

# ISRAEL'S DESTINY



An end-time book for end-time Bible prophecy students.

*By Dirk Evenhuis.*

## Table of Contents

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page number</b>
1	----- Israel and the church -----	6
2	----- Israel's repentance -----	8
3	----- Repentance, return and restoration -----	10
4	----- Israel in the foreknowledge of God -----	12
5	----- Signs of the times -----	14
6	----- Israel shall blossom and bud -----	16
7	----- The idols of Egypt shall be moved at His Presence -----	18
8	----- God destroys the council of men -----	19
9	----- A cruel lord -----	21
10	----- Signs and wonders -----	23
11	----- Jacob and Esau – Israel and Jordan -----	26
12	----- Israel's loving and discriminating God -----	27
13	----- I am for you -----	30
14	----- The glory of God's holy name -----	32
15	----- The national resurrection of Israel -----	34
16	----- The United State of Israel -----	36
17	----- The coming Russian invasion -----	38
18	----- Peril from the North -----	40
19	----- The burial of Gog -----	43
20	----- Intervening times -----	45
21	----- Armageddon -----	48
22	----- But I have gathered them unto their own land -----	51
23	----- The Holy people -----	53
24	----- The Kingdom of God -----	55
25	----- The Millennial reign of our Lord Jesus Christ -----	57
26	----- Conclusion -----	60

## Dedication

It is with blessed memories and deep gratitude toward God that we dedicate this book to the memory of my father, the late Reinder Evenhuis (1908-1990).

Born in a little country town in northern Holland, he was raised with four brothers and two sisters. At the age of thirteen he began his apprenticeship as a butcher. He worked six days a week, 12 hours a day for the equivalent of 20 cents plus board a week. He saved carefully until at the age of twenty he had accumulated sufficient to begin his own business. However, the bank where he had invested his money went broke and he lost every cent. Starting anew, he was able to commence his own business at the age of twenty-two. A few years later it fell his lot to share his hymnbook with a young visitor in church. This beautiful young lady with raven black hair he thought to be a Jewess. She was to become his wife and sweetheart for fifty-four years. Together they not only survived the depression, but prospered. They were blessed with a son Tony and a daughter Clara.

Then came the war with all its horrors. A book could be written on this alone. Suffice to say the whole family survived. Yet something tormented my father and mother. They could not come up with any reasonable answer as to why the holocaust had taken place. This matter disturbed my father greatly and he had no rest until the answer was found. The first light on this subject came to him in 1947 while attending a birthday party. Two men spoke to my father with words that were totally contrary to what he had been taught. They maintained that God had not finished with the Jews, boldly claiming that the Holocaust was nothing less than Satan's desperate attempt to stop the reformation of the State of Israel. They also claimed that it was written that not only would the Jews return to the land but that the deserts of Palestine would soon be blossoming as the rose. This was all a bit much for my father, but armed with a list of scriptures he went home to check it out. He found all their claims to be true and substantiated by the word of God. From that day on he was at odds with the denomination that had spinkled and confirmed he and my mother and brought them thus far.

The following year (1948), the State of Israel was formed on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May amidst joy and consternation. Meanwhile, during that year, my dear mother suffered with appendicitis and was hospitalised. A church elder came to comfort my father while my mother was in hospital. However, this man was depressed and disillusioned and ended up being comforted by my father who, with great enthusiasm, began to share with him from God's word all that the Almighty was doing with His ancient covenant people Israel. That night, after bidding farewell to his guest and climbing the stairs to his bedroom, my father had a life changing experience. While he took off his coat what can only be described as a baptism of the Holy Ghost totally immersed my father. Something interesting too had happened in the hospital that day for the doctor who had operated upon my mother's appendix noticed an irregularity with her womb. The next day my mother's Jewish doctor came to her and said: 'Mrs. Evenhuis, we have taken the liberty to adjust an irregularity with your womb, which may explain why you have been barren these past ten years!' It certainly did, for that same year my mother conceived and in the company of that same Jewish doctor gave birth to a little boy – Dirk – in the September of 1949. Shortly after this my father felt led to take his family to Australia. A very strange thing for a successful businessman to do.

Together with thirty five Dutch families, the five of us arrived to live in Penguin, Tasmania, in 1951. One year later we came to a small town called Smithton, situated at the far north western tip of Tasmania. There my father began managing a smallgoods factory. Again a book could be written about the adventures of immigration, especially as one could not take finances out of post-war Holland and my parents had to start from scratch.

In Smithton there was not a Dutch reformed church, so my family settled with the Christian Brethren for a spiritual home. This was where my early memories began. My father, as usual was greatly blessed in his work. He was a diligent, wise and capable man with big strong, square hands that were not afraid of work. My earliest memories of my father are at the table, his gentle hands folded in prayer. Never in my father's house do I remember a mealtime without prayer and the reading of God's word.

These were my favourite times, when I would climb up on dad's knee and soak in his love for God and his love for me. My mother too, was ever faithfully at my father's side and she often did the reading. After the reading, my father would always give a short commentary upon the word, ask questions and then close in prayer. Everyday my father would pray for the peace of Jerusalem. His custom was to begin at Genesis and systematically go through to Revelation. Any profit you may gain from this book is largely due to my father's faithfulness. He was not to know what lay before his little son, yet he faithfully prepared me for the ministry during my twenty one years in my father's house.

At school I struggled with a spelling impediment and was most grateful to leave and come to my father to learn a trade. It was then that our lifelong friendship truly blossomed into that of bosom buddies. Not only did we live, pray and study God's word together, but we also spent hundreds of hours boating and fishing together. In my late teens my father and I perfected flounder fishing together, catching up to thirty dozen a week.

It was in 1967 that my father again experienced a unique spiritual time. During the first six months of that year my father had ten visions. I remember being quite embarrassed because he went to all the churches and to everyone he knew speaking of the things he had both seen and heard. For the remaining twenty three years of his life, these experiences remained with him. The visions were about the state of the church in the form of warnings and exhortations, and also about Israel's joy in the day of her redemption. Later on in life my initial embarrassment turned to mutual joy with my father in the matters which were revealed to him.

In 1969, I found my life's companion in answer to much prayer. Phyllis and I married in 1971 and purchased a home in Smithton. By the God's grace we paid cash for our first home with most of the money coming from the flounder my father and I had caught together. We continued to work together and only one year later Phyllis and I were able to purchase the business where my father had given me my training. The business, blessed by a happy marriage and the friendship of father and son, prospered enormously. The experience of age harnessed together with the enthusiasm of youth makes a powerful combination, especially when God is at the helm.

It was upon the day of my 30<sup>th</sup> birthday that the Lord called me to leave our district and work for Him. Though Phyllis had only three days before given birth to our fourth son, our first child being our only daughter, she was ready to make preparations with me. Five months later my father and mother, too, saw us off with their blessing, though our going would leave them without family in the district. Now the years of my father's careful preparation were to begin yielding their fruit. Our business was sold and the finance invested in a Tasmanian farm and a Victorian home in Melbourne. I can still see my dear parents standing together and waving us off at their little country airport. For the next eight years in Melbourne we received a steady flow of loving letters and financial support for the ministry from my father and mother who carefully and prayerfully followed our every move. During this time I travelled Australia and other countries preaching and teaching. Never have I outgrown the faithful and basic teaching which I had received from my father.

In 1988, and to the joy of my aging parents, the Lord directed us to return. Taking over the reins of the farming property we had invested in eight years previous. Beef farming became our "tent making" work as I continued with Phyllis' help to fill the position of Executive Director of Christian Friends of Israel. Happy days too, as the seven of us tasted again Oma's (Dutch for Nanna) unbeatable soup and Opa's (Dutch for Pop) raspberries and cream. Now it became my sons and I bringing home the flounder just as my father and I once did.

Still my father read the Bible after every meal, the blessing and joy of my childhood home had not departed. Incidentally this godly tradition has continued with Phyllis, the children and I with great blessing. However, my parents who were in their eighties could no longer manage the home and extensive gardens of thirty years. Lovingly we helped them move to a beautiful rest home. How we praise God for the privilege of being there when we were needed. Within just a few months first Oma and then Opa had gone to be with their Lord. "How good is the

God we adore", for after fifty four years of being together, they were apart for only ten weeks. We will never forget the serene, majestic and most beautiful smile upon my father's face. Though the soul and spirit had departed, the glory of heaven was indelibly stamped upon the face of this humble and loving servant of God. How appropriate was the text he had chosen for his funeral service: "For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's" (Romans 14:8).

We trust that you shall be blessed as you read the following convictions and observations in regard to "Israel's Destiny". I know that my father would join me in wishing you every blessing. Don't worry about 666, the crash of the dollar or the coming of anti-christ. We are waiting for Jesus Christ! As my father so faithfully taught me, our Lord said: "Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." (Luke 21:24), "Behold the fig tree" (Luke 21:29) and "Look up,... for your redemption draweth nigh." (Luke 21:28). When we look at Jerusalem or Israel "the fig tree", our hearts rejoice in the faithfulness of Israel's covenant keeping God.

This in turn causes us to look up, "And when these things (i.e. concerning Israel) begin to come to pass then look up,... for your redemption draweth nigh." (Luke 21:29).

"Maranatha"- the Lord is coming.

"Thank you heavenly Father, for my earthly father who taught me to love, trust and obey you, "Our Father which art in Heaven."

Dirk Evenhuis

## Chapter 1

### Israel and the church

The aim of this book is to emphasise Israel's unique position within the plans and purposes of God. The roll of Israel and that of the church should not be confused. May God grant us grace and wisdom as we undertake this study so that we might rightly divide His word of truth.

#### **AN IDENTITY CRISIS**

Many today seem to be in an identity crisis. It has been taught for centuries that the church has replaced Israel. Even among those who acknowledge the restoration of Israel, there are many who speak of themselves as 'Spiritual Israel'. This author too has been guilty of this in the past. We don't know who coined this phrase 'Spiritual Israel', but it does not deserve its common usage among Christians for it is not found in scripture. The word Israel is found in the New Testament in excess of seventy times. However, after careful consideration of its uses, we have come to the conclusion that there is not one case in which the New Testament refers to Gentile believers as Jews or Israel. All Jewish and Gentile believers in Christ are presently incorporated into one body, namely; the church.

#### **A SEPARATE PLAN**

God has a separate plan for each of His covenant peoples, yet it is clear that both Israel and the church have a common destiny in our commonwealth through Jesus Christ. This common destiny and wealth is realised in that glorious city for which Abraham looked, "new Jerusalem" (Revelation 21:2). "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Hebrews 11.10) The Lord Jesus has promised the church a part in this city. (See Revelation 3:12-13). Both Israel and the church shall eternally dwell within her. See Revelation (21:12-14)

#### **WHO IS ISRAEL**

Many take Romans 2:28-29 to mean that all who are circumcised of heart are true Jews and therefore part of Israel. We do not believe that Paul is establishing a 'Spiritual Israel' in these verses. He is expressing a point which he continues to enlarge upon throughout the book. Paul continues: "... For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel" (Romans 9:6) in other words, which are descended from Israel. This scripture does not add Gentiles to the nation of Israel, but subtracts from Israel those descendants of Jacob who reject God's plan of salvation. The apostle Peter gave clear warning to the nation of Israel in regard to this subtraction when he declared "And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, (i.e. be circumcised of heart) shall be destroyed from among the people." (Acts 3:23)

Again Paul continues in the same vein when he quotes Isaiah. "...Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved." (Romans 9:27) It is only the faithful remnant of Israel which shall be counted as Israel. So that when Paul declares: "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written..." (Romans 11:26) he is not referring to the church, nor is he referring to everyone who is born Jewish, but he is referring to a faithful remnant which shall be counted as "...the Israel of God" (Galatians 6:16) who shall yet fulfill God's plans and purposes for that nation upon this earth in the literal fulfilment of His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The complete restoration and restitution of Israel has been suspended by God for the duration of the 'age of grace'. However when "...the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled" (Luke 21:24) and "...the fulness of the Gentiles be come in" (Romans 11:25) this present dispensation shall be concluded, for then God Almighty will restore the remnant of His chosen people and place them in their own land and at the head of the nations. See Deuteronomy 28:13.

