Captive away, as Millions of Dark Minds are, and have been.

But those who are right Warriours on the Lamb's side, have now girded on the Buckler of God's Salvation: Strong and Mighty in the Flaming-Chariot, attended with God's invisible Hosts. Such will not be upon a defensive War only, but these will Subdue and Conquer, and will divide the Spoil, and take the Prey, and keep all under in Subjection to the Conquering side. For this we are not without some Presidents, that did come hereunto, and made a visible shew of Conquest. As some Patriarchs, and Prophets before Christ, who was the Head and Principal Conqueror, and is so still in us, as he was in his Apostles, John, Paul, Peter, and James.

These plainly Glorified in a Triumphant Victory, having fought the good fight of Faith, and doubtless did perfectly subdue all of the Man of Sin, and thereby were capable of translation, of which no certain account hath been given. But whether or no, this we are sure, they dyed the common Natural Death, yet they were such overcomers, as had right to Reign both in Heavenly and Earthly places. Which they had not only the foresight, but the Possession of, though in an invisible Sphear, and World, that is not known to Mortals, and gathered to their Conquering Head and Captain, that we hope will bring us up in Victory, through the whole part of the Earthly-Life subdued, and not only so, but that all things in this Earthy-Principle shall be under Controul, and shall be assuredly bowed under the Pure Birth of Life, for all shall flow into the Standard of the Spirit; That will appear in the Holy Sanctuary, that is Beautified with the Glory of Lebanon, according to those Antient Prophesies, and what of late renewed hath been to particular Saints in this Age.

As the Sons of them that afflicted and dispised the Holy Seed shall come bending, and bow themselves down at the Soles of their Feet, as owning the Lord's Soveraingnty. Who will make all Kingdoms and

Nations to serve, and pay their Tribute to them, who will be exalted to the Kingly Priesthood in this approaching Day. In which Violence shall no more be heard within the Borders of their Purified Land, because Salvation and Victory will be a defence of Glory. Their Brass shall be turned into Gold, and Iron into Silver.

This verily the Lord, the Mighty Redeemer is hastening to bring to pass in its time. And Blessed and of great Renown will those be, to whom the Dominion shall first come down, that have bowed in themselves the Man of Sin. For none else can expect to be Rulers over much, in this visible Region, hither towards, we have lived on God's Bills of Credit, which have passed to and again, as Prophecies, and Promises, and Words of Revelation, and divine Inspeakings. But there is a time now forseen, that near is, when we shall have the Golden Coyne of Acting-Power and Might, put into our own Hands.

May we once come, but to out-live the War with Gog and Magog, we may hope somewhat of this wonderful time to see. What remains for us to do, but to observe, and comply with that pure Doctrine, which the Spirit hath dropped in, which urgeth hard, that we might so run, as to divide this rich Prize with the Conquering Ones, that are entred in to Mount-Sion's wonders of Glory. Which will come for to be opened in this Region, when the Seed of God shall rise to Victory in any one: for that's the Key that will forcibly open the Gate of Jerusalem, that hath been hidden, and shut up from all Flesh, by a thick Wall of separation.

But that Prophecie was to this purpose repeated, That is Recorded in Isaiah, calling us to Mind, and to believe Mount-Sion's Reign is near, in which God's Kingdom of Priests will appear all in their sacred Ornaments, for whom the Isles do wait to bring their Sons from far, to Minster with their Riches and Substance, and to entreat for acceptance among those, who have been sought out, for to be the Joy of many Generations. Because of breaking the way against all Storms and Floods, and thereby to come into that flourishing Land, which is only allotted for the New-born Brotherhood.

Who are all of a Spiritual Production, through infusion of rarified immortal Essences, that so each one may be a perfect resemblance of God their Creator. This is that, which will make all well: so that which hath been out of order, and hath made the cause of Separation betwixt God and us, will be removed. How welcome will be a Messenger sent from the great Shepherd, that hath been so long with his invisible fold, that of a truth he is coming for to make one entire Flock, and the Wall of partition to throw down.

And this he doth certainly foretell by his Spirit, as the Jubilee-Bell doth daily ring it in our Ear, to comfort us in this our weary Progress. For we would most willingly cease from War, Care, and Turmoil, and from every thing that is included under the Curse. Oh rest, how pleasant dost thou appear, Wreathed all in the Eternal Nuptial joy of a Coelestial-Marriage with our Lord. Who verily would, that we should by all these encouragements, be now ready prepared for to face him, with a Graceful attirement, all dignified for delight and joy, that after all Suspence, a consummation may be pronounced to all astonishment, while we are in this World. For this the Heavens now working are most Mightily to great Joy.

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