

THE CLAP

Now this subject is going to take careful study of many scriptures to point out what will be most interesting. The only way we can really be pleasing to the Lord is to obey the scriptural examples and follow the word of God even if it violates everything we have learned.

This book will relate the use of the clap in warfare. A complete study of the clap is recommended. Due to MUCH error in the use of the clap, three purposes are going to be clarified in this section:

- A. To introduce the clap as a weapon of spiritual warfare.
- B. To dispel the error in the use of the clap.
- C. The power of the clap in warfare is more than any other offensive weapon.

In order to perform those purposes the following sections will be presented:

- A. The use of the clap in warfare.
- B. The places King James translates words clap that are misinterpreted.
- C. The use of the clap in praise.

In a study of the clap, we find several Hebrew words translated "clap" and each must be carefully researched to find the true meaning of the word. The context of the scripture will give additional insight.

Hebrew TAQA:

There is one word needing much research that is translated "clap" in the King James Bible; Hebrew "taqa" according to Strong's: To clatter, ie. slap (the hands together), clang (an instrument), by analogy to drive (a nail or tent pin, a dart, etc.), by implication to become bondsmen (by hand clasping); translated blow (a trumpet, cast, clap, fasten, pitch (a tent), smite, sound, strike, suretyship, and thrust. To become bondsmen is not listed as something we should do, but as in being surety for a debt. It is not used in the meaning of covenant in this scripture.

To explain what this word means, lets take a few scriptures:

and Ehud put forth his left hand, and took the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust (taqa) it into his (King Eglon of Moab's) belly. (He died). (Judges 3:21)

And he (Joab) took three darts in his hand, and thrust (taqa) them through the heart of Absalom, while he was yet alive in the midst of the oak. (2 Samuel 18:14)

So far we can see it is not very nice of someone to perform the action expressed by the word "taqa". It is not an easy word to understand because it is translated blow as in "blow a trumpet"; that being the hardest area to understand. Research of this word is important or there would not be this much effort into making it easier to understand. Let's continue with a list of how this word is translated:

Taqa is also rendered "Pitch" as in pitching a tent (driving a tent-pin) so we can relate that to thrust as in killing someone with a dagger; "Fasten", as in fastening Saul's body to the wall of Beth-shan and his head in the temple of Dagon (though not something we would want

performed on our behalf). It is also rendered "Strike" as in "strike hands to become surety for a debt", not something we should do according to Proverbs 17:8 and 22:26.

Now continue to examine two places Taqa is translated clap:

There is no healing of thy (Assyria's) bruise: thy wound is grievous: all that hear the brutt (news) of thee shall clap the hands over thee: for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually? (Nahum 3:19)

This is a weapon to **SMITE THE ENEMY!!** This scripture indicates the Assyrians were doomed and the "Taqa", translated "clap", is a weapon over the enemy. You will find in prayer and divine warfare the clap will break the enemy's hold. But wait - what about to God in praise? The other scripture in which "Taqa" is translated "clap":

0 clap your hands all ye people, shout unto God with a voice of triumph. (Nahum 3:19)

This clap is not to God, but over the enemy as we smite him and shout over the victory to God. Notice this scripture is about spiritual warfare, not praise or worship of God. (Notice the word "triumph".) A careful study of each Hebrew word in Strong's will prove the scripture is on the subject of warfare, not praise and not worship.

Hebrew CAPHAG:

Hebrew "caphag" according to Strong's is to clap the hands (in token of contempt, derision, grief, indignation, or punishment; by implication of satisfaction, to be enough, by implication of excess, to vomit; rendered clap, smite, strike, suffice, wallow.

You could look up each example of this word if you desire, but you could quickly see it is not in praise to God: rendered "strike" in Job 34:26, "smite" in Jeremiah 31:19, "wallow"(in vomit) in Jeremiah 48:26, "clap" in Lamentations 2:15 (a form of curse as you can see when you read the text), "smite" in Ezekiel 21:12, "smote" in Numbers 24:10, and "clapped" in Job 34:37.

For he addeth rebellion unto his sin, he clapped his hands among us, and multiplied his words against God. (Job 34:37)

This is VERY strong for the clap in warfare if you read it carefully; remember this is a separate Hebrew word "caphag" so don't get mixed up. It is definitely not something to be performed toward God, but would be something you would use on your enemies.

