DAY 2: SINGING MARANATHA WHEN NATIONS COLLAPSE

I. THE MARANATHA CRY

- A. In the early church, "Maranatha" had a credal element and means:
 - 1. The Lord has come
 - 2. The Lord is coming

II. THE FIRST PROPHETIC LINE: MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

- A. There is a profound declaration made right from the beginning of time:
 - 1. God says, "I will put enmity between you and the woman; between your seed and her seed" (Genesis 3:15)
 - 2. In particular, one seed from this seed-line "will crush your head" (Genesis 3:15)
- B. This declaration is more than just one beating up the other, this is foretelling the day when Jesus will defeat the devil
 - 1. This seed will also come from Abraham
 - 2. He will possess the land, and rule over it
 - 3. The seed of David, from the line of Judah
 - 4. The King of Israel and "The Crushing One" are one in the same (Numbers 24)
 - 5. First called the "Anointed One" (The Messiah) in Psalm 2

III. THE SECOND PROPHETIC LINE: BLESSING OF MOSES

- A. God has also promised to His people, Israel, not just that a human is coming but that God is coming from heaven to save Israel (Deuteronomy 33)
- B. Yahweh is coming from heaven, on the clouds, with myriads of angels to save Israel and judge Israel's enemies

IV. THE TWO PROPHETIC LINES COME TOGETHER

- A. We see the merging of these two lines in Daniel 7
- B. The first time that the we see that the seed of Eve is God
- C. The Messiah must have two comings, natural and heavenly



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V. THE BOOK OF HABAKKUK

- A. God's people have been yearning for the Lord to come from the beginning; the Maranatha cry has existed since the fall
- B. Habakkuk lived about 100 years after Isaiah
- C. Prophesying shortly before the fall of the Southern Kingdom of Judah to the Babylonians
- D. Th Jews at this time understood that one would come and rule on the throne of David; they would have expected that his kingdom would never fall
- E. There were other prophecies that explained the blessings and chastisements of the people
 - 1. Ultimately, the prophecies end with, "I will bring you back"
- F. Habakkuk is crying out to God on behalf of his people (v. 2)
- G. God replies and tells Habakkuk that he is about to hand the people over to the Babylonians (v. 5-11)
 - 1. Chastisement is for their ultimate redemption, not eternal judgement

VI. THE PRAYER OF HABAKKUK

- A. This song would be sung together by the people
- B. "God comes" or "God will come" when correctly translated (Habakkuk 3:3)
- C. Tells of the End Times
 - 1. Alludes to Jesus returning in splendor (v. 3)
 - 2. He comes from the South (v. 3)
 - 3. Foretells of plague and pestilence (v. 5)
 - 4. The land of Midian trembles because that's where God is coming from (Sinai) (v. 7)
 - 5. First time we see Jesus riding on horses (v. 8)
- D. Foretells of the crushing of the Antichrist (v. 13)
- E. The vision is way off in the future, Habakkuk has to wait for it (v. 16)
 - 1. The righteous are defined as "those who wait"
- F. This is what it means to live a Maranatha lifestyle, to wait with yearning
- G. Scholars speculate that, when all of the promises seen to have come to nothing, the righteous would come together and gather at the rivers and sing this song of Habakkuk

