

## **Jerusalem**

21 June 2008 – Kerryn Anderson

While praying for Rick Ridings in Jerusalem God gave me this vision; I saw myself looking over this ridge down into a valley at this white city. Beside me, on both sides, there were many people doing the same; they seemed to be mirroring my actions while quietly talking to each other. Their expressions were ones of wonder and interest, but they seemed to have an ignorance about them; they did not truly understand what was happening. I knew these people were beside me and what they were thinking but I was more concerned about the scene in front of me. As I looked down onto this city I saw in the land surrounding it, many craters made from meteors. Some were grassy and grown over, others were fresh ground that had been newly impacted.

I didn't see any meteors falling but I felt them above me, I seemed to feel them falling around this city. Where the people around me were inquisitive about the scene, I was frightened. Anxiety and fear seemed to overtake me and I couldn't bear to look at the scene anymore. As I ducked behind the ridge again, the people beside me followed in two waves on either side. They knew that something was really wrong but didn't understand what. I just had a feeling that I knew more than they did.

### What God initially told me

I can't be ignorant anymore. I need to watch what is going on in the world; I have no choice; I'm responsible. I need to keep watch what is happening to Jerusalem and the nations surrounding it. This is God's world; we have no right to live in our own little bubble. As a Christian we need to develop a heart after God's and He is concerned about what is happening in His world. I felt that my not wanting to watch the scene in the valley below was symbolic of my ignorance of the world.

The crowds on either side of me symbolised Christians. I felt God condemning us for our ignorance. I felt that He would no longer tolerate it; it was time for His people to step up and step out!

I felt the meteors were symbolic of the nations around Israel targeting its people. All through history nations have come up against God's people and tried to destroy them; this is symbolised by the craters that were grassy and grown over; old scars. The new craters that showed fresh ground unearthed, I felt, symbolised the new battles against God's people, new attempts to wipe out His people.

I really felt God say that Jerusalem had this quiet confidence about it; that I didn't have to worry because God was protecting her, I just need to keep watch.

### 22 June Scripture

Joel 3: 14-17 "multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon will be darkened and the stars no longer shine. The Lord will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and sky will tremble. But the Lord will be a refuge for His people, a stronghold for the people of Israel. Then you will know that I, the Lord your God, dwell in Zion, my holy hill. Jerusalem will be holy; never again will foreigners invade her."

Multitudes of people in the valley...what their decision is I do not know.

The time is near, the fresh craters symbolise new battles to be won. The grown over craters symbolise the old battles, perhaps even the attacks on Israel in the Bible times. The fresh ones are battles through recent years and those yet to come. Perhaps the intensity I felt with the craters

overhead, but the fact that I couldn't see them, could symbolise the coming of something big. Even though we can't see it, we need to be aware of it, we need to feel it coming before we see it.

The darkened sun and moon and trembling sky could symbolise the darkened sky from the craters in my vision.

God's promise of being a refuge and stronghold to His people is portrayed through the quiet confidence that I felt God had over Jerusalem in my vision. God will be the confidence of His people, He will be worshipped, He will protect.

### 17 July Scripture

Isaiah 21:7 "...let him be alert, fully alert"

Isaiah 52:8 "Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices, together they shout for joy. When the Lord returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem."

I felt God telling me that I am going to be a watchman in what is coming. That I will see God's glory coming and it's my responsibility to tell others. That when I see it, I can't be ignorant of it, and I must be responsible in telling others.

Within my vision, this could be symbolised by the many people either side of me mirroring my actions. I seemed to feel more gravity for the scene I saw but the others seemed ignorant; this could be because a watchman knows what is happening before the people below. It is his responsibility to inform them.

I know the second verse is for me because it was the verse straight after the one I got for the church.

### Scripture

Isaiah 32:17-20 "the fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence for ever. My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest. Though hail flattens the forest and the city is levelled completely, how blessed you will be, sowing your seed by every stream, and letting your cattle and donkeys roam free"

What struck me instantly in this scripture were the words "quietness and confidence". In my vision God told me not to be scared because Jerusalem had a quiet confidence about it. Another line that complimented the vision was "hail flattens the forest", I saw this as the meteors falling around the city and disrupting the ground around it.

Now I felt God say that Jerusalem represented His people, but not just the Jews but His followers. Things are going to start to fall apart around them but they need not worry and just trust in God. He will protect them and give them this quiet confidence. They will live peacefully and secure and not be struck by the meteors or the falling of the world around them. That the time is coming when God is going to judge the world for what they are doing. He is going to start destroying the world as they know it but His people must just keep faith in Him. I feel that the city that is levelled represents today's society and perhaps the way that they function and live. Looking at what is going on around us at the moment we can see this; housing prices dropping, petrol soaring!

I also thought, the sowing of seeds by the stream, could represent the Church's work here by the Severn.

Isaiah 34:1-4 "come near you nations and listen, pay attention, you peoples! Let the earth hear and all that is in it, the world and all that comes out of it! The Lord is angry with all nations; His wrath is upon all their armies. He will totally destroy them, He will give them over the slaughter. Their slain will be thrown out, their dead bodies will send up a stench; the mountains will be soaked with their blood. All the stars of the heavens will be dissolved and the sky rolled up like a scroll; all the starry hosts will fall like withered leaves from the vine, like shrivelled figs from the fig-tree"

This scripture compliments the one above. God is angry at the nations; for how they act and live now days. They have forgotten Him and now it's time for EVERYONE to pay attention. By God destroying their armies He is destroying their strengths and what they rely on for functioning and find safety in (the UK is such a financially stable nation, but two of its strongest economical dependencies are already being destroyed!)

The blood soaked mountains could be seen as the battle field around the city in my visions; the meteors were causing such destruction, pain, fear. The falling meteors are described in this scripture as the falling starry hosts.

Perhaps the falling of the withered leaves from the vine could symbolise God sorting through His people; the ones that aren't strong enough to fight for their Lord will wither and fall away from Him, as "He is the vine and we are the branches". This could be seen in the "multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision". Gods people are coming to a point where they have to choose between God or the worldly way they live their lives.

I also felt that the mass destruction described in the verses and the vision could be an attack on Gods people. That the world is going to increase their attack on God's people and we need to be ready for it. Just as God told me in my vision not to be scared or ignorant, that He is protecting His people, we need full confidence in our Lord!