

## When Blinded Eyes Are Opened

The worm is used very often in Scripture and has different meaning depending on the context. Sometimes it is used in a negative sense, as something that eats and devours where it takes abode.

In other situations, it is used in reference to the opinion the wicked have towards God's people – insignificant, small, weak, and fit to be trampled on. In the Book of Isaiah God says to Israel, "*Do not fear, you worm Jacob.*" This explains why Jesus likened himself to a worm while on the Cross! We read in the Psalms:

But I am a worm and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people. All who see me mock at me, they make mouths at me, they shake their heads.

(Psalm 22:6-8)

It is understood from this prophecy, and from the Gospel Accounts, that the Lord felt so low on account of the scorn that was heaped upon Him and the opinion man had of Him in His most vulnerable condition.

But the majority of those who witnessed Jesus' suffering treated Him this way because they believed the curse of God was upon Him. For in their Law it is written, "*cursed is anyone that hangs upon a tree.*"

They reasoned that Jesus was only receiving what He deserved for blaspheming God! We are told this explicitly in Isaiah's prophecy about the Messiah. It says:

He was despised and we held him of no account.  
Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried  
our diseases, yet we accounted him stricken,  
struck down by God and afflicted.

(Isaiah 53:4-5)

Although this passage of Scripture was written for Christians of all ages, both Jews and Gentiles, some Bible expositors see it more specifically as the cry and confession of penitent Israel in the future. The late Messianic Jew David Baron was one that held to this view.

In his exposition on Isaiah, he sees the Prophet being transported into the future by the Spirit, and becoming a voice for this future redeemed group of Jews, who will compare the real truth about Jesus with what they previously believed about Him. He describes their confession as follows:

How base was our ingratitude! How intense was our ignorance! How thick our darkness! How profound our blasphemy against that Holy One, who in His love and compassion condescended to bear our griefs and to be laden with our sorrows! Yet we regarded Him as plagued, smitten of God, and afflicted.

## The When and How

The Scripture plainly states that this turning around will occur in the Last Days. Concerning how, the Apostle Paul is even more specific:

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent?

(Romans 10:14-15)

As it has always been down through history, the Church will be God's instrument in bringing many unbelieving Jews into the Kingdom of God.

And this will come about through an unprecedented move of the Holy Spirit, that will also open the door for worldwide evangelism. Paul says exactly this:

For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead!

(Romans 11:15-16)

But know, the Anointing of God comes with a price, which calls for two things. First, diligence and perseverance in seeking the Lord, as opposed to the lazy, slothful, sleep on a little more attitude!

Second, seeing the Visible Church is invaded by weak and despicable people, believers need to be equipped and quick to expose their ungodly deeds and false doctrines and to have nothing to do with them anymore.

Finally, dear friends, if you think you can disregard this biblical command and still have a role to play in God's coming harvest, I urge you to reconsider. *"But as for the cowardly .... their place will be in the place that burns with fire and sulphur."*