

# Awake Awake Oh Zion

Sunday, 12 January 2020 7:45 AM

## 1. Introduction

God has always desired to have relationship with man...to extend his governance in the earth through man  
The overview of the Bible is about Gods plan to extend his Kingdom and governance on earth through a relationship with man

The Bible reveals Gods desire, mans failure, and Gods progressive plan to restore his presence and Kingdom  
Throughout the Bible Gods presence comes to dwell with men...Genesis to Revelation  
Different dwelling places...Moses Tabernacle, David's Tab, Solomon's Temple, Jesus, Believers  
*God uses the natural to give insights to spiritual realities throughout the Bible*

## 2. Chief Corner Stone: Jesus

*1Pet2:6 Behold I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he that believes on him shall not be put to shame*

*Eph.2:20 You are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.*

Every building required a cornerstone...it is foundational to the building...unseen but important  
Every stone in the building was aligned with the corner stone

We must chose who and what we align our lives with

### What is Zion?

#### • A Stronghold...The City of David, where he built a citadel and a palace and maintained his fortress. It was surrounded by valleys and became known as the City of David

*2Sam.5:7 David took the Stronghold of Zion...fortified Jebusite stronghold*

*1Kings8:1 The city of David which is Zion*

#### • Jerusalem and The Temple Mount...Zion came to include Mt. Moriah, , and the city of Jerusalem

It was the Centre of Worship for the nation

*Ps.65:1 Praise awaits you Oh God in Zion*

*2Ch 5:12 and the Levites who were the singers, all those of Asaph and Heman and Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, stood at the east end of the altar, clothed in white linen, having cymbals, stringed instruments and harps, and with them one hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets—*

*2Ch 5:13 indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever," that the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud,*

*2Ch 5:14 so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.*

#### • Dwelling Place of God.....Zion is the place Gods presence dwells with people.....Zion is a people

*Ps.132:3 For the Lord has chosen Zion, he has desired it for his habitation. This is my rest forever, here will I dwell, for I have desired it.*

*I will abundantly bless her provision and satisfy her poor with bread, I will clothe her priests with salvation, and her saints shall shout aloud for joy*

*Ps.76:8 The Lord chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion which he loved*

Judah means "Praise".....the ruling tribe, the tribe Jesus descended from. The Lion of the tribe of Judah

*Is.51:16....And say to Zion you are my people*

## 3. What was Zion Known for?

### • Perpetual worship. 24/7...singers, musicians in courses

Centred around the ark of the covenant

Wooden box cornered in gold, mercy seat, angels overshadowing,.....

Pattern of spiritual and eternal realities...supernatural, miracle working God

Pot of Manna...Provision;; Aaron's Rod....Authority; Ten Commandments.....Revelation, Conviction

**Ark.....Jesus Christ**

### • Prophetic Revelation....constant flow of prophetic

### • Divine Authority & Government.....the centre of David's Government and rule on earth

Zion became the centre of worship and prayer and the place that David ruled over his Kingdom

David commissioned 24/7 worship so he could host the presence of God and from that presence govern the nation

This is purpose of worship and prayer .....release Gods governing authority in the earth

*Ps.110:1-2 Send the rod of your strength...cause your enemies to be subdued*

Prayer and worship alter the spiritual atmosphere until heaven enters earth and Gods presence and power are manifest

Spiritual Atmospheres must be built...we are responsible to exercise faith and build

The true Purpose of worship and prayer: intimacy, revelation and rulership so that governing authority be released on earth...miracles of healing, deliverance, provision

**Zion.....has always been the centre of contention natural and spiritual.....endless conflicts, warfare**

**Temple Mount still a place of conflict....**

We are privileged to be called to Zion...we have come there by blood of Christ

First gift we receive after Holy Ghost baptism...tongues...ability to praise, thank, bless, pray, intercede...

.....become a house of prayer

## 4. Mountain of the Lords House

*Isa 2:1 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.*

*Isa 2:2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it.*

*Isa 2:3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*

*Isa 2:4 He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore.*

**Mountain** is a prophetic picture of a **Kingdom** ...ruled by spiritual beings

Top....head over all other mountains, or Kingdoms

Eg.

