

SORROWFUL WAY!

“Crowding around were weeping women, and we wonder that none of them lent a helping hand. Turning to them, Jesus said, ‘Weep not for Me. Weep for yourselves and for your children.’ The Master’s words in this connection, respecting their seeking the mountains and hills for covering and protection, are assumed by some Bible students to belong in part to the great trouble which came upon the Jewish people thirty-seven years later in the destruction of Jerusalem. And it is assumed that that destruction of Jerusalem and this trouble were types which foreshadowed the greater distress which will occur in the closing time of this Age.

Certain it is that the same expressions in respect to the mountains and hills is used in respect to the end of this Gospel Age. When at His Second Advent Christ shall be revealed in flaming fire of judgments, it will consume the present order of things and prepare the way for the new King. We are not to assume that any one would pray for mountains to fall upon him when he could take his own life in a much easier way. Rather, the thought seems to be that many will seek and desire and pray for hiding, for protection against the raging troubles. The rocks of society are its social organisations, each of which seeks to protect its own membership. ‘If they do these things in the green tree, what shall be done in the dry?’ said Jesus. He here seems to liken the Jewish nation to the fig-tree which quickly withered away under His curse, or sentence. So, five days before His crucifixion, Jesus, riding upon the ass to Jerusalem and weeping over it, had said, ‘Your house is left unto you desolate.’ Now, in so short a time, while the fig-tree was still green, its rulers had reached a desperate place, so that they were willing to violate all law and set aside all conscience in His crucifixion.

If so quickly the evil worked to such a horrible outrage of justice, what might not be expected later on, when that Jewish fig-tree had thoroughly dried and all the sap (spirituality) had gone out of it? Similarly, in the end of this Age we may expect that the Church, the Body of Christ, the saints, will suffer violence, that thus the salt of the earth will be removed, and that quickly thereafter a general putrefaction will set in—anarchy.”— R5577

SMITTEN OF GOD, AFFLICTED



‘Daughters of Jerusalem, weep
not for me,
but weep for yourselves, and for
your children.

For, behold, the days are coming,
in the which they shall say,
Blessed *are* the barren, and the
wombs that never bare,
and the paps which never gave
suck.

Then shall they begin to say to
the mountains,
Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover
us.

For if they do these things in a
green tree,
what shall be done in the dry?’

(Luke 23:28-31)