

III. a. Havilah: Tribulation That Leads Us to Pison

Once in prayer the Lord showed me a picture of Havilah, and how it changes our lives. I was approaching a farmhouse with a porch on it and there were 2 dogs sitting on the porch. The first one I went up to was a cute little puppy. I went over to him, and he was bouncing around and acted as if he had been waiting for me. This was the first time I had ever seen this puppy, but he acted as if he had loved me forever. I picked him up and he tried to lick my face. He wanted to love me so much, and his joy was contagious.

The other dog I approached was enormous. He was mean and charging at the end of his chain. He was foaming at the mouth, and wanted nothing more than to get hold of me and tear me to pieces. I kept walking to the dog and he lunged towards me. He got me down on the ground and bit into my flesh. Once he had hold of me, he started shaking his head violently, and tore me to pieces. I was screaming and was in excruciating pain. Once he had ripped apart my flesh and there was nothing left, he became as calm as a kitten, a gentle bear.

He then put his head down to me and helped me up. Once I was on my feet, he led me into the house, and behind the door was heaven. The 2 dogs symbolized the Holy Spirit. There is a time when He wants to love us and bless us in this world. However, He does not want us to be in love with this world. No, He wants to take us to a better place. The big dog helps us to let go.

I believe that going through Havilah can be 2-fold. I have experienced it in my earthly life, to help me to let go of this world and to draw me into His presence. However, I have also experienced it in the Spirit.

When I first felt His presence it was a feeling in my heart. It was pure and holy, and I knew it was from the Lord. Other times His presence was butterflies in my stomach and caused my hands to shake. I felt this when I knew I was supposed to say, or do something. I knew what His presence felt like, and Scripture tells us to spend time in the Spirit, so that is what I did. I would enter into a time of prayer and meditation. I would turn on some music and lie down, and ask Him to wash my sins, and to let me feel His presence.

I would then feel His presence fall on me. At first, it felt like it was sprinkling down, as if He was raining from heaven. The more time I spent in His presence it began to feel like I was under a waterfall. There were times when His presence would be so heavy on me, that I felt I could not get up. If I quit thinking about the Lord, the heaviness would leave, but while I was thinking about Him, there were times when I could not raise any part of my body.

There were other times in the Spirit when I felt a joy come over me which made me smile and laugh. At times this joy would grow to the point that I would laugh uncontrollably and would not be able to stop. As I had more and more of these experiences in the Spirit, I noticed that they began to change. If I even thought about the Lord, I could feel His presence on me. When I would lie down to pray, I would start to shake.

At first it was nice, but at times I would shake uncontrollably as if I was having a seizure. I would feel my body tighten up, my back would arch, and my chest would rise. It felt like

something was being pulled from my body and the process was painful. I would keep praying through it and after it passed, a peace would fall on me. I would then go into a deeper place in the Spirit than I was before.

There was a time that whenever I would get into His presence, I would go through this unpleasant experience. My body would shake, my muscles would tighten, and I often got cramps. There were times when it was too much for me to handle. I would tell the Lord that I couldn't take it anymore, and everything would vanish instantly. Although it is not always fun, I keep seeking His presence, because I know that He is trying to transform me into His image and it is just my flesh trying to hold on. I am just experiencing that big dog trying to tear apart my flesh. (I am not saying that everyone has to, or will go through Havilah in the Spirit. I am only describing what I have experienced.) There are over 10 places in the Bible that people have testified to similar experiences to what I have experienced in the Spirit.

“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us” (Romans 8:18). Romans 8:16-27 testifies to what I have experienced in the Spirit.

We will go through Havilah when the Lord is trying to help us let go of the world. Remember, He is not trying to torture us. He is just trying to take us to a better place. I often find myself bouncing back and forth from Hiddekel and Havilah. I will be serving the Lord and He will be blessing me with the peace that comes only from the Lord. Then He will ask me to give more of myself. I will question God, hesitate in obeying and then Satan will come and deceive me. The Lord then steps back and I go through Havilah. I am then smashed around in Havilah, until I have had all the world I can stand. I then come running back to Him willing to seek His will for my life. I am looking forward to getting past my childish desires and towards maturity in Christ.

Our horses do the same thing. They go bouncing back and forth from the comfort and companionship of Hiddekel, to experiencing the “pressure” of Havilah when they fall into their self-preservation. After they experience the pressure of Havilah, they will no longer want to live in their self-preservation and will return to the peace that can be found “in” us. It is easy to shake your head at your horse and say, “What is your deal, if you would just do what I say, life would be easy.” The Lord has been saying the same thing to us ever since Adam and Eve.