

EZEKIEL'S PROPHECY OF THE WHEEL WITHIN A WHEEL (Ezekiel 1:16)

On a PBS television channel, there was program about the DELTA QUEEN, a Paddle Wheel Steamship on the Mississippi River. To get the most leverage to turn the massive wheel, the crank handle had to be as near the outer rim, of the wheel, as possible. To manually spin the wheel would be very slow and laborious. But, how do you hook the CRANK to the steam engine deep in hull of the ship? How can the horizontal back and forth motion of the powerful steam piston be changed to rotary motion to turn the crank of the massive paddle wheel? But a genius named Pitman, carefully studied a human arm turning a crank. He invented the steel "PITMAN ARM" with mechanical joints and bearings, to mimic the motion of a human arm and hand. The far end of it could be attached to the "crank". This way, enormous power could be used to turn the wheel and move the boat. I saw the Delta Queen really churning up the water. While the wheel was turning I saw what looked like a smaller wheel turning within the big wheel. An engineer stood near the wheel, with an oil can with a long spout. He kept oiling the joints and bearings. He explained that if he did not keep the joints and bearings oiled, they would start squeaking, then squealing, then the joints would seize up and break off the arm or smash the engine or the wheel.

I then realized that, after the "FALL of MAN", God installed the "WHEEL" that had to turn to bring Man up to God and God down to Man. But the Priest, using burnt offerings and sacrifices, had to be the "arm" that turned the wheel. Unfortunately, this arm was weak and failed too many times. The process needed to be more reliable and more efficient.

So God installed His "Pitman Arm", the arm of the Lord revealed in Isaiah 53:1, the "Wheel Within the Wheel, JESUS CHRIST! He now turns the wheel to bring God down to us, and us up to God. Now, all we need to do is keep the bearings "oiled" by faithfully praying, studying His Word, witnessing, and following where God leads us. Yes, the manual power of the Priest is too weak, and is no longer needed. Though Jesus, we now have unlimited access to GOD with His POWERFUL ARM. We just have to do our part to keep the "WHEEL" turning smoothly.

WERE EZEKIEL'S VISION OF THE TWO WHEELS, AND ISAIAH'S ARM OF THE LORD REVEALED TO US, PREDICTIONS OF THE COMING OF JESUS CHRIST?

P.S. My father, John Riley, was an Ordained Minister as well as a Motor Mechanic Instructor. In every lecture he was able to equate motor repairs and maintenance with our Spiritual Integrity. The school lectern was also his "pulpit". In teaching Motor Mechanics, he helped convert more men than when he preached in the Church. I know he lectured on the Pitman Arm, so he may have used this same spiritual illustration. (Numerous mechanical devices use Pitman Arms.)

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