

## 1659 AD – ‘MADAME GUYON IS STRICKEN WITH SHAME AND REPENTS’

**“We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers: for we have sinned against thee.”** (Jeremiah 14 v 20)

### EVENTS IN 1659 AD<sup>1</sup>

In **1648 Madame Guyon** was born prematurely in the eighth month of her mother’s pregnancy. Very ill as a child, she survived but struggled with her health all her life.

Her parents were aristocrats of France. She recalls at age four praying to God at a point when she had a dream of hell: **“Oh, my God, if Thou wilt have mercy upon me, and spare me yet a little longer, I will never more offend Thee.”** After she told her mother and her priest of her experience she says **“my heart glowed with a kind of fervor”**.

From that young age she experienced an intense desire to seek God: **“I found great fervency and delight in prayer, and was persuaded that this ardor, which was as new as it was pleasing, was a proof of God’s love.”**

She met the **Queen of England** on one occasion and so impressed her that the **Queen** desired to make the child a bridesmaid to the princess. But for some reason her father protested and she never travelled to England.

The poor girl suffered frequent illnesses and beatings at the hands of her sisters and her brother. In her sick bed her caretakers left her alone for fear of contracting her maladies. And so she spent hours and days reading the Bible to herself.

By and by the rough treatment she constantly received turned her heart to bitterness.

In **1659** she said she had an experience of shame and repentance which **“proved effectual to gain me entirely to God, at least for a time”**. A missionary to China stopped by her home while she was out for a walk. She writes:

**“At my return he was gone. They gave me an account of his sanctity, and the things he had said. I was so touched that I was overcome with sorrow. I cried all the rest of the day and night. Early in the morning I went in great distress to seek my confessor. I said**

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Autobiography of Madame Guyon:

to him, "What! My father, am I the only person in our family to be lost? Alas; help me in my salvation."

Her priest offered her no remedy, so she prayed earnestly in her heart for conversion:

"Oh, thou God of love, how often hast Thou knocked at the door of my heart! How often terrified me with appearances of sudden death! All these only made a transient impression. I presently returned again to my infidelities. This time thou didst take and quite carried off my heart. Alas, what grief I now sustained for having displeased Thee! What regrets, what exclamations, what sobbings! Who would have thought, to see me, but that my conversion would have lasted as long as my life? Why didst thou not, O my God, utterly take this heart to thyself, when I gave it to Thee so fully. Or, if Thou didst take it then, oh, why didst Thou let it revolt again? Thou were surely strong enough to hold it, but Thou would perhaps, in leaving me to myself, display thy mercy that the depth of my iniquity might serve as a trophy to thy goodness."

God heard the girl's prayers and she says she found new power to overcome sin:

"I immediately applied myself to every part of my duty. I made a general confession with great compunction of heart. I frankly confessed all that I knew with many tears. I became so changed that I was scarcely known. I would not for ever so much have made the least voluntary slip. They found not any matter for absolution when I confessed. I discovered the very smallest faults and God did me the favor to enable me to conquer myself in many things. There were left only some remains of passion, which gave me some trouble to conquer. But as soon as I had by means thereof, given any displeasure, even to the domestics, I begged their pardon, in order to subdue my wrath and pride; for wrath is the daughter of pride. A person truly humbled permits not anything to put him in a rage. As it is pride which dies the last in the soul, so it is passion which is last destroyed in the outward conduct. A soul thoroughly dead to itself, finds nothing of rage left."

From this time forward she would spend much time in prayer and Bible reading. She found a compassion for the poor and would take them linens and food.

We will meet **Madame Guyon** again in later verses of prophecy in Jeremiah. **God** did a great work in her life and so bright was her testimony it was foretold in the Bible!

## PROPHECY OF JEREMIAH 14 V 20

**“We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers: for we have sinned against thee.”** (Jeremiah 14 v 20)

In **1658 Cromwell** died. In **1659** in **England** there was a searching of heart. The army wasn't loyal to his successor as **Lord Protector** as it was to him. The English debated how the land should be ruled. Rather than turning to **God** and confessing their sin – for the **English Civil War** was a bloody affair – the aristocrats and the Parliamentarians agreed it was best to invite **Charles II** back to be their earthly King and head of the **Church of England**.