#### **THE ETERNAL COMMONWEALTH**

Paul reveals that in the church there is neither Jew nor Greek, nevertheless, "... and ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29) for even as Abraham

we believe God and are part of the "...household of faith" (Galatians 6:10). Never is the church called the seed of Isaac, or the seed of Jacob, for both were set aside by God as heads of a single and particular nation. Nevertheless "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us." (2Corinthians 1:20) the church is not alien to but part of the "commonwealth of Israel" (Ephesians 2:12) This does not mean that the church is Israel, any more than being in the British Commonwealth makes me, an Australian, British. However, "the Israel of God" and "the church" shall enjoy the same privileges for their commonwealth is in the Lord Jesus Christ who is both "the king of Israel" and "the head of the Church"

It is worth noting that the Lord Jesus is called "the King of Israel" and "the King of the Jews" in excess of thirty times throughout the New Testament. Not once is He called the 'King of the church'. The wise men were not looking for their own King but "He that is born King of the Jews" (Mathew 2:2)

### WHO IS THE CHURCH

What does God's word say about the church? The word Church means 'called-out-ones' and she has been called out of every Nation. "That he might present it to himself a glorious church ..." (Ephesians 5:27) The Church is compared to:

A temple ----- Corinthians 3:16-17  
The body of Christ ----- 1 Corinthians 12:27-31 and Colossians 1:24  
A habitation ----- Ephesians 2:22  
A house ----- 1 Timothy 3:15

Christ is referred to as 'The head of the church', see Ephesians 1:22, Ephesians 4:15 and (Colossians 1:18.) The church is referred to as "betrothed" to Christ in (2 Corinthians 11:2) and compared to a bride in (Ephesians 5: 22-30.) Though the church is betrothed, she is not yet married. She is compared to a bride awaiting her Bridegroom. (Revelation 21:9) He shall come for His called-out bride and she shall marry Him who is the rightful heir to the throne of David. He has promised that she shall sit with Him in His throne. "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." (Revelation 3:21-22)

"It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: If we suffer, we shall also reign with him..."(2 Timothy 2:11-12) Indeed our Lord Jesus shall "...restore again the kingdom to Israel" (Acts 1:6). And His bride the church shall sit with Him in His throne. This brings to mind our Lord's comforting words "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom." (Luke 12:32), "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." (Colossians 1:13)

### MAY WE BE READY

I have sought in this opening chapter to highlight the danger of being found in a position of mistaken identity. May we clearly understand who we are so that we may be found looking up when our Bridegroom appears.

## Chapter 2

### Israel's Repentance

#### MISCONCEPTION

It was generally thought by the disciples that the Lord Jesus had come to fulfil God's promise to David and again raise up His throne and deliver Israel from all her enemies. The mother of James and John was sure that her sons were best suited to sit one each side of the Lord. She hurried to tell the Lord, obviously she thought the time was near. It was because of the earnest expectation that this day was imminent that the disciples found Christ's words about dying so hard to understand.

#### DANIEL ENLIGHTENED

Even back in time, Daniel felt sure that when Jeremiah's prophesied seventy years in Babylon were accomplished Israel would return and the Kingdom would be restored. It was only after the angel Gabriel came that Daniel understood that seventy sevens were yet to be accomplished upon his people and that the seventy year exile was only an introduction of that 490 year period. "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophesy, and to anoint the most Holy." (Daniel 9:24)

#### AN AWFUL SHOCK

No doubt many devout saints such as Simeon, Anna, and The Wise Men had calculated that the time of which Gabriel spoke of to Daniel was close at hand. It is no wonder that the disciples were so pre-occupied with this exciting prospect. Christ's death upon the cross was an awful shock, how could the scriptures now be fulfilled? Even before this, John the Baptist had shown his bemusement when he sent messages to ask the Lord whether He was truly the One or could they expect another? It just wasn't going the way poor John had expected.

#### NEW EXPECTATION

However, now in Acts chapter one, this was all behind, hopes had revived and now the question that was on everyone's mind was again broached. "When they therefore were come together, they asked him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, it is not for you to know the times or seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that The Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight." (Acts 1:6-9) The disciples peered up into the sky but the Lord had gone.

#### NEW REVELATION

It was not until after the Comforter came that the saints began to understand that the Kingdom was not imminent after all. Only Paul out of all the Apostles seemed to understand that the time of the Gentiles had intervened and that the clock of Israel's time had stopped ticking until that time of the Gentiles should be fulfilled. Daniel's 483 years had come and gone when the Lord Jesus rode into Jerusalem and Israel's house was left unto them desolate. The remaining seven years now unfulfilled, was suspended until "...the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." (Luke 21:22) Peter, under the Holy Spirits control made manifest to Israel what conditions God had set for the return of the Lord Jesus. "And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers. But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ, should suffer, he hath so fulfilled. Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began." (Acts3:17-21)



**ALMOST TWENTY CENTURIES HAVE PASSED**

Almost two thousand years have passed and still Israel seems no nearer repentance, refreshing or restoration. Nevertheless, we are absolutely sure that when Israel's clock starts ticking again and the remaining seven years pass, Israel will be on her knees calling out in the greatest national repentance that this world will ever witness. The timing of this event can not be accurately calculated by us, for the coming of the Lord Jesus for His bride is in the Father's hand. In my view, the remaining seven years will not begin while the bride of Christ is still on the earth.

**JOSEPH A TYPE OF CHRIST**

My mind goes back to Joseph, who was sold at seventeen, it wasn't until twenty years had passed that he revealed himself to his brethren. Even then it was not until after Judah had confessed their corporate sin: "...what shall we speak? or how shall we clear ourselves? God hath found out the iniquity of thy servants..." (Genesis 44:16) that Joseph could reveal himself to his repentant brothers. Joseph could easily have taken an army back home and forced his brothers to confess as soon as he came to power. Yet he awaited God's time knowing that forced confession would not lead to repentance. Even as Joseph waited, so to does our Lord Jesus. Joseph's twenty year separation from his brethren, we believe, represents the past twenty centuries which have separated Israel from her Messiah. Soon this separation shall come to its end, in the unification of the King with His people.

**REFRESHING AND RESTORATION**

O what a day of refreshing and restoration it will be when Zechariah's prophesy is fulfilled. Then the tears of repentance will give way to tears of joy! "And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplication: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his first born." (Zechariah 12:10) We praise and glorify you Lord God for your boundless mercy and grace.

## Chapter 3

### Repentance, Return, and Restoration

#### A SAD REALITY

It is sadly true today that many marriages are breaking. The depressing statistics have been spiraling upwards at an alarming rate. Our God so well understands the heartache of those who grieve over the devastating results of divorce. He too has suffered through the unfaithfulness of His 'wife' and daily longs for her return. Some may think that if Israel were indeed married to Jehovah, she should have lived happily ever after. True, every opportunity was afforded her. Her Husband once said "What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done it?..." (Isaiah 5:4) Even though Jehovah has been a perfect husband, one would hardly term their present relationship 'marital bliss'. God is the first to admit that all is not well. In Jeremiah chapter three God reveals the sad truth, but even here, when He vividly describes the shameful behavior of His wife, He immediately accompanies these revelations with a call for her return. "They say, If a man put away his wife, and she go from him, and become another man's, shall he return unto her again? Shall not that land be greatly polluted? but thou hast played the harlot with many lovers; yet return again to me, saith the LORD. (Jeremiah 3:1) However, after reviewing her repeated acts of adultery, God sadly declared: "And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce;...(Jeremiah 3:8)

#### BRINGING ISRAEL TO REPENTANCE

God's separation from Israel through divorce has not annulled their marriage relationship. From the start, this drastic action was aimed at bringing her to repentance. Paul in complete harmony with this principle declares: "But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace. For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?" (1 Corinthians 7:15-16) The believer in this case is not assured that their wayward spouse shall return or be saved, but is exhorted to hope for their salvation. Through the foreknowledge of God, we know with certainty that Israel will both return and be saved. What a glorious glimpse of our Heavenly Father's love is shown to us here. He has made public His divorce, yet He entreats her to return to Him. "Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the LORD; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the LORD, and I will not keep anger for ever. Only acknowledge thine iniquity, that thou hast transgressed against the LORD thy God, and hast scattered thy ways to the strangers under every green tree, and ye have not obeyed my voice, saith the LORD. Turn, O backsliding children, saith the LORD; for I am married unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion." (Jeremiah 3:12-14) Only three conditions are insisted upon by God, return, acknowledge and repent. Restoration and restitution will be Israel's happy experience when she fulfils her husband's just demands. Please notice too that even during the period of divorce God refers to His status as that of marriage with Israel.

#### THE UNBREAKABLE MARRIAGE BOND

Could adultery annul this marriage between Jehovah the covenant keeping God and Israel? God forbid. His word shows that it is impossible to break the marriage covenant while both husband and wife still live. Hence God's relationship with Israel is unbreakable for He cannot die and we have His word for it that she will not. Paul declares in (Romans 7:1-3) and (1 Corinthians 7:39) that "... the wife is bound to her husband as long as her husband shall live." As earlier stated, the death of Israel's husband is impossible. Satan has on several occasions tried desperately to effect the death of His wife and thus make the covenant between them ineffective. Again the unbreakable word of God bars the way. "... though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scatted thee; yet will I not make a full end of thee:..." (Jeremiah 30:11). No, God's covenant with Israel will not be broken. "Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; the LORD of hosts in his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me forever. Thus saith the LORD; If

heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all they have done, saith the LORD.” (Jeremiah 31:35-37)

The Lord Jesus reiterates the above verses when He reminds us that it is impossible to break God's word on marriage. “And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail. Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery.” (Luke 16:17-18)

### **BABEL AND BABYLON**

It is imperative in these last days that we rightly divide God's word of truth. The next government to rule this world shall not be Christ's, but Antichrist's. Babel and Babylon which represent confusion, fornication and adultery will again for a short period be allowed to rise. This government of confusion and harlotry will convince the world that God has divorced Israel and taken another. It will be during this dreadful time of Jacob's trouble that two thirds of the nation of Israel will fall to Satan's renewed attempt at genocide against Israel. “My people hath been lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains: they have gone from mountain to hill, they have forgotten their resting place. All that found them have devoured them: and their adversaries said, We offend not, because they have sinned against the LORD, the hope of their fathers.” (Jeremiah 50:6-7). “Awake, O Sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn my hand upon the little ones. And it shall come to pass, that in the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God. (Zechariah 13:7-9).

