

BRANCH LESSON #1

LESSON NO. 1

Subject: EZEKIEL 9 in the light of the 430 year PROPHECY.

First: Bro. Houteff tells us we will know the exact date of the Judgment of the Living.
Shepherd's Rod Vol. 11 page 220:3

"Is there any way whereby we can determine the time of the opening of the seal, and the commencement of the judgment for the living? If God so faithfully revealed to the living the commencement of the judgment of the dead, it can not be possible that He would keep secret the time of the judgment for the living. If He did, we would have no present truth in the time of the last seal; neither could there be justice in such secrecy, nor could such judgment be legal. Therefore, a revelation of the judgment for the living, is of as great importance as the revelation of the gospel itself. For the judgment (blotting out the, sins) is the crowning act in the gospel of Christ. Thus we conclude that when the seal is opened, and the judgment for the living begins, we must know it. The Day of Atonement in its type proves the Israelites were well informed of the event, their duty and the consequence. Also read 2U TG. 11:13:1.

Second: It did not start in 1929-Tract 3:43:3

"As the cleansings called for in the parables and in Malachi's prophecy have never taken place, the... investigative judgment of the living is obviously, then; yet future."

Then: The clue as to when the judgment of the living starts is given in 1SR page 116-at the end of the 430 yea, prophecy of Eze. 4.

Note: Chart on page 133 of ISR says the date of 1500 is not exact. Read 1SR page 116:2-3.

"We may suppose the 390 year period began in about 1500 A. D., (when Luther found the Bible), and ended in 1890 A. D. where the 40 year period began, which would end in 1930. However we cannot point out the exact day or month, or even the year, The prophecy by Ezekiel gives the information in detail from the beginning of Luther's reformation to Ezekiel 9, marking of the 144,000, and unrolling of the scroll, (not all in regard to this matter is yet understood, nor will it be understood until the unrolling of the scroll.)" Volume 6, page 17.

"It makes it clear that there is a 430 period from the reformation by Luther to the purification of the church."

So we reason:

1. Luther was only a boy of 17 in 1500.
2. He had just begun to study for the priesthood in the Catholic Church.
3. This date marked the reformation in his personal life.
4. The reformation against the Catholic Church did not begin then-1500.

Therefore: We find the first civil act in Luther's life (legal record) which indicated a reformation against the Catholic Church, was his marriage to an escaped nun, Katherine Von Bora, in 1525 (as recorded in "Guiding Lights" by F. E. Cook page 170) at the mature age of 42. This was contrary to the authority and principles of the Catholic Church which forbade either the priests or the nuns to marry.

Adding: 430 and 1525 equals 1955-the end of the 430 year prophecy-and beginning of Ezekiel 9-Investigative-judgment of the living.

Conclusion: 1955 is the beginning of The Judgment of the Living (investigative) to the house of God--The Sanctuary--Davidians who have the greatest light.

"The experience at Sinai is a symbol of the re-organization of the church-God Himself takes charge of the flock." ISR page 100:0.

Now: What is the Investigation like? (Ezekiel 9.)

Consider: Brother Houteff's comment on Rev. 11:13-Timely Greetings. Unrevised, 2-15:12:1.

He classes:

1. Rev. 11:13

2. Isa. 66:16 All equal to Ezekiel 9. 3. E. W. p. 270

Quote: "A tenth part of the city must represent the Lord's part, the tithe, so to speak. The earthquake therefore represents a shaking in the church of God. The remnant who give glory to God, can only be the faithful who survive the shaking. Thus is the church purified. This earthquake, then, is symbolical of the slaughter of Ezekiel Nine, and coincides with Isa. 66:16."

". . . the truth stands out that the shaking takes place before the Gospel work is finished." 2TG15:12-Before probation closes for the church!

Early Writing.,; p. 270:

". . . Some will not bear this straight testimony. They rise up against it, and this is what will cause a shaking among God's People."

FOR JUDGEMENT MUST FIRST BEGIN AT THE HOUSE OF GOD. I Peter 4:17.

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Bro. Houteff places:

1. Matt 25

2. Eze. 1 All at Ezekiel 9, see Tract 3:43:3 and 47:3 3. Mal. 3:1-3

Quote: 3:43:3.

"As the cleansings called for in the parables and in Malachi's prophecy have never taken place, the investigative judgment of the living is obviously, then, yet future. This investigative work is therefore occasioned by the work of separation in the earthly sanctuary (church), as brought to view also in Ezekiel 9."

Quote: 3:47:3.

"Inescapably, therefore, the Lord's coming to His temple (Mal. 3:1-3), His coming with all His angels (Matt. 25) and His coming enthroned above the living creatures (Eze. 1),-all three representing the same event, as has been shown, take place at the beginning of the judgment of the living: the time in which the judicial activities of the heavenly sanctuary extend to the earthly sanctuary--the church." D. S. D. A. then S. D. A.

All of which:

BRINGS US FACE TO FACE WITH THE FACT THAT OUR NAMES ARE COMING UP IN THE JUDGMENT OF THE LIVING WHICH STARTED OCTOBER 20, 1955.

"And he who does not reform at the moment he is convinced of the truth will not reform later."
Ans. Book 2:34:1

THE BRANCH Box 2629 Odessa, Texas

ANNOUNCEMENT: All Branch-Groups are urged to utilize the second tithes locally in organizing and promoting Isa. 58 work - taking care of the needy among us first, then those who are not of the household of faith. This work is in connection with Ezekiel 9 set forth in Matt. 25:33-46.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Branch-Groups desiring to purchase Tape Recorders, send inquiries to Miami Branch for discount.

Send requests for BRANCH Sabbath School Lessons to Miami BRANCH, Secretary, 2575 N. W. 52nd St. Miami, Florida.

All believers having material they wish printed, send Manuscripts to head office, Box 2629, Odessa, Texas, before sending to the field, in the BRANCH NAME, please. The Trumpet is to give a certain sound.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The Ben L. Roden family is touring the Eastern States and ask that the BRANCH mail be sent to Meadows of Dan, Virginia, U. S. A., so that a more speedy reply can be made to all correspondence. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Recipes free from all animal products are welcomed as the new and timely Cookbook will be --- available to all in the near future. These recipes, accompanied by the sender's name and address, will be printed periodically, for the convenience of those who are eliminating these products.

POEM: Submitted by Nelda Grubbs-Author unknown.

VICTORY! VICTORY!

When you can lovingly and patiently bear with any disorder, irregularity, and unpunctuality,
That is Victory,

When you are content with any food, any raiment, any society, any solitude and, interruption, by
the will of God,
That is Victory

When you never care to refer to yourself in conversation, or to record your own good work,
when you never long for commendation, when you can truly love to be unknown,
That is Victory,

When you can stand face to face with waste, folly, extravagance, spiritual insensibility and
endure it as Jesus endured,
That is Victory,

When your good is evil spoken of, when your wishes are crossed, your tastes offended, your
advice disregarded, your opinion ridiculed and you take it all patiently and in silence,
That is Victory,

When you are forgotten or neglected, or purposely set at naught and you smile inwardly,
glorifying the insult or the oversight, because thereby counted worthy to suffer for Christ,
That is Victory,