**Cromwell** was a military man with many concerns in running the country and suppressing rebellions. As a **Puritan** who believed in a national church, **Cromwell's** wish was to reform the **Church of England**. No one perceived it was a sin to have an institutionalized church<sup>2</sup>.

There were many in the aristocracy and gentry who did not share **Cromwell's Puritanism**. The only way for them to return to the original **Church of England** was to restore the original royalty. Primarily for religious reasons, the monarchy was restored. All the legal documents were amended to cancel everything **Cromwell** had achieved. **England** would be ruled by the King just as if the **English Civil War** and the **Commonwealth** had never happened.

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The restoration amounted to confessing to **Charles II** that the nation of **England** had sinned in rebelling against **Charles I**. **England** proved what ‘god’ she served.

In the same year, **1659**, over in **France** the young **Madam Guyon** was stricken with shame and guilt that her behavior transgressed against the **God of Heaven**. It seems the revival of the faith which might have fallen in **England** fell on her heart instead. She made a full confession of her sins and pledged to serve the LORD with her full heart.

**England** did not confess her sins to **God**, but instead reverted to **Man's Religion**. This was a sorry error for which the nation would pay dearly. (See our papers [1662 AD](#), [1665 AD](#), and [1666 AD](#)).

**Madam Guyon** would be a martyr for her faith: her writings and testimony inspired many.

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<sup>2</sup> That is, except the minority free Christians which included the Congregationalists (Brownists) and the Quakers (George Fox)

## SPIRITUAL NUMBER ANALYSIS

For a mind that has wisdom please read on. See truth from another perspective.

### PART ONE

Chapter **14** of Jeremiah is the **83<sup>nd</sup>** chapter of The Prophets.

The spiritual number **83** means 'Nations That Hate God'

England was the 'Nation That Hates God'. After all the suffering of the **English Civil War**, she preferred to restore a monarchy that treated the people of the land with contempt than to bow down before Almighty God.

### PART TWO

Jeremiah **14 v 20** is the **19,314<sup>th</sup>** verse in the whole Bible starting at Gen **1 v 1**.

The number **19,314 = 74 x 261**

The spiritual meaning of **74** is 'The Beast'

The spiritual meaning of **261** is 'Lowly Servant Exalted'

Don't think it amazing that a prophecy of **Isaiah** could be fulfilled in the heart of a young girl in France: 'Lowly Servant Exalted'. The LORD says unless we become like a little child we cannot enter the **Kingdom of God**. The eyes of the LORD search throughout the earth continually to see whose heart belongs completely to him.

Persecution of believers in **England** intensified: 'The Beast'. Laws were introduced, called the 'Clarendon Code', which forbid an assembly of more than five unrelated people outside the **Church of England**.

### PART THREE

Jeremiah **14 v 20** is the **1659<sup>th</sup>** verse of The Prophets starting at Isaiah **1 v 1**.

The number **1659 = 21 x 79**

The spiritual meaning of **21** is 'Appointed Time'

The spiritual meaning of **79** is 'Martyr'

Here is the testimony of **Madam Guyon** of her earliest conviction of the Holy Spirit when she was but four years old:

"And thou didst, O Lord, in mercy hearken unto my cry, and pour upon me strength and courage to serve thee, in an uncommon manner for one of my age. I wanted to go privately to confession, but being little, the mistress of the boarders carried me to the priest, and stayed with me while I was heard. She was much astonished when I mentioned that I had suggestions against the faith, and the confessor began to laugh, and inquire what they were. I told him that till then I had doubted there was such a place as Hell, and supposed my mistress had spoken of it merely to make me good, but now my doubts were all removed. After confession my heart glowed with a kind of fervor, and at one time I felt a desire to suffer martyrdom."

What is a martyr? It is a person with a love of God who keeps their faith and testimony for Jesus Christ in spite of all manner of sufferings, and even in some cases death.

At the 'Appointed Time' (later in her life) **Madam Guyon** would be sanctioned by the King of France and thrown into jail for many years for the sin of loving God with all her heart and writing tracts encouraging others to pray: 'Martyr'.

In **1659**, the hand of the LORD was upon her, even this young girl, to be his witness to the King of France of the love of God.