### **THE WOMAN AND THE VIRGIN**

Is this spirit of antichrist already in the world? Indeed, many now teach that the church has taken Israel's place. This doctrine is Babylonish for it suggests that God has put away His wife and taken another. On the other hand we have the Babel and confusion of the many ten lost tribes theories. It is indeed confusion to say that the divorced wife of Jehovah has now become the virgin bride of Christ. There are clearly two in God's word. Israel – the woman, and the church ‘the virgin’. The woman is Israel, Jehovah's wife, who after a time of separation will come back to Jerusalem and to Him. The virgin is the church who is neither Jew nor Gentile, but a called out spotless bride espoused to be married to the Lord Jesus.

### **THE BIBLE, NOT BABEL**

Let us blessed church, look up for the bible tells us that our bridegroom is coming. Let us also watch the fig tree for the bible also tells us that Jehovah has loved his wife with an everlasting love. “For thy Maker is thine husband; the LORD of host is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The GOD of the whole earth shall he be called. For the LORD hath called thee as a women forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God. For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer. For this is as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so I have sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee. For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.” (Isaiah 54:5-10) “This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.” (Lamentations 3:21-23)

## Chapter 4

### Israel in the foreknowledge of God

#### THE INFINITE GOD HAS CHOSEN

"He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved." (Psalm 47:4) I am most thankful that it is God who has chosen Israel's inheritance and not The World Council of Churches. The churches in general have taken a firm stand in favour of Palestinian ownership of all or part of Jerusalem and Israel. This standing is in direct contradiction to the Word of God. The Bible, in both Old and New Testaments is packed with affirmation as to the immutability of God's covenant with the descendants of Jacob and their right to the land of promise. To suggest that God has changed His mind or that Israel has not lived up to His expectations is to suggest that the God of Israel is finite. Paul, in total opposition to such a foolish notion writes: "What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God. For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid:..." (Romans 3:1-4) It is impossible that God's faith in His covenant people should falter because of unforeseen circumstances. Paul bases the certainty of Israel's covenant relationship with God on the grounds of His absolute foreknowledge. "I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew..." (Romans 11:1-2)

#### A WARNING TO THE CHURCH

Throughout the whole of Romans chapter eleven, Paul repeatedly warns against this kind of conduct toward Israel which today is so common. The nation of Israel watches on bemused and amazed as the churches throw their energies in word and in deed behind the false aspirations of the Muslim world. The church's ignorance in regard to God's covenants and promises to the house of Israel is leading it down the same path that Israel once trod after she failed to recognise that The Lord Jesus was their promised Messiah. Paul did not mince words when he warned the church of this danger. "Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: On them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off." (Romans 11:20-22)

#### A RECIPE FOR DISASTER

Pride and ignorance were the ingredients in a recipe for disaster. A disaster that saw Israel reject her King. However, Israel does not hold the monopoly on pride, ignorance or disaster. How sad that today those who are called Christians should make this fundamental error. It is important that we understand that in Romans chapter eleven, Paul is not only reiterating that Israel has been "cut off" through unbelief, but he warns that the church too is in danger of being cut off because of her failure to recognise the eternal purposes of God in the restoration of Israel. Some may be angry with us at this point and accuse us of replacing salvation through the Lord Jesus with salvation through an understanding of God's plans and purposes with Israel. God forbid that we should create such an impression. Nevertheless, we are saying that the pride and ignorance of the church in regard to these basic principles is leaving her ill prepared for the sudden appearing of Christ for His bride. What will become of those who will not be ready? Could it be that they will find themselves "**cut off**" and outside a closed door?

#### THE KEY WORD IS 'UNTIL'

"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in." (Romans 11:25) This verse follows on closely to what the Lord says in (Luke 21:24) "...and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." The key word in these verses is until. Both our Lord and Paul reveal that Israel's blindness and Gentile domination have a time limit. It is a mystery to us how that

men can continue to misappropriate Israel's covenant relationship. Surely Paul has gone to great lengths in Romans so that we may clearly distinguish between the church and Israel.

**ENEMIES, YET BELOVED**

"As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the father's sakes." (Romans 11:28) Those who spiritualise away God's enduring covenant relationship with the circumcised seed of Jacob must face the same embarrassment with Romans 11, as Israel does with Isaiah 53. Yes indeed Israel has been our enemy in regard to the gospel, yet they are beloved of God who by His perfect foreknowledge made immutable promises to their father's Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God has foreseen all that Israel has done and will do. We rejoice in this foreknowledge which assures us of her imminent restoration.

**WE WILL SHOW MERCY**

Paul goes on to remind us of how dependent we are on God's mercy which was extended toward us through Israel. We too are reminded of how dependent Israel is on that same mercy which must now be reflected from the church towards her in her time of need. I see distinct signs of estrangement between the church in general and a faithful remnant of Christians in her midst. This remnant shall continue to show mercy toward Israel. "Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy." (Romans 11:31) May the Lord by His grace cause you and I to be part of that faithful Christian remnant that will show mercy, grace and truth to the house of Israel and to all who will hear.

## Chapter 5

### Signs of the Times

#### GLORIOUS REST

“And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.” (Isaiah 11:10) All who have been cleansed by the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ will agree with the choice of words which the anointing drew from Isaiah. There is no word which better describes the rest that we have found than the word “**glorious**”. How blessed is this birthright of rest to the household of faith. Let us see to it dear saints that none rob us of this rest during these perilous days. Isaiah moves on from this gem of grace to speak to us about one of the greatest events of our time.

#### THE SECOND TIME

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.” (Isaiah 11:11) This verse is clearly dated by verse 10. It could not possibly refer to Israel's partial return from Babylon for at that time the glorious rest in Christ was not available to the Gentiles. There will only ever be two total restorations of the nation of Israel to her land. Their first was under Joshua, and the second will be by the hand of Yeshua, Israel's Messiah. Now at the closing of an age, we are witnessing the labour pains which will soon give way to the second and final restoration of the entire nation.

#### FROM THE FOUR CORNERS

“And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.” (Isaiah 11:12) The word ensign can also be interpreted as standard: surely this tiny nation's rebirth in the midst of an antagonistic world is like a flag flown high to remind us all that Jehovah is in total control. True, the scriptures shall not be completely fulfilled until the spiritual rebirth of the nation which shall be accomplished at its appointed time. Nevertheless, as already mentioned, Isaiah here is occupied with the birth pangs which are leading up to the fulfillment of all God's promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The above verse too makes it clear that Israel's return will include both Ephraim (the ten tribes), and Judah (two tribes), simultaneously from the four corners of the earth. Today there are representatives of all twelve tribes returning to Israel. Though they have been ignorant of Messiah's “glorious rest”, blind in regard to God's dealings in Christ, and even “enemies” as far as the Gospel is concerned, yet is Israel “beloved for the fathers' sakes”. The return of Israel to their land is an enigma to the nations today, but to them that believe, it is a great joy.

#### FROM VEXATION TO VICTORY

“The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim.” (Isaiah 11:13) The Lord punished King Solomon for his idolatries by rending ten tribes away from Judah's authority leaving only Benjamin – Israel's smallest tribe with Judah. The ten tribes then built their capital in Samaria, God having appointed a king over them from among Solomon's servants. The nation, thus split by God endured a long history of envy and vexation. In time both kingdoms fell and were driven from their land, Hosea reveals the state of aimless wanderings which were to be Israel's lot, yet he too reveals the exciting climax to Israel's seemingly hopeless state. “For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim: Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.” (Hosea 3:4-5) Thus envy and vexation shall be no more, for the second return will see all twelve tribes as one nation again.

**ISRAEL'S NEIGHBOURS SHALL OBEY**

"But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them." (Isaiah 11-14) Amid loud protests from the United Nations, Rome, the World Council of Churches, Communists and the Muslims, Israel has taken rule over the land of the Philistines which today is known as the Gaza Strip. During that miraculous war of 1967 Israel enjoyed complete power over all her enemies to the east as well. Jordan and Syria have been making an international bewailment over what they say is the loss of their territory namely the West Bank and Golan Heights. Nevertheless, the nations have been forced by the all powerful hand of God to "**obey**" little Israel. Who could have imagined that Israel would have staggered out of the concentration camps to witness this.

**A PARCHED NILE DELTA PROPHESED**

"And the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod." (Isaiah 11:15) Interesting that Egypt should be mentioned again here as God makes known world events synonymous with Israel's final homecoming. We all know the effect that the Red Sea crossing had upon the surrounding nations. Rahab the harlot gave graphic testimony to this in Joshua 2:9-10. Now in the time of Israel's second and final regathering, God again turns to Egypt in order to show the world a great sign. Two events are decreed in verse 15. These events are so marked that the whole world should be able to recognise them as the hand of God.

1. The sea coast of Egypt is going to suffer utter destruction because of a great wind.
2. The river Nile which is the longest river on earth shall run dry in its seven tributaries.

I will seek by God's grace to share with you that these things are now being fulfilled before the eyes of the whole earth.

**WHO CAN RESIST GOD?**

Egypt has sought to resist God's plans with His covenant people Israel. The crippling effects of this resistance can be seen by all who have eyes to see. Egypt speaks to us of the world in a typology which God has often used to reveal the attitude of the world to the things of God. The disastrous effects of resisting God's word will not only be seen in Egypt but in all nations that set themselves against Israel and the purposes of God. "And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it." (Zechariah 12:3)

## Chapter 6

### Israel shall blossom and bud

#### A NATION IN NEED OF LIVING WATER

It was 1983 when I first had the privilege of visiting Egypt, that hub of ancient civilisation, that city Cairo with its 15 million souls had me immersed in wonder. There on one of Egypt's many hot sunny days, I found myself sitting under a shady tree to read my Bible. Was I truly in the land where Abraham, Jacob, Joseph and Moses had played out their dramatic roles? My heart overflowed with thankfulness to God for the privilege of being in such a place. In my meditations, I wondered where our Lord had lived when He fled here with His parents at such an early age. Behind me stood the foreboding Mohammed Ali Mosque, and before me towered sandstone cliffs which over past millennia had been scarred by succeeding generations in search of building materials. As my mind reflected upon all these things, a young man stood beside me and asked; 'where are you from?' Australia was my answer. He continued; 'What are you doing in our land?' He could never have guessed my reply. 'I have come because in the Bible it says that the Nile will run dry when Israel comes home and I would like to see this for myself.' He looked at me in amazement, 'Do you know what my men and I are doing down below?' And he pointed to a group of men whom I had earlier noticed. 'We are drilling for water, but everywhere we drill, we can only find salt water.' I was not as surprised as I may have been for I knew that since the building of the Aswan High Dam, the waters of the great Nile had become too salty. Egypt, I knew was in desperate need of fresh water. We introduced ourselves and Tarek, who was a university graduate in geology, sat down by my side. He listened intently as I revealed to him how Egypt's economic and ecological problems were prophesied in the Bible. He could hardly contain his amazement, but when I explained to him that all this had come upon his people because they had rejected the hand of God, which was toward the returning nation of Israel, it was almost too much for him. I wish now to share with you, some of what I shared with Tarek that September afternoon.

