

A Brief look at the Stone:

Due to so much misunderstanding regarding the Stone in Daniel 2, we are here putting forth a brief account of what it is and the role it plays in end time events. It is sad that Adventists have become so entrenched in their traditions that they are unwilling to take a deeper look at what the Bible actually shows us on this subject. And that in the face of the fact that Ellen White urged us over and over again to study deeper into the truths of Daniel and Revelation—and that was years after Uriah Smith's book was written. We also know that Daniel and Revelation are parts of the same book and so they help to interpret one another. To explain one separate from the other prevents anyone from arriving at a true picture.

Adventists rattle off our trite answers without so much as a second thought that they may not be correct, and it is a shame that those who seek to show deeper meaning that is completely Biblical, are accused of being a setter forth of strange doctrines by those who will not bother to even look at it for themselves. While the Shepherd's Rods MAY put forth something about the stone that sounds a little similar, their whole message is totally unbiblical and bears no relation to this deeper study on the truth of the stone. Few of the people who accuse us who study prophecy as being Shepherd's Rods, actually really know what those people do teach.

It is interesting that nowhere does the Spirit of Prophecy ever tells us that the stone represents Christ's Second Coming; and the Bible tells us it is connected with the setting up of a kingdom by God. That this stone is certainly connected with Jesus' Second Coming is true – but it is only part of the story; we need to look deeper and see more of this beautiful picture.

The Kings:

Another error that tradition has handed us is that the ten toes are the same as the ten horns on the terrible beast of Daniel 7. But any candid thinker can see that this cannot be, as we do not see three toes removed and another little toe come up among them—do we? No. Besides, they are at the end of the foot, where the Roman division takes place at the start of the Iron/Clay part—it is the broken pieces of Iron that represent the parts of the disintegrating Pagan Roman Empire. Especially so because the Papacy began to arise at that time as the result of the union of church and state.

So what are these ten toes? Well in Daniel 2 it says in the days of these kings—what kings? The Ten toe kings; and we find out what they are in Revelation 17:12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

So they are the ten horns on another beast and they rule together for one hour with the Beast and they rule only one kingdom, not ten kingdoms. And in the days of those kings, shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. They represent the United Nations' One World Government that comes about after the USA passes its National Sunday Law and pushes it onto the world. (Revelation 13)

Notice it is talking about a process of setting up a kingdom here that God carries out—so to learn more about this process, we will look deeper at the Stone.

The Mountain:

Basically the Mountain of the Lord—Mount Zion is a symbol of God's true people down through history. We see them 'standing on Mount Zion' with the Lamb where one day they will all stand in the Kingdom. If you do a Bible Word search on Mount Zion you will see that it represents the faithful of all ages—it is eternal. It is represented that God and the Lamb dwell there in the midst of His people. It is not the church per se but the faithful in the church would be part of it. It is symbolic not literal.

Psalm 125:1 They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever.

Now in order for the Great Controversy to be brought to an end here on earth, the Lord has to present His final evidence to refute the claims of Satan. Satan has claimed that it is impossible for humans to obey God's law. Now Jesus came and took upon Himself the fallen nature of man and He lived a sinless life through trusting fully in the divine power of His Father. He has made it possible for man to live without sin trusting in the power of Jesus through the indwelling Holy Spirit.

By interceding as man's High Priest, presenting His blood in atonement for sins committed and providing the power of His own sinless life to enable obedience, salvation has been brought within the reach of fallen man.

HOWEVER there is still something to be demonstrated and Satan says it can't be done. There has to be demonstrated a group of people that actually can live a sinless life without a Mediator standing in the heavenly sanctuary! BEFORE Christ can return for His people and raise the righteous dead and confine Satan to his prison house for 1000 years, this last evidence must be presented to the universe. Jesus has to present a group who do this, or He cannot end this great battle against sin and Satan.

The 144,000:

This group is to be the 144,000. They are to be Christ's final witness that His word is true and His Law can be obeyed through the indwelling of Divine Power. Until this is presented, the righteous dead are locked in Satan's prison house of death and the living cannot be translated. We see what the Bible tells us is the role of the 144,000.

Revelation 14:3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but **the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.** 4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. **These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.** 5 **And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault** before the throne of God.

We see here that they are without fault – they are without guile – they are sinless and they are the 'first fruits' unto God and the Lamb. SO just what is this first fruits thing? well, in the Sanctuary services, the Israelites could NOT bring in the harvest until the priests had first gone into the fields and gathered a sheaf of grain. This was then brought into the sanctuary and presented to the Lord. Then and only then were the people allowed to bring in the harvest. This was called the offering of the first fruits.

Now there was even more to this because they were to take the grain of these first fruits and make some bread WITH leaven or yeast in it. This was the ONLY offering that was to contain yeast as yeast was the symbol of sin. BUT then they were to bake these loaves thoroughly until the yeast was totally destroyed from the bread—then these were presented as the first fruits.

