

THE UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet;
but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
**I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God
IN CHRIST JESUS.**
(Philippians 3:13-14 NASB)*

#04-1021

Chile Quake

March 2, 2010

As stated in the previous issue (#04-1020, March 1, 2010, *Shaking Has Purpose*), people often debate whether natural disasters are the result of God's direct intervention. I have no doubt that natural disasters are part of the shaking that God promised would come upon the earth and the heaven as He brings our present wicked eon to its rightful conclusion to make way for the kingdom of His Christ. As I pointed out, shaking has purpose. It is to bring the inhabitants of the earth into fearing God and giving Him glory; it is so that the inhabitants of the earth will learn righteousness through His judgments (Psalm 9:7-8; Isaiah 26:9); it is so that we, His people, will receive a kingdom that cannot be shaken by removing all that can be shaken; and, most importantly, it is to set creation free and to birth a new creation, beginning with the manifestation of the sons of God, the sons of glory and of the kingdom. When the sons of glory are manifested, all creation will begin to be set free from its slavery to corruption that they were brought into by the lawlessness of man over 6,000 years ago. Again...

(19) ... the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. (20) ... in hope (21) that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. (22) For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. (23) ... even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. (Romans 8:19-23 NASB)

As believers, our hope is in the resurrection and transfiguration of our corruptible and mortal bodies into incorruptible and immortal bodies in the image of the Son of God.

When we understand God's purpose in shaking all things, it seems to me that rather than debate whether God is in the shaking or not, we should be seeking Him to know what He is saying to us in the shaking. Does He have a specific word for us? I believe that we will know if we have ears to hear what the spirit is saying in this day. With this in mind, let me offer some insight into what God could be saying or indicating through recent events.

As we know, on February 27, 2010, at 3.34 am, an 8.8 magnitude earthquake hit Chile, 70 miles south of the city of Concepcion, about 21 miles below the surface. This is the 7th strongest recorded earthquake in world history, one that prompted tsunami warnings to be issued for 53 nations in the Pacific Rim, or what is called the Ring of Fire. It is not uncommon for Chile to have such severe earthquakes, so such an event is not unexpected or unusual. In fact, on May 22, 1960, a massive 9.5 quake, known as the **Great Chilean Earthquake**, hit Chile and caused tsunamis throughout the Pacific Rim. However, an 8.8 quake is a mighty powerful event, one that was at least 500 times greater in magnitude than the one that hit Haiti during January 2010.

The first thing that struck me, figuratively speaking, was the name of the city, **Concepcion**, which means "fertile one," "mother," or "father of nations." Notice the similarity to the English word *conception*, which refers to the conceiving of a child for the purpose of birthing it into the world. As noted in the previous issue (#04-1020), according to Scripture, metaphorically speaking, mother earth (creation) groans and suffers the pains of childbirth. Could this be a word from God to let us know that the purpose of global shaking is to birth the manchild, that is, the sons of God chosen to reign with Christ, chosen to sit on His throne and to judge the world in righteousness?

Even the meaning of "father of nations" has spiritual significance, for it speaks of Abraham, the father of a multitude of nations because he believed God and the father of us all who have this same faith (Romans 4:16). In other words, the purpose of shaking is to birth the people of faith, in particular, the conquerors who are destined to reign with Christ over the nations in the oncoming eon.

Shortly after the initial quake, when damage assessments were being reported, another Chilean city appeared in the news, **Constitucion**, which means “act of forming or establishing something,” or “law determining the fundamental political principles of government.” Could this be God’s communication to us that a new government, based on a heavenly constitution, is being birthed through shaking? *Thy kingdom come* is our prayer, and, one day, God’s kingdom will come!

Now, let us consider some of the numbers associated with this quake. The first thing to note is the number 8.8. The number **8** signifies **new beginning, new birth, new creation, and new life**, especially through **resurrection**. Thus, when I saw a double witness of the number 8, it immediately caught my attention that, although on the natural level the Chilean quake involved death and destruction, on the spiritual level, it pointed to new life, for God’s principle is “out of death comes life.” Reminder: we need spiritual sight to see and know what God is doing in this period of transition.

Further, the gematria for the name of *Jesus* is **888**, and we know that He is **the Resurrection and the Life**, and the kingdom that we receive is **His kingdom**. The fact of the matter is that the shaking of our day is about bringing forth *the* Christ, the Body of Christ, conformed to His image. Shaking is about God’s Son and birthing many sons of glory.

Finally, the fact that the Chilean quake is the 7th strongest one on record speaks of the shaking that ushers in the 7th day, the day of rest, when Christ rules and reigns over the nations and the knowledge of the glory of the Lord fills the whole earth as the waters cover the seas (Habakkuk 2:14). The number **7** is one of the numbers of **completion** and speaks of **divine and spiritual perfection**. In other words, when the shaking is completed, His kingdom will begin to be manifested on earth as it is in heaven, for the heavens do rule (Daniel 4:26 ASV). Interestingly, the number **70** also appears in relation to the distance from the quake’s epicenter to the city of Concepcion, and this number signifies **the restoration of all things**, which is the ultimate good news and purpose of the new birth.

See issue #03-0927, February 18, 2009, *The Number 888*; and issues #04-1011 through #04-1015, January-February 2010, on the *Seventh and Eighth Day*.

Now, I may be pushing the envelope a bit, so to speak, but there are four other numbers associated with this quake. First, the number **27**, as found in the date, signifies **preaching the gospel**. Second, the number **34**, as found in the time, signifies the **naming of a son**. This one should catch our attention in light of what has been shared from Romans 8:19-23. Shaking is about the placing of sons of the kingdom. Third, the number **53**, as found in the number of nations on the Pacific Rim, reminds me of the I-465 dream that I reported on in issue #04-1017, February 17, 2010. I-465 is the 53-mile beltway that surrounds the capital of Indiana. This will be elaborated on in a subsequent issue. However, this leads to the number **21**, as found in the quake’s depth, which signifies **the exceeding sinfulness of sin**, as well as **divine perfection**. Divine perfection speaks of the conquering of sin and death. But let us not forget that sin is lawlessness, and lawlessness must be and will be judged.

I realize that many, including many Christians, refuse to accept the thought that shaking could be a judgment on the sin of a people or a nation. After all, as the thinking seems to go, it is not right or fair for God to single out one people or one nation for such catastrophic judgment. Oh, really! Have you considered ancient Israel or the Chaldeans that God raised up to judge Israel, and then He judged the Chaldeans as well? How do you know that God is not judging other peoples and nations in our day? Every day myriads across the globe suffer in countless ways under the weight of sin and lawlessness. By the way, I am not stating this is the case for the Chileans, but we must see things in the broader view, and God may be speaking to all of us through the Chilean quake.

As I have stressed many times, if we view these things spiritual to spiritual, we will see that the end result of God’s shaking and judgment is good. Take the Haiti quake as an example. Issue #04-1008, January 20, 2010, *Haiti Quake*, concluded with this: “As horrible as this event is to the Haitians, it may be their best opportunity to rebuild and come out of their poverty. May they come into the riches of Christ and become a nation under God’s King! May the whole nation come to know the Lord through this disaster, and may they give glory to God!” From February 12-14, 2010, the Haitians fasted and prayed, and many repented, asking God to heal their land. According to one account, one million Haitians gathered together, and 100 voodoo priests turned to Christ. Praise God! **Let us all repent!**