#### REVIEWING THE PAST

We have already observed in Isaiah chapter 11 that God is regathering for the second time, His covenant people. All twelve tribes are being regathered from the four corners of the earth back to that land which is the birthright of every circumcised Jew. In the forties the world, in an uncharacteristic mood of benevolence toward the Jews, discussed the possibility of curtailing the British Mandate over Palestine and handing a portion of this ancient land back to the Jews. Six million Jewish Holocaust victims had paid in blood for this short burst of sympathy, yet the United Nations were in turmoil. The Security Council met on several occasions, but a decision eluded them. Two nations were in favour, two nations were against, and the U.S.S.R. abstained.

#### A SUBTLE PLAN

However, suddenly and at the crucial moment, the U.S.S.R. changed her vote to the affirmative. Rather than suggest that this sudden change sprang from the tenderness of a 'cuddly bears heart' I would point to (Ezekiel 38:10) "...It shall also come to pass, that the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought." Evil thoughts come about as naturally to the Kremlin, as a duck takes to water. What do we expect from a body which is so foolish as to say that there is no God. Russia thought to herself, 'If we can get Britain out of Palestine, and these irrational dreamers, the Zionists in, then we shall stand to reap great gains from the ensuing confusion. How can these merchants and bankers who have so long wandered the world ever expect to feed themselves, let alone defend themselves.' Taking Palestine, thought the Kremlin, would be as easy as 'taking candy from a baby'. God had been rationalised out of their plans, but glory to His Holy Name, He shall not be rationalised out of His wonderful plans and purposed for His covenant people Israel. The Kremlin stood by in horror and utter amazement as this handful of Jews, many of them who had escaped the gas chambers of Europe, took an iron grip upon their land. And to add insult to injury, these bankers and traders became world leaders in agriculture in less than one generation. Israel had emerged and was leading, but the Kremlin was bleeding.



**FROM ONE SUBTLE PLAN TO ANOTHER**

All their carefully made plans to straddle the land bridge between Africa, Europe and Asia, along with its vital sea lanes and oilfields had been frustrated by this tiny nation of holocaust survivors. In desperation the Kremlin turned to Egypt, and with its forked tongue began to whisper sweet nothings into her ear. Russia promised that Egypt would become the jewel of the Middle East. All that was needed was a dam across the Nile at Aswan, and the whole of Egypt would be turned into a garden of Eden. This would give Egypt unlimited power and those Zionists would be driven into the sea. Out of gratitude of course, Egypt would invite her dear friend the U.S.S.R. to sit in the saddle of Palestine, a saddle into which the U.S.A. had settled far too comfortably.

**DISASTER STRIKES AGAIN**

Well, Lake Nasser, which backs up for five hundred klms. has certainly become one of the biggest dams the world has ever seen, but much to the sorrow of Egypt and the U.S.S.R., it has also become the worlds greatest ecological disaster. Now while Israel's deserts are turning into gardens, Egypt's gardens are turning into a desert. "He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit." (Isaiah 27:6) "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel" (Isaiah 27:12). We give God the glory that He has recorded all these events for us in His Holy Word long before they came to pass so that today the saints can rejoice in His mighty power and foreknowledge.

**EXHORTATION TO PRAY**

May I exhort you to pray for God's blessing upon Israel and Jerusalem. Please pray too for the vast number of Jews who have now returned from the U.S.S.R. How miraculous and mighty are God's acts on behalf of His ancient covenant people. Would you too pray for Egypt. God has pronounced an ultimate blessing upon her when He said: "... Blessed be Egypt my people..." (Isaiah 19:25). Egypt will one day bless Israel and this will surely bring God's blessing.

## Chapter 7

### “The idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence” (Isaiah 19:1)

#### ISRAEL REGATHERED

As we continue to focus on Israel, Egypt and the river Nile, let us turn to some interesting verses that the prophet Zechariah brings to bear: “I will hiss for them, and gather them; for I have redeemed them: and they shall increase as they have increased. And I will sow them among the people: and they shall remember me in far countries; and they shall live with their children, and turn again. I will bring them again also out of the land of Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon; and place shall not be found for them. And he shall pass through the sea with affliction, and shall smite the waves in the sea, and all the deeps of the river shall dry up: and the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, and the scepter of Egypt shall depart away.” (Zechariah 10:8-11)

#### GILEAD AND LEBANON

Here God credits Himself with having sown Israel among the nations. He also takes the credit for their regathering. As well, Lebanon and Gilead are shown by God to be part of Israel's homeland. Reuben and Gad once possessed Gilead which is that land directly east of the Jordan river, and between the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. It was the tribal allotments of Asher and Naphtali which once reached well up into Lebanon. I believe that Jordanian control of Gilead will be as short lived as Syrian pretentious to Lebanon. The above scripture shows us also that any influence and control that either Syria or Egypt may presently enjoy will at that time be taken away by God. Zechariah concludes this chapter even as Isaiah concluded his eleventh chapter. A troubled sea and a dry riverbed will be the hallmarks of God's dealings in particular with Egypt.

#### EGYPT AND THE WORLD

We believe that the whole of Isaiah chapter 19 is a prophetic insight into what will befall Israel, Egypt and our world in the later days. The chapter warrants a careful search, and God willing, we will do just that. It begins by revealing a state of turmoil in the land of Egypt. This we believe is indicative of a common state around the world. Egypt as a Bible type, represents this world. As well as finding a literal fulfillment of prophecy in this chapter, Egypt also figuratively reflects the state of things worldwide.

#### IDOLS OF EGYPT

We wish at this point to take you to the verse that has promoted our heading. “The burden of Egypt. Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it.” (Isaiah 19:1) This graphic description of turmoil amongst the idols of Egypt has been literally fulfilled. The well-known ‘National Geographic’ magazine May 1985 edition, ran a beautifully illustrated article entitled ‘Journey Up The Nile’ in which they described some of the disastrous consequences which have resulted from the building of the Aswan High Dam. A matter of interest in regard to the above verse is a photograph showing a 21 ton idol's head hanging from a crane. The article then goes on to reveal that the temples and idols of the Aswan Valley were sawn into 42,050 blocks and meticulously reassembled where they would be safe from the rising waters of Lake Nasser. One of the temples was built by Ramseys II during 1270 B.C. to honour himself and his wife Nefertare as gods of Egypt. This temple and its 67 foot high idols stand today as monuments to fulfilled Bible prophecy. Also moved and reconstruct were the goddess Isis and her temple built during the third century B.C.

#### 70 NATIONS 70 MILLION

Not only were three billion dollars spent in the construction of the ill-fated Aswan Dam but a further seventy million dollars were spent in the moving and reconstruction of the idols of Egypt. It is interesting to note that Jewish Bible commentators believe that the world population is made up of seventy nations. The finance for this mammoth project of moving the idols was mainly raised by UNESCO- an extremely anti Israel arm of the United Nations. Could I be so bold as to suggest that through this venture, the whole world was working together to fulfill God's Word: “The idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence.”

## Chapter 8

### God destroys the council of man

As we continue our study in Isaiah chapter nineteen, we note that Isaiah prophesied that together with the moving of Egypt's idols, would be a state of turmoil amongst her people. "And I will set the Egyptians against the Egyptians: and they shall fight every one against his brother, and everyone against his neighbor; city against city, and kingdom against kingdom. And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof; and I will destroy the counsel thereof: and they shall seek to the idols, and to the charmers, and to them that have familiar spirits, and to the wizards." (Isaiah 19:2-3)

#### THE BIBLE VERSES THE KORAN

The Egyptians, like people everywhere, are longing for peace. However, over recent years there has been an increasing tendency toward militancy. The Muslim Brotherhood and other extreme Muslim movements are clearly experiencing a spiritual revival. A revival that is common across the Muslim world from Algeria to Indonesia. The emergence of Israel and her protector the U.S.A. is seen by them as Satan's plans to destroy Islam. The fuming anger which emerged among Islamic fundamentalists after the signing of the 1979 peace treaty between Israel and Egypt was fully vented upon Sadat and anyone else who advocated tolerance of a Jewish Zionist State. The Koran dismisses any future role for a State of Israel. To accept Israel as a reality would be to admit that their bible the Koran was an error. The Islamic fundamentalists now feel that the onus is upon them to uphold honour. It is for this reason that they religiously seek the destruction of the State of Israel. They might as well try to stop the tide from coming in for Jehovah's Word will stand.

#### IRAQ AND IRAN

The only consolation for Israel in this whole affair is that any man or nation who curses Israel immediately evokes God's unbreakable promise; "...cursed be everyone that curseth thee..." (Genesis 27:29) God almighty has poured out the spirit of confusion upon all those who stand against Israel. Iraq and Iran were at war for over eight years at a daily cost of 35 million dollars, not to mention the horrific sacrifice in hundreds of thousands of lives.

#### SYRIA AND HAMA

President Assad of Syria, who fears the Islamic fundamentalists almost as much as he does the Israeli Army, in 1980 attacked one of his own cities Hama which was controlled by the Brotherhood. The Syrian Army on that occasion killed in cold blood more than ten thousand of their people.

#### A SAD REALITY

Isn't it a sad reality that the spirit of this world hardly raises an eyebrow to this endless bloodbath which is synonymous with Islamic fundamentalism. But should it be able to implicate Israel, as was the case at Shatila and Sabra Refugee Camps in Lebanon during 1982, the whole world screams blue murder. Now, according to Isaiah, this disaster is set to engulf Egypt – "And I will set Egyptians against Egyptians: and they shall fight every one against his brother, and every one against neighbour; city against city, and kingdom against kingdom." (Isaiah 19:2)

#### THE SPIRIT OF EGYPT SHALL FAIL

Egypt in 1990 had a population of over fifty three million, 96% of which lived along the Nile or in the Nile Delta. Each year she has one million more mouths to feed. Before the Aswan High Dam was built, she was self-sufficient. Today Egypt is forced to spend up to seven billion dollars per year on imported food. These imports account for 65% of her total food needs. How long can President Mubarak keep his finger in the proverbial dyke with U.S. and the U.N. aid. Isaiah has indeed summed up the current situation when he wrote: "And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof..." (Isaiah 19:3) How sad that at this crucial time, Egypt is looking toward the god of wizards and familiar spirits. It is only Jehovah the Almighty God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob who can help Egypt and this world out of its impossible situation. What sorrow this must bring to the heart of Him who "...so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son..." (John 3:16) He longs to take its families, its widows and its

fatherless under His wings. Yet we know, through His foreknowledge that Satan must first reign before our Lord Jesus will sit upon the throne of His father David.

### **THE FREE MASONS**

The Masons think that they have a perfectly wise answer for our times. They tell us that Jah-Baal-On is the god to serve. This foolishness of mans wisdom, which stems from King Solomon's fall, would tell us that their god is the god of all religions, and that Christians, Jews, Muslims and Buddhists have all been given a way to him and should live in the peace and harmony of the brotherhood of man. This is surely the broad way which leads to destruction and "many" said our Lord, will enter in at this disastrous broad way. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6)

### **THE BRINK OF DISASTER**

The whole world is on the brink of disaster. Through the breaking of God's laws man is greedily perverting what God has so beautifully created. The Psalmist sadly declares; "They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are our of course." (Psalm 82:5) As I sit here in my home writing I can think of many who once had a vital evangelical witness. Today, they have appointed Masons among their deacons and elders. Homosexuals are too, set to become leaders of a so-called Christian community.