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SO what does all this mean? Well, it means that these loaves pointed forward to the 144,000. The firstfruits unto God and the Lamb. They start out with sin in their lives, but through the sealing work and the trials and tribulations that Jesus leads them through, they come to the place where they are without sin, and they are sealed for eternity without sin. These are the ones who are presented to the universe as the final proof of God's righteousness and the integrity of His Law!

These then can stand in the time of trouble after the final close of probation, without a mediator. They no longer need a mediator as they are without fault before God. Once this group has been presented by Jesus as the final proof of His work, then He steps out from between the Father and unrepentant mankind. Probation for all is closed and Jesus puts on His robes of vengeance and prepared to take His seat on the great white cloud to come for his people.

These 144,000 will be translated without seeing death, but first the righteous dead are raised as this is now possible because the first fruits have been presented. NOW Jesus can gather His harvest. While Jesus is preparing to come, the 7 last plagues are being poured out on the inhabitants of the earth and the Saints are in the time of Jacob's trouble. This is a final test that is showing the universe that Jesus' work is solid and that nothing can induce these firstfruits to sin.

The Scapegoat:

Thus Satan's claim is forever refuted. Now is the time when the sins of the saved are placed on the head of the scapegoat. It is the 144,000 that are represented by the 'fit man' that leads the scapegoat into the wilderness—the bottomless pit. They symbolically lead Satan into his captivity with all the sins of the redeemed placed on him by Jesus in His last act as High Priest, before He steps down.

So the 144,000, the remnant, are the stone that brings down the corrupt nations and it is the feet that they strike; because the feet more than any other time, deserve to be stoned. The feet have committed whoredom, the feet have blasphemed; the feet have broken and despised the Sabbath and so what is the sentence?

Numbers 15:35 And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: **all the congregation shall stone him with stones** without the camp.

The 144,000 congregation are joined as one, and so are called as one stone to stone the image.

John 8:7 "So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, **He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone** at her."

The 144,000 are without sin, so they first cast the stone at the whore.

They are cut out of the last remnant of the faithful without hands—Jesus selects them Himself, but they get to choose whether or not they wish to be part of this demonstration of Jesus power as He brings down the last argument of Satan and ends the Great Controversy forever. The reason time has tarried is that God's professed people have been much more interested in joining in the fun and frolic of the world and enjoying the pleasures of sin for a season than allowing Jesus to do His special work in them to make them His special holy generation—His first fruits.

So bit by bit, things have been allowed to get harder on planet earth, and Jesus is hoping that His people will wake up and strive to be among the 144,000 and He will perfect them and use them to stone the image on the feet. This is now happening, and those who do not recognize this work and understand this message will not be sealed. And if we are not doing the stoning—then we are the ones being stoned!!!! We receive the Mark of the Beast and the 7 last plagues, unless we die first.

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But look at what our wonderful Lord is doing. He is going to present to the universe his 144,000 gathered from the final generation—the most degenerate of all the race through history. He is calling from that degenerate race people who have been especially ensnared and degraded by Satan. Then He is cleansing, re-creating and perfecting them—sitting as a refiner of silver as he purifies them of dross—then these special trophies of His grace are presented to the Universe as His special treasure. Thus he brings to eternal silence the accusation that Man cannot obey the Law of God.

The Stone:

So maybe now you can see that the stone does represent the 144,000, the first fruits to the Lamb. It is Jesus that cuts them out and prepares them by the Holy Spirit. He polishes and perfects them through trial and tribulation, to be able to show them at last as His precious First-Fruits. So He can gather His Harvest and take them home at last.

The Mount is the symbol of the faithful of all ages, and the stone prepares the way for Jesus to return and then the judgment of the wicked takes place during the millennium and then the wicked dead are raised and destroyed. THEN mount Zion, God's redeemed faithful, will occupy the earth made new. Fill the whole earth and remain forever.

The idea that the stone is Christ's 2nd coming is an overly simplistic and unbiblical view and does not fit the Bible evidence. Jesus cannot cut himself out of Mount Zion, which represents God's faithful saints. BUT Jesus uses the stone He cuts out to bring to an end the wicked reign of Satan and his cohorts forever.

He says of His remnant: Jer 51:20 Thou art my battle axe and weapons of war: for with thee will I break in pieces the nations, and with thee will I destroy kingdoms;

That great Image, the huge monolith of Satan's cruel reign in the earth, is brought down forever as the 144,000 cut out without hands by Jesus and perfected by the Holy Spirit provide the final weapon that Jesus uses to end sin forever. "And all the congregation shall stone them with stones." All Satan's lies are shown to be only like the chaff of the threshing floor that is carried away on the winds of time.

Jesus returns to collect the subjects of His kingdom—the first fruits and the whole harvest of the righteous dead, and takes them to heaven to sit with Him in His throne of judgment where the Beast, the false Prophet, and the Dragon are judged and then at the end of the millennium, are executed.

"Let us strive with all the power that God has given us to be among the hundred and forty-four thousand." (RH March 9, 1905). {7BC 970.10}