Matt.17:19-21 Faith as grain....speak to the mountain ...demonic authority

Spiritual Authority and Power are needed to bring release

Demonic mountains are governmental in nature...need to be conquered

Not just about blessing and needs met...government in the spirit

*Is 56:7 I will bring them to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer*

**House and mountain are same ...equivalent**

Gods pattern is a house that is governmental...has influence and authority over all forms of government in the spirit.

Zion is a house of prayer and worship that hosts the presence of God

Eg

*Matt 16:18-19 I will build my house...give you keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and whatsoever you shall bind on earth shall be bound also in heaven*

Church....ecclesia....Roman & Greek culture ...government legislative body, making decrees affecting socie

Prayer and fasting and worship release an increase of Gods presence and power

*Mat 17:21 However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."*

**We have been given a seat of governmental authority**

We are commissioned to stand in presence of a God and function in faith

OT. Zion was a real physical place, a literal mountain

NT. Zion is a real spiritual place of relationship and function in the spirit for all believers.....priests to God

*Heb.12:22-24 You have come to mount Zion, city of the living God*

*Luk 10:19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.*

## 6. Zion and Babylon

Zion is contrasted with Babylon, the place of exile (Psalm 137:1) where their captors taunted them, saying "sing us one of the songs of Zion!" (Psalm 137:3).

Zion is both a real and a spiritual place..... Babylon is its opposite

Babylon is real place that has a symbolic, spiritual counterpart as the persecutor of God's people and a city of evil (Revelation 18:1-24).

Babylon....a city in Assyria, located in present day Iraq, about 100km SW of Baghdad

Babylon originated from Nimrod, a Kingdom of darkness Gen 10:8-9

Babylon Eventually fell to the Persians (Iranians)

Babylonians Worshipped Bel(Baal) and the Moon God....represented by a Crescent

King of Babylon portrayed in the movie **300**

Babylon ....Confusion

Babylon The Great represents Captivity & Bondage

It represents all the False Religions of the world that lead away from True God

Portrayed in Revelation as a Woman, a Great Prostitute, Mother of prostitutes and abominations in the earth, that reigns over the kings of the earth Rev.17:18

It represents captivity and bondage to demonic spirits...

*Rev 18:2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!"*

*Psa 137:1 By the rivers of Babylon, There we sat down, yea, we wept When we remembered Zion.*

*Psa 137:2 We hung our harps Upon the willows in the midst of it.*

*Psa 137:3 For there those who carried us away captive asked of us a song, And those who plundered us requested mirth, Saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"*

*Psa 137:4 How shall we sing the LORD's song In a foreign land?*

- Sat down.....passivity, bondage
- Wept.....grief and regret at condition, and loss of heritage
- Hanged harps...no praise and worship
- Plundered.....in bondage to enemies
- Mocked.....required of us a song, look happy
- Eunuchs.....lost identity and ability to reproduce life 2Kings20:17-18

## God wants to deliver us from Babylon and bring us to Zion

**Command:Come Out**

*Rev 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.*

**Promise of Freedom**

*Ps.126:1 When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongues again singing. Then said they among the heathen The Lord has done great things for them. The Lord has done great things whereof we are glad*

**Response Required**

*Isa 52:1 Awake, awake! Put on your strength, O Zion; Put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city! For the uncircumcised and the unclean Shall no longer come to you.*

*Isa 52:2 Shake yourself from the dust, arise; Sit down, O Jerusalem! Loose yourself from the bonds of your neck, O captive daughter of Zion!*

## 7. Action

**It is Time to Awake from Captivity....Align with the Chief Cornerstone & His purposes**

**Become Mt Zion.....the people God has chosen and loved**

Constant worship and prayer, receiving revelation, prophesying, exercising authority, ministering the presence and power of God

- Awake awake.....Stir self up from spiritual slumber, spiritual dullness**
- Put on your strength .....Renew relationship & consecration to Jesus**
- Put on your beautiful garments .....Rebuild prayer, fasting, worship.....garments of praise**
- Shake yourself from the dust.....Repent, break agreement with substitutes for God**
- Sit down.....Take up place of authority by faith, meditation in Word**
- Loose yourselves from the bonds..... Strong prayer...commands, decrees, exercise authority over circumstances**