### **LOOK UP – JESUS IS COMING**

Yes indeed, Egypt and our world are headed for inevitable destruction. Look up dear saints, our times are in His hands. As surely as spring and summer follow even the darkest of winters, so surely shall this darkness have its season. Upon this seemingly impossible mess, shall the: "...Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings..." (Malachi 4:2) Our hearts dear Christians shall not be "...failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth:..." (Luke 21:26) Look at Jerusalem, and pray for her peace, "behold the fig tree," see God's faithfulness to His covenants and His promises. We are not dismally looking for Antichrist, but glory to God in the highest, we are looking for Jesus Christ. "Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." (Revelation 3:11) The Lord Jesus is coming for His own.

P.S. This book was first printed in 1990. Since then the U.N. has fallen out of favor as a suitable vehicle for world peace. The powers that be wish to disown all fundamentalists, Jewish, Christian, Muslim or Buddhist. Only when an all encompassing federation of religions is fundamentally non-fundamentalist, can it be harnessed to a revamped U.N. This super religion ultimately headed by Antichrist will claim the hearts of the masses. Antichrist will be a staunch anti-discriminator totally rejecting God's word to group about in a Babylonian mist until it collapses at the feet of Him whose right it is to reign.

## Chapter 9

### A cruel lord

#### REFLECTIONS

In previous chapters we have examined some aspects of the spiritual and social upheavals prophesied upon Egypt. The idols of Egypt have been moved, and severe civil unrest will rack the nation. This state of confusion, says Isaiah, is to deal a crushing blow to the spirit of Egypt.

#### FURTHER COMPLICATIONS

Added to the spiritual and social upheavals which were to plague Egypt, Isaiah adds various political and ecological factors. He foresees that a cruel lord is to usurp authority over Egypt, and this will dramatically add to Egypt's suffering. "And the Egyptians will I give over into the hand of a cruel lord; and a fierce king shall rule over them, saith the LORD, the LORD of hosts. And the waters shall fail from the sea, and the river shall be wasted and dried up." (Isaiah 19:4-5)

#### REMARKABLE PROPHECY

How remarkable this prophecy must have seemed in Isaiah's day and indeed throughout the 2,700 years since. However could any king, fierce as he may be, stop the waters of the mighty Nile from running to the sea? Yet today the mechanism to do just that is well in place.

#### A TERRIBLE THOUGHT

If some cruel lord, for instance Gaddafi, were to entrench himself upon the Aswan High Dam he would be able to hold the whole of Egypt to ransom. Even threatening to drop a bomb on the Dam would create pandemonium amongst Egypt's millions. The Dam wall holds back an artificial lake of water 500 klms long. If this were to suddenly give way, an enormous wave of water and silt would come crashing down the Nile Valley carrying virtually all of Egypt's population out into the Mediterranean.

#### A MOTIVE

What possible reason could this cruel lord have to inflict such anguish upon a nation already deeply troubled. A motive would be hard to find if one were not aware of the intense hatred which the Islamic religion has for the State of Israel. This cruel religion to which Gaddafi of Libya, Assad of Syria and Hussein of Iraq pay allegiance is capable of going to any length in order that the destruction of Israel may be secured. Already the trio mentioned are openly recognised by the international community as terrorists. As I understand it, the motive behind this cruel lord's actions will be to force a beleaguered and unwilling Egypt again to join in the war against Israel. The Nile is the jugular vein of Egypt's economy and ecology, he who controls her flow would automatically be lord of Egypt.

#### CONTRIVINGS BACKFIRE

Already the building of the Aswan High Dam has dealt a severe blow to Egypt. The backlash from this ill-devised scheme has brought Egypt to her knees. This monstrosity was born out of contrivings between the U.S.S.R. and Egypt against Israel, but now, rather than the destruction of Israel, the destruction of Egypt is imminent. Has not the Lord warned "...cursed be everyone that curseth thee..." (Genesis 27:9)

#### THE PLAGUES OF EGYPT

1. **The silt problem** – I have noticed during my trips to Egypt that the Egyptians are acutely aware of their nation's vulnerable state. Yet they seem helpless to bring any change to their precarious position. The Russians designed and built the Aswan High Dam with only one floodgate. Consequently the Dam can never be released or silted out. Now, there is an enormous built-up of silt, which is gradually taking up the Dam's valuable storage space.
2. **The building industry** – In years gone by the river ran free, the silt fertilised and enriched the whole delta and also provided much needed building material. In Egypt, the only alternative to silt for the manufacture of cement and bricks in desert sand, but

dessert sand is of absolutely no use to the building industry. As the silt is no longer replenished, they are forced to eat away their precious farmland in order to keep up their massive building program. This silt could be dug out of the Dam and transported down by rail or road, but the Dam is over 1,000 kms above Cairo, so this method would prove to be most expensive.

3. **The erosion of Egypt's coastline** – Furthermore, this silt once formed protective bars out at sea. Now that the silt can no longer replenish these bars, they have washed away leading the coastline unprotected from the severe North-Westerly which lash the coastline from time to time. In places, the sea has reclaimed farms and swept inland up to a depth of 10 klms. This problem is worsening each year.
4. **Salinity** – Salinity is attacking Egypt from both ends and from beneath. Not only is the water from Lake Nassa too salty for irrigation because of the enormous evaporation rate but the reduced flow of the river coupled with coastal storms are allowing the sea water to come much too far inland. Huge tracts of land are being destroyed because of salinity and this problem too is worsening at an alarming rate. A rising water table is forcing brackish water ever closer to the surface. Salinity is also playing havoc with Egypt's ancient and modern buildings.
5. **Sickness and disease** – The lukewarm temperature of the artificial lake provides ideal conditions for the prolific breeding of a species of water-snail which carry a much feared disease called liver fluke. This scourge further adds to the plagues of Egypt.
6. **Evaporation** – Today 1/3 of the Nile's flow is lost through evaporation as a hot southerly wind of about 45° daily sweeps over the huge expanse of this artificial lake.
7. **Seepage** – Another factor not considered, is that the Dam is flanked by sandstone cliffs which too drink thirstily of its water. All of this has left the remaining water warm and slushy and far too salty for continuous irrigation.
8. **No fishing** – Also these dramatic changes in water volume. Temperature, siltiness and saltiness have virtually destroyed Egypt's multi-million dollar fishing industry. The sardines which bred and fed on the silt needed just the right temperature and salinity. They have disappeared and along with them, have gone their predators; the mackerel and the tuna. As a consequence of these and many other factors, Egypt today must import more than half of her food requirements. Just look at how clearly the Lord reveals Egypt's predicament to Isaiah: "And they shall turn the rivers far away; and the brooks of defence shall be emptied and dried up: the reeds and flags shall wither. The paper reeds by the brooks, by the mouth of the brooks, and every thing sown by the brooks, shall wither, be driven away, and be no more. The fishers also shall mourn, and all they that cast angle into the brooks shall lament, and they that spread nets upon the waters shall languish. Moreover they that work in fine flax, and they that weave networks, shall be confounded. And they shall be broken in the purposes thereof, all that make sluices and ponds for fish." (Isaiah 19:6-10)

This notional disaster which is engulfing Egypt is again a sign of what is to come worldwide, "...and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth..." (Luke 21:25-26) It shall be contrivings against Israel which will open the way for history's most cruel lord to hold the world to ransom.

But be at peace dear saints; again we say we are not looking for Antichrist but we are looking for Jesus Christ. We have been exhorted by our Lord to look up when these things begin to come to pass. Meanwhile it is our pleasure to preach the gospel and bless God's covenant people Israel. Those that trust in God have perfect peace in possession. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." (Isaiah 26:3) Shalom, Shalom.

## Chapter 10

### Signs and wonders

**"...hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?" (1 Corinthians 1:20)**

#### **THE LEADERS OF EGYPT**

Isaiah, having set out prophetically the effects of the building of the Aswan High Dam, and its related religious, social, and ecological upheavals, with amazing accuracy now turns his attention toward the leaders of Egypt. Note that he is not addressing any of the Pharaohs even though Egypt was still to be ruled by them for over two thousand years, but he is addressing their descendants. It is only in recent decades that the dynasty has been put aside in Egypt. Now she is in the hands of an elected Prime Minister who with his wise men seeks to rule that once mighty nation. With colourful language, Isaiah mocks the wisdom of men. He compares man's godless wanderings to a drunkard staggering in his vomit. "Surely the princes of Zoan are fools, the counsel of the wise counsellors of Pharaoh is become brutish: how say ye unto Pharaoh, I am the son of the wise, the son of ancient kings? Where are they? where are thy wise men? and let them tell thee now, and let them know what the LORD of hosts hath purposed upon Egypt. The princes of Zoan are become fools, the princes of Noph are deceived; they have also seduced Egypt, even they that are the stay of the tribes thereof. The LORD hath mingled a perverse spirit in the midst thereof: and they have caused Egypt to err in every work thereof, as a drunken man staggereth in his vomit. Neither shall there be any work for Egypt, which the head or tail, branch or rush, may do. In that day shall Egypt be like unto women: and it shall be afraid and fear because of the shaking of the hand of the LORD of hosts, which he shaketh over it" (Isaiah 19:11-16)

#### **NORTH AND SOUTH POLLUTED**

What a mess the wisdom of man has made of Egypt. With the collapse of the fishing and cotton industries, tens of thousands of Egyptians who once lived well on the land have now been forced to move to the cities which are encroaching further and further into what was previously lush farm land. Noph and Zoan represent the two provinces of Egypt once divided into North and South. What confusion they have reaped by their rejection of Israel as God's covenant people and their denial of Jewish rights to Eretz Israel. These northern and southern kingdoms are figurative to me of the northern and southern hemispheres for the whole of this world is polluted by the spirit of rebellion against God. The rejection of Jesus as Messiah and Lord, the rejection of Israel as God's covenant people, the rejection of holy matrimony with its blatant sanctification of broken marriage vows, the perversion of homosexuality and prostitution, and the endless mass murder of millions of our children being mercilessly aborted by this covetous and idolatrous world, surely is causing our world to reel.

#### **EGYPT TERRIFIED**

"And the land of Judah shall be a terror unto Egypt, everyone that maketh mention thereof shall be afraid in himself, because of the counsel of the LORD of hosts, which he hath determined against it." (Isaiah 19:17) I was only seventeen when the 1967 war broke out. I vividly remember seeing great numbers of Russian made tanks abandoned in the Sinai Desert with their engines still running. The whole desert seemed to be littered with boots which the Egyptians discarded in order that they might run away faster. Such was the terror among the Egyptians when the Almighty shook His hand over them. Surely "In that day shall Egypt be like unto women:" (Isaiah 19:16) All of this happened irrespective of the facts that, Egypt outnumbered Israel 21 to 1, and that Syria and Jordan simultaneously attacked Israel's northern and central areas. How great is the Lord whom we adore!

