

Study Outline: Daniel 2: The Stone That Comes from the Mountain

Prayer thought: *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, p. 35

Text for Study: **Daniel 2:28, 31-35, 44, 45** (see chart on next page 4)

Where Did The Stone Come From?

- **Daniel 2:45** —The stone came from a mountain.
- If the image (gold, silver, brass, stone, etc.) is symbolical, then the mountain must also be symbolical.

What Does A Mountain Symbolize In Scripture?

- **Dan. 9:16, 20** — Daniel in his prayer likens the church (Jerusalem) to a mountain.
- It could not be a literal mountain, because literal mountains do not sin.
- **Isaiah 2:2-3** — In the last days God will exalt His church above all other churches and kingdoms.
- **Additional Texts: Isa. 56:7, 2:2; Mic. 4:1-4; Rev. 17:9; Zech. 8:3; Matt. 5:14; Jer. 51:25; Isa. 51:16.**

Exactly What Church Does The Mountain Symbolize?

- It must be the church in the latter days (v. 28). **1 T 361.**
- The church of Laodicea (**Rev. 3:14-17**).

What Or Whom Does The Stone Symbolize?

- A remnant from within the church
- If the mountain is people, then the stone must symbolize people as well, for the stone was cut out from the mountain.

Cannot The Stone Symbolize Christ At His Second Coming?

- The stone came from the church (mountain), not heaven or the sky. (**Dan. 2:45**).
- If the mountain is people, the stone must be people also.
- The stone grows and becomes a Great Mountain—a great church.
- The growth of the stone reveals the rapid growth of the purified church (the stone). Many new converts will join the ranks of the true people of God while probation is still open. This cannot happen at the second visible return of Christ, for the gospel would have already been completed and probation closed.

Where Else In Scripture Is The Church Represented As A Stone?

- **Zech. 12:3** — Here the church (Jerusalem) is likened to a burdensome stone.
- **1 Pet. 2:3-5, 8 T 173** — Christ's followers are also represented as stones.

Who Are The People Symbolized By The Stone?

- The people represented as the stone must be SDA's because they came from the mountain (the SDA church).

- They (the stone) are used as God's 'servants' to proclaim the gospel (in power) to the world. This is shown in the stone's rapid growth.
- The 144,000 are the only ones that embody these characteristics.

Rev. 7:1-4

- 144,000 are said to be from modern Israel — SDA church, (verse 4). (**9T 164**).
- They are called by John, 'servants', indicating that they have a special work of proclaiming the gospel. They are, in other words, messengers of God.

Rev. 14:1, 4.

- Here they are recorded to be 'not defiled with women' (other churches-doctrinally, **Jer. 6:2**). They are 'virgins' (profess a pure faith, **COL 406**).
- They are called the 'firstfruits'. This indicates that there must be second fruits. Therefore, the 144,000 are the first ones sealed, they in turn go out and gather in the second fruits—the Great Multitude of Rev.7:9—those from the fallen churches constituting Babylon.
- **Note:** For more details concerning the 144,000 and the Great Multitude, please review the study outlines on these topics (www.shepherds-rod-speaks.org/shepherds-rod-studies/).

How Is The Stone Cut Out Of The Mountain?

- **Dan 2:34** — "Without Hands"

Testimonies to Ministers, p. 46-47

- This reference explains how the wheat and tares are brought into the church.
- Page 47, par. 2, reveals that angels will accomplish the separation—**not men**.

Testimonies, Vol. 3, pp. 266-67

- That the true people of God are those who recognize sin in the church, stay afar from it, but speak out against the sins.
- **TM 445** — The closing work for the church is the sealing of the 144,000.
- This work of the sealing of the 144,000 is "forcibly set forth" by the prophet (Ezekiel), when in vision he saw five men (angels) with slaughter weapons and the sixth with a "writer's inkhorn."
- Only those who sigh and cry for the wrongs in the church receive the seal.
- Inspiration itself tells us to read the ninth chapter of Ezekiel.

Ezekiel 9:1-11

- "The higher gate which lieth toward the north" symbolically represents heaven—where God's throne is located. (**Ps. 48:1-2, Isa. 14:13**).
- Even though Ezekiel calls them "men" they are in fact angels because they are seen coming from the "north" (heaven). (**Dan 9:21**).
- Only those who "sigh and cry" for the wrongs in the church receive the seal.
- The other five angels are sent by the Lord to slay (physically) those in the church who did not receive the seal.
- The Lord brings this slaughter because the sins in the church are "exceedingly

great.”

Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 211:2

- The stroke of the wrath of God has always been literal.
- The leaders (ancient men) do not believe that it is literal, for they say, “times have changed. God is too merciful to visit His people in judgment.”
- “Men, maidens, and little children all perish together.”
- **Additional references: 5 T 505** — Eze. 9 is the anti-type of the Passover in Egypt (**1 T 189, 5 T 80**).

What Causes the Stone to Grow?

Verse 35

- The gathering of the great multitude, finishing of the gospel (**Isa. 2:2-3; Matt. 24:14**).

Isaiah 66:15-20

- Verse 15 shows the Lord coming , this is **not** the second coming of Christ because there is no pleading when Jesus comes in the clouds.
- No one will escape the second coming to go and preach the gospel (Verse 19).
- There will be no gathering of the nations after Jesus comes (Verse 19).
- The coming of verse 15 must therefore be the Lord’s judgment in the church, after which a great multitude is gathered into the church (Verse 19).

How will the 144,000 (the Stone) Destroy the Nations?

- By completing the preaching of the gospel in “every nation, kindred, tongue and people” which brings the end of earth’s governments.
- **Jer. 51:19-20** —This unconditional prophecy has never been fulfilled.

Summary:

- This study reveals how God is going to finish His work during the Loud cry.
- First He will purify His church (the mountain) by separating the unfaithful from the faithful.
- This separation process will leave only a 144,000 living saints (stone) who in turn will be filled with the power of Holy Spirit and go out to finish the gospel and call out all of God’s true people from Babylon.

