God's Shifting Process ... Part 2 Michael Mathews

Welcome to part 2 of the series on 'God's Shifting process.' Last month I discussed Biblical evidence that God would shift and exchange out many things before His return. I also included evidence through current events that things have been exchanging and/or shifting on a regular basis.

This month the focus pertaining to the shifting process is specifically on how and why the shifting process is taking place. For many people it is good enough to know that God's word proclaims the shifting and exchange process will take place, but for many others they desire to know the specifics of how and why the shifting will take place.

The how and why are very much intertwined when one asks the question; "Why did God choose to exchange and shift things in the last days before His return; and how will He do this? Let me start by stating an often missed yet critical aspect of Christ's death, resurrection, and return.

We often think of Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension from our own human perspective; meaning the crucifixion, pain, suffering, blood, humiliation, the resurrection, and the ascension etc. These are all true aspects of Christ first coming, death, and resurrection and ascension. However when you step back and realize the simplicity of why all these aspects and events were accomplished you come to the conclusion it was all for the purpose of Christ and the Father to be glorified.

In 1 Timothy 3:16 it is stated this way: "Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, and was taken up in glory."

When Jesus was being baptized in John 12:12 it becomes even clearer when these words were echoed by both Jesus and the Father: "Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." John 12:28

Finally upon His death in John 17:1 it states the outcome or the 'why' all these things will take place. "When Jesus had finished saying these things, he looked upward to heaven and said, "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, so that your Son may glorify you." John 17:1

As good Christians we do what comes natural by focusing on the aspects and events of the pain and suffering, but easily ignore the reason for the pain and suffering. This same thing is true about Christ's return. We get wrapped up in anticipation of the aspects and events while forgetting the outcome of why He is coming back. When Jesus ascended the disciples all looked up and saw him disappear in the clouds and the angel of the Lord came and said "Why do you stare up into the sky? Don't you know that He will come back in the same manner

He left?" (Acts 1:9-11)We focus on the physical aspect of the event, but what the angel was also referring to was the fact that Jesus went up in Glory and He will return in Glory. This is exactly why God stated in John 17:1 "I will glorify Jesus again.' We are all on a course to reach the ultimate purpose described in Philippians 2:10-11 "At the name of Jesus every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ in Lord to the Glory of God the Father." The final outcome and purpose of his return is to be glorified as well as give Glory to God the Father. We get so wrapped up in the events and our salvation we forget the final outcome.

Now on to the exciting news ... if the purpose is for God to Glorify His Son so that the Son may Glory the Father, and He is coming back like he left (in Glory); then Jesus is coming back fully glorified. As Jesus is preparing for the return, His Glory is coming and preceding His return. As much as we want to make religious events a one time split second event; the reality is that time has proven they happen in a process. Even though Jesus came to earth in a split second, it was a span of 33 years that the process took place in which He became fully glorified. If Christ is coming back in the same manner he left it is completely reasonably to assume His return is happening as a process with the ultimate culmination being the second coming of Christ. We need to be reminded that even after His death He appeared to His disciples as a process spanning many days, not in just a split second as our minds would like to imagine. He gradually revealed Himself during this time to show forth His glory to those who would listen.

If this is the case, and His return is preceded as a process, then His glory has been released on earth in a fuller measure and will continue to intensify. God's glory has no other choice but to expose the sin of the world and change the course that we have been traveling on. God's Glory is so powerful that it will cause the shaking, shifting and exchanging we are seeing. Imagine if God's Glory is becoming brighter here on earth, it may be the reason that the economic system has been exposed, false leaders have been exposed, and corrupt business leaders have been exposed. On the other hand it would also explain why so many more salvations are occurring, miracles happening, and dreams increasing. God's Glory is multi-faceted as it exposes sin it brings light and healing to all who seek Him. This may be the very reason back in December 2008 that a report was released that millions of Muslims have now come to Christ through dreams. God's Glory is preceding the grand finally; His return. In essence, God's Glory appearing and intensifying is the reason that things are shifting and exchanging. The greater exposure of what the world has become in sin will continue and intensify; however so will the great illumination of who God truly is. We could easily say we are in one of the greatest clashing of times. What God's Glory does to some will be just the opposite for others!

We have now answered the how and why the shifting will take place; God's Glory by its very presence is causing the shifts. It may be time for God's people to be less focused on the aspects and events and more focused on His presence and Glory. It will be in God's Glory that people get saved, delivered, healed, and aligned with the correct exchange.

God has given the world its opportunity; and He is echoing "It's My Turn; what side do you want to be on?"