#### **A DRAMATIC CHANGE**

In that day shall five cities in the land of Egypt speak the language of Canaan, and swear to the LORD of hosts; one shall be called, The city of Destruction." (Isaiah 19:18) Suddenly the whole mood of the chapter changes and we see five cities speaking the language of Canaan and swearing allegiance to the Lord. Why the sudden change and how did this come about?

**AN ALTAR AND A PILLAR**

**“In that day shall there be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar at the border thereof to the LORD. And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt: for they shall cry unto the LORD because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them.” (Isaiah 19:19-20)** I believe that the sudden change is connected to the mentioned altar and pillar which is in the midst of Egypt, and at the same time at the border thereof. This altar and pillar will obviously play a part in the conversion and restoration of Egypt. The numerical value of these two texts in the Hebrew comes to the exact same number as the height of the Great Pyramid in Pyramidal inches. This huge building of stone which is the only remaining of the seven great wonders of the world is situated both in the middle of Egypt and precisely at the border of Zoan and Noph. Gessar means border. The respected historian Josephus claims that it was built by the descendants of Seth long before the great flood. It is my view that it was built under Divine inspiration just as was the ark. Scientists today are completely baffled as to how this magnificent structure was built. It covers 13 acres of land and consists of more than 2½ million stones at an average weight of 25 tons per stone. Its construction took into consideration untold principles of science, mathematics and astronomy. (see Clarence Larkins's book: Dispensational Truth, pages 164-170). He together with many other prophecy students links the Great Pyramid with the prophet Enoch, it is believed that many prophecies have been interwoven with its stones to form what is sometimes referred to as, 'The bible in stone'. Isaiah declares that this altar and pillar will be for a **“sign and a witness to Egypt”** at a time of great national crisis. The Pyramid once supported 144,000 polished limestone blocks which formed a complete covering. We understand that this fact links the unlocking of the Pyramids mysteries with the work of the 144,000 witnesses who will testify to Egypt and our world during the tribulation period. The Great Pyramid is built upon a rock with its chief cornerstone and foundation stones well in place but the headstone of the corner is missing. Many think that this cap stone represents Christ who is now at God's right hand but soon will be seen again on the earth in power and great glory.

**“AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOODWILL TOWARD MAN”**

**“And the LORD shall be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians shall know the LORD in that day, and shall do sacrifice and oblation; yea, they shall vow a vow unto the LORD, and perform it, And the LORD shall smite Egypt: he shall smite and heal it: and they shall return even to the LORD, and he shall be entreated of them, and shall heal them. In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians: In that day Israel shall be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land: Whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance.” (Isaiah 19:21-25)** How wonderful it is to know that Egypt and our world will one day emerge from their morass of human reasoning to stand upon the rock of God's word. Thanks be to God who **“...So loved the world...”** (John 3:16) In that day Israel shall be the head of the nations. Egypt and our world will recognise the unbreakable covenants and commandments of our God and Messiah Jesus will sit upon the throne of His father David. Then peace shall flow like a river from Mount Zion. The Nile too will again flow and bless her people, **“Whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, Blessed be Egypt my people...” (Isaiah 19:25)**

It has been a joy for me to share just a little of the part that Egypt plays in Israel's Destiny. Please remember to pray for Egypt's people for they are in great need. Remember too how His word cries, **“And give him no rest, till he establishe, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.” (Isaiah 62:7)**



## Chapter 11

### Jacob and Esau – Israel and Jordan

#### FOUR NATIONAL TYPES

Having examined the effect that Egypt will have upon Israel's Destiny, we will now briefly turn our attention toward Esau, or Edom, more commonly known today as Jordan. We observe four main types amongst the nations which set out the plans and purposes of God. 1. Israel, 2. Egypt, 3. Jordan, 4. Babylon. With Israel and Egypt, God's mercy and grace is displayed in restoration and restitution. Israel represents God's faithfulness to His covenants and promises. Egypt represents the world so loved by God that He gave His only begotten Son. Sadly Jordan and Babylon represent the flesh and the devil respectively. There is to be no restoration here but they will ultimately be smitten never to rise again.

#### THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN TWO NATIONS

The struggle between Esau and Jacob; Israel and Jordan began in Rebekah's womb. Rebekah enquired of the Lord and consequently was not deceived though Esau was born first. She knew that the elder would serve the younger, and no doubt looked on in wonder as Jacob was born for he immediately caught Esau by the heel and tripped him up. Jacob means 'tripper up of the heel', a noble name indeed when you realise that he tripped up the man whom God hated. Currently, there is yet another struggle in the womb of this world. Again Esau will seem to gain the upper hand but if we, like Rebekah, enquire of the Lord we will understand the ultimate supremacy of Israel. This time Esau will be upended completely. Let the world be governed by appearances as it craves for its proverbial savory venison or Arab oil. We, the bride of Christ, will stand with Rebekah. It is fitting that we be governed by divine revelation.

#### HUMANISM AND ANTIDISCRIMINATION

To the worldly man, this seems unfair and discriminatory, but the man of faith can rest in the revealed foreknowledge of God. "(For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated." (Romans 9:11-13) "For whom He did foreknow, he also did predestinate..." (Romans 8:29) In Esau's case, God's foreknowledge has predestinated him to eternal destruction. Not only did he despise the covenants and promises of God, but he hated Jacob who wrestled earnestly for the things of God. His deep and abiding hatred for Jacob will yet be exposed in that coming day of 'Jacobs great trouble'.

#### OBADIAH'S PREOCCUPATION

The prophet Obadiah is totally preoccupied with Esau's demise. Because the Jordanians will mercilessly set themselves to capitalise on Israel's coming misery, God will completely wipe Jordan out. Look at these graphic verses from (Obadiah 8-15) "Shall I not in that day, saith the LORD, even destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau? And thy mighty men, O Teman, shall be dismayed, to the end that every one of the mount of Esau may be cut off by slaughter. For thy violence against thy brother Jacob shame shall cover thee, and thou shalt be cut off for ever. In the day that thou stoodest on the side, in the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and foreigners entered into his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even thou wast as one of them. But thou shouldest not have looked on the day of thy brother in the day that he became a stranger; neither shouldest thou have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither shouldest thou have spoken proudly in the day of distress. Thou shouldest not have entered into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; yea, thou shouldest not have looked on their affliction in the day of their calamity, nor have laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity; Neither shouldest thou have stood in the crossway, to cut off those of his that did escape; neither shouldest thou have delivered up those of his that did remain in the day of distress. For the day of the LORD is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head." It is apparent here that Esau never got over his hatred of Jacob. The end of his continued resentment will be total annihilation. May this cure us from holding a grudge or gloating over another's misfortunes. (...for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. (Galatians 6:7)

**HE WHO LIVES BY THE SWORD SHALL DIE BY THE SWORD**

Ezekiel brings us precisely the same message as Obadiah in his 35<sup>th</sup> chapter: "... Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O mount Seir, I am against thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate. I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD. Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end: Therefore, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will prepare thee unto blood, and blood shall pursue thee: sith(since) thou hast not hated blood, even blood shall pursue thee." (Ezekiel 35:3-6) I understand that in the time of Israel's great need she will seek to flee from Antichrist. With no other place to go and with the nations carving up Jerusalem in their brief moment of glee, the Israelis will flee to Jordan and plead for refuge and help. Jordan will be merciless and treat them with contempt. The return of Israel and Judah to their inheritance had long bothered them, nothing could suit them better than to see Israel in this pitiful state. Now at last, they will annex the long coveted lands of these defenseless fugitives. "Because thou hast said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and will possess it; whereas the LORD was there: Therefore, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will even do according to thine anger, and according to thy envy which thou hast used out of thy hatred against them; and I will make myself known among them, when I have judged thee." (Ezekiel 35:10-11)

**PETRA FOR PROTECTION**

Ironically it is this inhospitable land that God has chosen for a hiding place for the fleeing woman of Revelation chapter 12. She clearly represents the surviving remnant of the house of Israel. Only one third of the nation will survive Antichrist's onslaught. His final attempt at genocide against Israel will be frustrated when God hides the remnant of His covenant people at Bozrah which interpreted from Hebrew to Greek is Petra. Here He will nourish His people for 3 ½ years as once He did for forty years under Moses. "And thou shalt know that I am the LORD, and that I have heard all thy blasphemies which thou has spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, They are laid desolate, they are given us to consume. Thus with your mouth ye have boasted against me, and have multiplied your words against me: I have heard them. Thus saith the Lord GOD; When the whole earth rejoiceth, I will make thee desolate. As thou didst rejoice at the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do unto thee: thou shalt be desolate, O mount Seir, and all Idumea, even all of it: and they shall know that I am the LORD." (Ezekiel 35:12-15)

**NO MILLENNIAL JOYS FOR EDMOM**

Note here that, "When the whole earth rejoiceth.", during the millennial reign of Messiah, Jordan will be shut out into the darkness of God's rejection along with all haters of God and the Jews. Jordan and the flesh she represents will not reign during this blessed age. Antichrist will be used by God to expose the true condition of heart among many people. Jordan for one will be exposed as a nation which despised the wonderful covenants and promises of God. The price that she and others will pay for this is annihilation and eternal rejection. These revelations from Ezekiel and Obadiah are sobering indeed. What a privilege is ours for we have been anointed by the Holy Spirit to be Christian Friends of Israel. May we be true friends not in word only, "...but in deed and in truth." (1John 3:18) This we will do if we remember His commandments to do them. May we seek truly to love the Lord our God with all our hearts. May we love our neighbour as ourselves. May we bless those that curse us and do good to those who despitefully use us. May we leave judgement, hatred and cursing to the One who is always right and just. He will repay and carry out justice and judgement perfectly. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.

## Chapter 12

### Israel's loving and discriminating God

#### FOUR MOST EXCITING CHAPTERS

Having briefly studied Obadiah and Ezekiel chapter 35 we now move on to four most exciting chapters; Ezekiel chapters 36 to 39. These chapters are packed with prophetic significances for our generation. It will take some time to establish an overview of these vital writings. I believe that it will be time well invested. Any study of Israel's destiny would be quite incomplete without taking these four chapters into account. "Also, thou son of man, prophesy unto the mountains of Israel, and say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD: Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because the enemy hath said against you, Aha, even the ancient high places are our's in possession: Therefore prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because they have made you desolate, and swallowed you up on every side, that ye might be a possession unto the residue of the heathen, and ye are taken up in the lips of talkers, and are an infamy of the people: Therefore, ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD; Thus saith the Lord GOD to the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, to the desolate wastes, and to the cities that are forsaken, which became a prey and derision to the residue of the heathen that are round about; Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Surely in the fire of my jealousy have I spoken against the residue of the heathen, and against all Idumea, which have appointed my land into their possession with the joy of all their heart, with despiteful minds, to cast it out for a prey. (Ezekiel 36:1-5)

#### GOD'S TRUE PERSPECTIVE

Here God sets out the state of our world today in its true perspective. It is rebellion against God that is drawing the nations into an international confederacy. As a consequence of international rejection of Christ and the Word of God, the nations are bent upon possessing Jerusalem, and scattering the covenant people. The Psalmist foresaw this so clearly: "Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God. For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head. They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones. They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: ... Who said, Let us take to ourselves the houses of God in possession. ... Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish: That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth." (Psalm 83:1-5, 12, 17-18)

**THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPAL OF TRUTH** is bound up in this last verse. Man must understand that there is only one God and that He alone is Jehovah, the covenant keeping One. Failure to recognise His order and absolute authority will lead to certain disaster. Whether it is His natural, moral or spiritual laws that are broken the consequences are always the same; natural, moral and spiritual death. Thus the international confederacy against Israel's right to possess all that God has appointed to her upon earth will surely lead to Armageddon and deaths of unparalleled proportions.