The next Hebrew word, "nakah" is defined in Strong's to strike (lightly or severely, literally or figuratively), and is translated beat, cast forth, clap, give (wounds), go forth, indeed, kill, make (slaughter), murderer, punish, slaughter, slay, and smite. This word is translated clap in one place, when Joash was anointed King the people clapped their hands. If you carefully study these verses you will find warfare and danger throughout:

And ye shall compass the King round about, every

man with his weapons in his hand: and he that cometh within the, ranges, let him be slain: and be with the King as he goeth out and as he cometh in... (2 Kings 11:8)

And they proclaimed him king, and anointed him, and they clapped their hands, and said, long live the King. (2 Kings 11:12 Amplified Bible)

This could be an example of spiritual warfare or of honor given a King, and evidently it was a very forceful clap of the hands. It is quite likely this is NOT in honor of the King, since in the entire Bible there is not another example of this Hebrew word being used to honor a King. It is difficult to prove either way. We must continue to other scriptures to find examples to follow in spiritual warfare.

HEBREW MACHA"

Defined in Strong's Concordance as to rub or strike the hands together (in exultation). To find the real meaning of the Hebrew word, look at the three places it is used. Notice the first two examples have TWO or THREE subjects, in one scripture it is floods and hills, in the other it is mountains, hills, and trees. That does eliminate the possibility of the trees in either scripture to be representative of people, since the other one or two subjects would not fit. Study carefully:

let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful together before the Lord; (Psalm 98:8)

Notice the sound of waves is a gentle rubbing sound, such as waves on the beach representing this Hebrew word MACHA.

For ye shall go out with joy, and be lead forth with

peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. (Isaiah 55:12)

Notice the sound of leaves in the trees is representing the Hebrew word MACHA, also a gentle rubbing sound. Mountains, hills and trees are all represented. If people were trees in this scripture, what would be represented by mountains and hills?

Remember the scriptures about the whole earth praising God and the rocks crying out to God? Very similar indeed. Now to look at the third place "Macha" is used:

For thus saith the Lord God, because thou hast clapped thine hands, and stamped with the feet, and rejoiced in heart with all thy despite against the land of Israel, Behold, therefore I will stretch out mine hand upon thee... (Ezekiel 25:6 -7)

Notice the Hebrew word MACHA is NOT used in the Bible as anything we as people should do towards God, but definitely can even be against God.

THE CLAP IN PRAISE

The term wave offering is in the Bible, but the clap is not used in such a way. In fact, there is not one example of David in praise or worship of God where the scriptures indicate David clapped. The misunderstanding of Psalm 47:1 is the only way the term clap is associated with praise. You will find that if you use the clap as a weapon, there are times when the Lord will give you a song, or a spirit of intercession, when the clap is prompted by the Spirit for cutting the bondages of Satan. As you continue, you will

find two scriptures where God Himself clapped and one where He ordered a prophet to clap:

The clap is a powerful weapon over Satan, but have you heard it taught that God ordered a prophet to clap?

GREATER POWER

Notice the reason God Himself clapped and ordered a prophet to clap:

**Therefore son of man, prophesy and smite your hands together, and let the sword be doubled, yes treble in intensity; the sword for those to be overthrown and pierced through; it is the sword of great slaughter which encompasses them (so that none can escape)...
(Use the Amplified Bible Ezekiel 21: 14)**

Two examples in which God himself clapped:
(Amplified Bible)

Turn, (O sword), and cut right or cut left, whichever way your lust for blood and your edge direct you. I will also clap my hands, and I will cause My wrath to rest. I the Lord have said it. (Ezekiel 21:16)

In thee have they taken gifts to shed blood; thou hast taken usury and increase, and thou hast greedily gained of thy neighbours by extortion, and hast forgotten Me, saith the Lord God. Behold, therefore I have smitten mine hand at thy dishonest gain which thou hast made, and at thy blood which hath been in the midst of thee. (Ezekiel 22:12-13)

God did not clap because He approved of the people !

Now do you see two or three witnesses agree? Words sometimes confuse people because we don't correctly understand their meaning.

HOW SHOULD YOU CLAP?

Let's use the clap against Satan for the double or triple intensity of the sword of the Spirit. Learn of your weapons, and use them!

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