



SHADOWS OF SODOM

¹ Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will raise up against Babylon, and against them that dwell in the midst of them that rise up against me, a destroying wind;

² And will send unto Babylon fanners, that shall fan her, and shall empty her land: for in the day of trouble they shall be against her round about.

³ Against him that bendeth let the archer bend his bow, and against him that lifteth himself up in his brigandine: and spare ye not her young men; destroy ye utterly all her host.

⁴ Thus the slain shall fall in the land of the Chaldeans, and they that are thrust through in her streets.

Jeremiah 51 (KJV)

As I was walking into the Rawl's Hotel (downtown Enterprise) this morning for breakfast, I saw a somewhat dismaying site. An Atlanta Constitution news rack displayed the paper bearing this headline: CITY LEFT TO THE DEAD! Closer examination revealed that this was a reference to the city of New Orleans that had suffered the devastation of Katrina.

When I consider the great loss of life and the accompanying financial ruin that attended this great storm, my heart is filled with sorrow and compassion for all the souls who suffered loss in that large city. But, at the same time, I was drawn to consider the purpose that lay beneath the calamity. It must be admitted that New Orleans and Biloxie are two cities that have promoted sin and vice beyond proportion to their size and populations. Gambling, prostitution, homosexuality, and hedonism have characterized these two cities of the plain for years. Is it possible that Almighty God has sent a dire warning to all of us through the demise of these cities of the Delta?

"And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground". Genesis 19:25

'Be not deceived, God is not mocked!' is a biblical warning to all those who sow the wind, and reap the whirlwind. We should not be shocked when God sends a destroying wind to exact the penalty of sin upon those who mock His Word and His Will. The wicked impudence of the place was brought alarmingly to mind when I read that the Gay Liberation parade planned for Monday was conducted by a handful as a sign that 'life was returning to New Orleans.' Actually, New Orleans was 'a city of the dead' long before the destroying winds advanced on her prideful towers.

In Colossians 2, we find that all are dead who are not quickened by the Spirit of God:

¹³ *'And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses'*

This may be America's last moment to turn our hearts back to God and plead for His immeasurable Grace to forgive us and heal our land. While I pray for the innocent victims of the Great Storm, I am nonetheless aware that many have died miserably in their sins... and the end of the story has yet to be told.

May God grant us a spirit of repentance and humility as we consider His mighty Works and His righteous indignation to those who abandon the place of Truth and Safety.

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