#### SO-CALLED ANTIDISCRIMINATION

Our government's present antidiscrimination laws may in some cases be just and right, but many bills are being presented that are in absolute defiance to God's law. The ultimate aim of these so called antidiscrimination laws is the destruction of Jerusalem and God's covenant people Israel. Once Satan succeeds in deluding mankind with the lie that there is no difference between male and female, Jew and Gentile, Jehovah, Allah or Buddha, he will feverishly continue to dismantle every order that God has set. I am reminded here of Psalm 11:3 where David says; "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" I am glad he goes on to say: The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven..." (Psalm 11:4) There the Lord Jesus sits at the right hand of God. Everything finds its order under Him. God's word is being removed by man but our Lord is in His holy temple. He discriminates in precise accordance with His Father's will. Saints, we must discriminate, look unto Him and keep order.

**BLESSING AND PROSPERITY**

It is God Almighty who has set Israel and Jerusalem at the head of the nations. Any one who respects His order shall be blessed and prosper. "And I will bless them that bless thee... (Genesis 12:3), "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee" (Psalm 122:6) It is not that the Jews are better than other people. "Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went." (Ezekiel 36:22) It is that God does everything decently and in order. The Jew is not more important than a black man in a humpie, yet this black man and any other Gentile shall be blessed and prosper if he seeks the good for Israel and Jerusalem and blesses the Jews as God's covenant people.

**JEWES AND GENTILES, HUSBANDS AND WIVES**

Please let me illustrate with this example, God has set me to be head over my wife and five children. It is not that I am better or more important but God has set order in the family. In the church, Christ is at the head. If I am under His authority I will more perfectly exercise God given authority over my wife and children. Remember that Christ under God's authority spoke "...as one having authority..." (Matthew 7:29) He displayed His authority not only by the power of God revealed in Him, but He also humbled Himself as a servant, put on a towel, and washed His disciple's feet. So too I must show by my example of love and service that I am head of my household. The difficulty comes through the weakness of the flesh. Christ exercises His headship and authority perfectly, however Israel as head of the nations, and man as the head of his family do not. Does this mean then that we do not bless Israel, or recognise her rights and position until she comes to order, or should our wives withhold reverence and obedience from their husbands until their men are perfectly submitted to Christ. No, definitely not. For example, Matthew is the first book of the New Testament and it is written to the Jews. Even though the Jews did not come to order under Yeshua, still God deals with "...the Jew first, and also the Gentile:..." (Romans 2:10) Likewise, Paul writes, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church...Therefore as the church is subject unto to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing." (Ephesians 5:22-24) This again is nothing to do with the husband being better or more important in anyway than the wife, but that through order and reverence, God may be glorified. My sweetheart has much to put up with because of my many imperfections, nevertheless, I am head of my household. Furthermore, through my wife's submission to God in respect of His order, she exercises great authority and power not only over our children but also with me. Many times, while reverencing her husband, and submitting to him a woman can speak and turn him from a foolish way. However, if she seeks to rise above her man and rebels against his headship, she loses her God given authority. Submission to the order that God has set is not weakness, but power. If a man is rebellious toward God and void of authority in the home, wives don't usurp headship for you will further damage your man, yourself and your children. Stand by him, reverence him and obey him. If there is hurt, bitterness and resentment hindering you from doing this then ask God to forgive you, forgive your man and be released to display God's power and love to your head, your children and all around you. God will supply all that is necessary for you to do this through Jesus Christ our Lord. And to the husbands. God says men, take your responsibility of headship as gentlemen, and "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Ephesians 5:25) Order, respect, reverence and honour are great companions of love, and love is the principle thing. Jesus is the source of all that glorifies God. Let us therefore respect, reverence and honour Israel in her God given position as head of the nations, even though the rejection of Messiah has caused her presently to be the tail.

**ROME, MECCA, NEW YORK (U.N.) AND BABYLON**

Rome, Mecca and New York (United Nations) all reject Jerusalem and the Jews, claiming that Israel's failure has caused God to change His mind and His order. Their erroneous concept of our eternal and unchangeable God will finally lead them back down to Babylon in confusion, adultery, broken covenants and promises. It is in this state of rebellion, that the nations will finally gather against God's appointed city – Jerusalem, and the nation of Israel. "Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be **taken, and the**

houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle." (Zechariah 14:1-3) The rebellious nations and religions of the world are just itching to get their hands on Jerusalem. How remarkable that in broad daylight, May 25, 1967, God miraculously gave the city back to its rightful owners as Rome, Mecca and New York looked on helplessly. We will never hear the end of it all until Armageddon, then for a short season, God will allow a rebellious world to self destruct, not before I might add, every opportunity is afforded it to repent. God gave Jerusalem 40 years to repent, from 30 A.D. to 70 A.D. I believe that from 1967, the world could well have 40 years in which to recognise God's hand in the restoration of Israel. Sadly, as was the destruction of Jerusalem, so shall be the destruction at Armageddon. Then just when all seems to be lost the King of the Jews and Head of the church shall come and fight. Israel shall be restored as the head of the nations, Jerusalem shall be the joy of the whole earth, and the church, Messiah's bride, shall sit with her head in His throne and all families of the earth shall rejoice and enjoy the wonderful life giving order of God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Hallelujah. Then shall Israel acknowledge Jesus as their King, Messiah and Redeemer and shall be established by God Almighty at the head of the nations.

## Chapter 13

### “I am for you”

#### EVERLASTING COVENANT

In our last chapter, we examined the order that the Lord God has established in international affairs. There is no doubt that He has made an everlasting covenant with Israel, nor is there any doubt that the whole land first given to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is the land set aside for Jacob's or should we say, Israel's children. No matter how the nations rage and imagine vain things, God's covenant with Israel stands. Picking up where we left off at verse six God declares: “Prophesy therefore concerning the land of Israel, and say unto the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I have spoken in my jealousy and in my fury, because ye have borne the shame of the heathen: Therefore thus saith the LORD GOD; I have lifted up mine hand, Surely the heathen that are about you, they shall bear their shame. But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come. For, behold, I am for you, and I will turn unto you, and ye shall be tilled and sown:” (Ezekiel 36:6-9)

#### FORTY TIMES “I”

God makes His will abundantly clear throughout this chapter. 40 times He says “I”, 18 times He says “I will”, and 14 times He says “Israel”. Yes, God Almighty is turning His attention to the land that He terms, “my land” and to the people whom He lovingly calls “my people”. Firstly, in this chapter, God turns to the land. He addresses the mountains, hills, rivers and valleys of His land and declares, “I am for you.” Well could David sing of the mountains skipping like sheep and the hills skipping like lambs for if God is for that land, who can be against it. God declares His reason for restoring fruitfulness to His land which for so long has been a desolation, and “borne the shame of the heathen.” “...yield your fruit to my people of Israel for they are at hand to come.” (Ezekiel 36:8)

#### MEN OF FAITH

For hundreds of years holy men of faith have been predicting the return of the Jews to their land in fulfillment of God's Word. Amid much controversy and strife, these men have insisted that scriptures such as Ezekiel 36 should be interpreted literally. They were howled down by their contemporaries as simple-minded men who knew nothing of theology. Yet they persisted in their seemingly impossible claims. Amid mockery and laughter a small remnant of Christians have always persisted down through the ages in looking and longing for the coming home of Israel. We are greatly indebted to Great Britain and the United States of America whose societies by God's grace were largely free from religious oppression. This freedom allowed godly men to arise unhindered by the state and declare that God's time to favour Zion was at hand. In Britain, men like Lord Balfour paved the way for the state of Israel to be formed. While the United States In the 1890's a man called Blackwell toured the whole country declaring that God's time for the rebirth of the State of Israel had come. This man met with such amazing success that he was eventually brought before the United States Congress where a bill was draughted. In this bill the United States declared that it was the will of God that the Jewish people should come home. They then vowed to stand by the Jewish people in the quest for a homeland within the borders of their ancient land. Who on earth could hold back the tide when God's time had come for Israel to be “tilled and sown.” “And I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bring fruit: and I will settle you after your old estates, and will do better unto you than at your beginnings: and ye shall know that I am the LORD. Yea, I will cause men to walk upon you, even my people Israel; and they shall possess thee, and thou shalt be their inheritance, and thou shalt no more henceforth bereaved them of men. Thus says the Lord GOD; Because they say unto you, Thou land devourest up men, and hast bereaved thy nations; Therefore thou shalt devour men no more, neither bereave thy nations any more, saith the Lord GOD. Neither will I cause men to hear in thee the shame of the heathen any more, neither shalt thou bear the reproach of the people any more, neither shalt thou cause thy nations to fall any more, saith the Lord GOD.” (Ezekiel 36:11-15)

**EVEN ALL OF IT**

Here the Lord declared that every single child of Jacob is to be brought back home to the land. This total and complete restoration is yet to come. Yes there is a partial fulfillment of the above verses today, but much is yet to happen before this chapter could be termed as fulfilled. The land will yet devour men for the time of which God spoke "...I will settle you after your old estates, and will do better unto you than at your beginnings:" (Ezekiel 36:11), has not yet fully come. Some modern day prophets could cry out: 'Peace, peace' to Israel but dear friends, without Israel's Messiah Yeshuah, there is nothing but counterfeit peace. Many would with well meaning invoke (Isaiah 40:1-2) "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins." I would love to declare this good news now but I know that such a declaration would be premature and misleading. As we will be discovering in future studies, there are great battles yet to be fought. Nevertheless, the literal and complete fulfillment of these scriptures is imminent. The birth pains for Israel's new heart and a new spirit have begun. Soon Israel will be born again into a new life, a new age, yet they shall be an ancient people in an ancient land.

**OUR GREAT RESPONSIBILITY**

How Oliver Cromwell, J.N.Darbie, Blackwell, Lord Balfour and many others would have rejoiced to see all that we have witnessed concerning Israel. Yet with our box seat privilege comes awesome responsibility for we dear saints, are in the midst of an adulterous and sinful generation. Laodicea with all its covetousness, lukewarmness and lawlessness will not engulf that remnant that will open the door and fellowship with Yeshua. We shall yet rejoice with Him who wept over Jerusalem. May we hold high the torch through holiness, and pray without ceasing for the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has promised: "Yea, I will cause men to walk upon you, even my people Israel; and they shall possess thee, and thou shalt be their inheritance, and thou shalt no more henceforth bereaved them of men." (Ezekiel 36:12) May our prayers hasten that day oh Lord!

## Chapter 14

### The glory of God's holy name

#### **GOD'S FIVE FOLD DECLARATION Read (Ezekiel 36:15-25)**

This portion of scripture highlights the kind of international gossip that accompanied the falls of Israel. It was said that all God's land of milk and honey was good for was a cemetery in which to bury His so-called chosen people. The main aim of all these remarks was of course to bring discredit upon the name of Israel's God. However, God makes a five-fold declaration, declaring that He will put a stop to the mockery of the nations by a permanent re-establishment of Israel, both land and people. During the millennial reign of Messiah, blessed be He, no one will ever again dare to speak a disparaging word about the Jewish people or their land. In that day the nation and the land will be a perpetual manifestation of the glory of God.

#### **"I SCATTERED THEM, I JUDGED THEM"**

Israel's former occupations of their land were always marred by bloodshed and idolatry. God's desire was to use them as an example of His love and mercy, but time and again they became an example of His applied judgement instead. There was always a remnant that clave to the Lord and they are eternally His, but the nation in general was hard-hearted and stiff-necked and consequently went from one disaster to another. Peter in Acts chapter three pleaded with the nation to repent and return to the Lord but they refused. Within a generation, God poured out His fury upon them: **"And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their goings I judged them."** (Ezekiel 36:19)

#### **"NOT FOR YOUR SAKES BUT FOR MY HOLY NAME'S SAKE"**

God states clearly in this chapter that the coming time of blessing will not be something earned by the nation of Israel. If God had not intervened because of His promises to the patriarchs, Israel would be no more. Isn't this true too of us. Our righteousness is as filthy rags. If Christ hadn't paid our debt we would all have been lost. We have not as much as put one rung in the ladder. The whole thing was let down from heaven by God's hand. Gratitude floods the heart of the man who realises this truth, but how does this gratitude find its practical outworking? Is it not found in the earnest desire to honour and glorify our Heavenly Father? If God has given to us so many chapters in His word in which He expresses His longing for the restoration of Israel, is it then any wonder that we who love Him, share in this wonderful hope? I think not.

#### **WHAT MOTIVATES THE PROPHECY STUDENT?**

There are many legitimate reasons for the study of Bible prophecy but this fundamental rule, the prophecy student cannot afford to lose sight of. In everything we do, all glory, honour and praise must go to God Almighty. Our love, care and study of Israel must be motivated by our desire to see God glorified. The carnal man is governed only by what is advantageous to self. He sees no personal gain in seeking Israel's good and may even seek self elevation by running Jacob and his descendants down. On the other hand some are motivated but only through curiosity. Often these are carried away by some sensational aspect of prophecy. This carnal curiosity doesn't last long and should difficulties arise, they are not to be found. A third and very real problem has to do with a person's psychological state. Unfair favouritism of one child at home can lead to an inbuilt resentment to anything that suggests chosen people among those children not so favoured. These unfortunate people have been so damaged by rejection that they feel unloved and insecure. This then becomes a real hindrance in the scriptural injunction of putting the Jew first. Equal damage is done to the individual who has been spoilt or favoured, they become so opinionated and involved with self, that there is little left for the glory of God or the welfare of others. When we come to Christ and are born again the old man and his idiosyncrasies loses his power over us. Yet our carnality still emerges, and our psychological and emotional problems of the past may still try to rule us. The only answer to Satan's devices in seeking to master us through the weakness of the flesh is to die daily to self and live in the risen power of Jesus Christ. May we examine ourselves to see that we are motivated by the Holy Spirit. Then we shall set forth the glory of God's holy name



in the restoration of Israel. "...For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever Amen." (Matthew 6:13)

**"I WILL PUT MY SPIRIT WITHIN YOU" Read (Ezekiel 36:25-38)**

What wonderful promises are contained in this portion. "...will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you:..." (Ezekiel 36:25-26) All is given by the grace of God if Israel will but enquire of God. These blessings were available to Israel at Messiah's first advent, but pride and hypocrisy had clouded her vision. "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it. Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes." (Luke 19:41-42) Paul too lamented over this national tragedy. "For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God." (Romans 10:3) Messiah declares that the blessing of God was "hid from thine eyes". Paul calls it blindness: "...that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in." (Romans 11:25) Praise God that this national blindness is not permanent, but only "until". One day they shall say: "...Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." (Matthew 23:39) Hosea sets out beautifully this time of Israel's restoration. "I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early. Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up." (Hosea 5:15, 6:1) Their affliction refers to the coming seven year tribulation period which is to immerse the nation of Israel into that time also called: "The time of Jacob's trouble". When Israel in this time of national crisis returns to inquire of Him the blessings of God in salvation and national restoration shall no longer be hid from their eyes, nor shall they anymore be "ignorant of God's righteousness" through Messiah Yeshua. The cleansing, the new heart, the new spirit, all will be given them upon acknowledgement of their fault and their consequent inquiry of the Lord. A remnant of Israel, "appointed unto grace" have been receiving salvation along with we Gentiles. Together we have thrown ourselves upon the mercy of God in Christ, through the acknowledgement of sins, we have found forgiveness in Jesus' name. Both this remnant and we have been baptised by one Spirit into the body of Christ in which there is neither Jew nor Gentile. The Lord Jesus will soon appear to call away His body and then the wonderful miracle of Israel's national repentance, restoration and restitution shall take place. New hope, new heart, new spirit, all of this and more, for their land ruined by the horror of Armageddon shall be cleansed and renewed so that it will look like the garden of Eden. All of this by God's grace and for the glory and honour of His holy name. "Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen." (Psalm 72:18-19)

## Chapter 15

### The national resurrection of Israel

“The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest. Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD. So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them. Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army. Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. Therefore prophecy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves. And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD.” (Ezekiel 37:1-14)

#### THE HAND OF THE LORD WAS UPON ME

Ezekiel, in this chapter has recorded one of the most amazing scenes ever viewed by man. His description of this spectacular vision was so vivid that the reader is struck by the Prophet's awesome experience. It is obvious that God is here entrusting to Ezekiel a vision of great importance. The vision and its interpretation are just as pregnant with meaning today as they were two and a half millennia ago when God's holy Prophet received them. Yes indeed the hand of the Lord was upon Ezekiel and praise God, all the explicit details have been preserved so that we may study them.

#### DREAMS, VISIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Down through the ages many men including prophets and kings, have experienced this type of divine intervention in their lives. However man has always been dependent upon God to furnish him with the interpretation. Peter warns: “knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.” (2 Peter 1:20) Joseph clearly understood this principle when he asked the butler and baker down in Egypt, “...Do not interpretations belong to God?...” (Genesis 40:8) This question demands a positive answer. Joseph encountered divine intervention through the ministry of dreams on three occasions during his lifetime. On each of these three occasions the dreams, six in all, came in pairs. The first two which Joseph experienced personally as a teenager were never interpreted or fully understood until their historic fulfillment some twenty years later. In the case of the butler, baker and Pharaoh, the dreams were immediately interpreted by God through Joseph. These interpretations were then substantiated as divine revelation by consequent events which fulfilled Joseph's predictions to the letter. Another example of this is seen with Daniel, that great man of visions and dreams. Generally Daniel sought and received an interpretation from God. However it also happened that no interpretation was forthcoming, only end time events would reveal their meaning. “And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.” (Daniel 12:8-9) We see here two important principles. On the one hand dreams were substantiated and understood by their actual fulfillment. On the other hand dreams were immediately interpreted by God and substantiated by subsequent events. Much disorder and strife have followed when men puffed up with pride, have gone about teaching

their own private interpretations. These have not heeded God's own interpretation nor do they acknowledge God's hand in His literal fulfillment of them. Ezekiel chapter 37 in particular has suffered much violation of this nature through many and varied man-made interpretations. Let us be careful to heed God's own interpretation when this is given, or otherwise allow history to throw its light and unlock the mystery. Regarding this chapter dear friends, we are in a unique position. We can both read God's vivid interpretation as well as observe at least the beginnings of their fulfillment among God's people in God's land. We would be without excuse if we misinterpreted this portion of scripture.

### **THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES**

"There were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry." (Ezekiel 37:2) What an experience this must have been for the prophet. Here lay thousands, perhaps millions of human bones in total disarray. Could you imagine being alone in such a place? Yet while the dear man was still overawed by the sight before his eyes, the Lord questions him. "Can these bones live?" It was enough to shake the faith of anyone. It seemed beyond Ezekiel's wildest imagination but he knew better than to answer no. He simply said: "O Lord GOD, thou knowest."

### **BONE TO HIS BONE**

Ezekiel said that there was a noise. Indeed there must have been a great deal of clanging and banging as skulls, teeth, backbones, arm bones, leg bones, ribs, hands and feet bones came rattling back together. I can imagine Ezekiel taking a step or two backwards as sinews, flesh and finally skin all took their place upon the bones. Yet in a sense, it was still a valley of horror for now instead of scattered and bleached bones, there was a valley of corpses. How exciting it must have been to witness life coming into these corpses. Just as God once breathed life into Adam, He now caused breath to come upon these slain. They had decomposed, and God had recomposed. Now with the breath of life in them they stood upon their feet; "an exceeding great army." What a transformation. Today men of God are witnessing this spectacle being literally fulfilled. For two millennia Israel has been cut off and in her "dry bone" stage. Now in our time there is a noise as Israel is coming together bone to his bone. Excitement grips the prophecy student for though Israel is yet in the skeleton, or perhaps corpse stage we know that in a little while God will put His Spirit within them and they shall stand to their feet. How blessed that we may view this mighty miracle in the making. Dates like 1898, 1917, 1948, 1967 and 1973 all remind us of the noise that Ezekiel heard. Israel is coming together again. "For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?" (Romans 11:15)

### **"I WILL OPEN YOUR GRAVES"**

How graphic and clear is the interpretation that God gives of the vision that He had just given to Ezekiel. You may have noticed that those who misuse the chapter to prove that the church is spiritual Israel, always use the vision but never follow on with God's own interpretation. Whenever has the church had cause to say "Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts." The church is "Flesh of his flesh and bone of his bone," Nothing dry about that. Her 'hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.' Nothing is hopeless about that. She is seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. No, the church has never been cut off from her parts. But Israel had. "Because of unbelief they were broken off." For two long millennia she has lain as bleached bones in the valley of death. "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel" and "I will bring you into the land of Israel." They have lain strewn among the nations like human bones but the Almighty yet has a wondrous plan for them. Even as Messiah rose from the dead early on the third day, so shall Israel be revived I believe, early in the third Millennium. "When I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves," The long night of despair is almost at an end. God has promised to fill them with His Spirit, and place them in "Their own land." "Then shall ye know that I the Lord have spoken it, and performed it. Saith the Lord," When God interprets a vision, He does not leave us wondering. "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written ... For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins." (Romans 11:26-27)

## Chapter 16

### The United State of Israel

#### SIGNS AND WONDERS

"The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying, Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions: And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand. And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these? Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand. And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes. And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all." (Ezekiel 37:15-22)

"In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the children of Israel shall come, they and the children of Judah together, going and weeping: they shall go, and seek the LORD their God. They shall ask the way to Zion with their faces thitherward, saying, Come, and let us join ourselves to the LORD in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten." (Jeremiah 50:4-5)

Keeping in mind dreams and visions with God's interpretation of them, we now continue with revelation through signs and wonders. Firstly Ezekiel is directed to take two sticks. On one he is instructed to write: "For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions:" on the other: "For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions:" Then suddenly, as he displayed the two sticks in his hand in full view of the gathering, the sticks miraculously became one. Maybe not as dramatic as "Bone coming to his bone", nevertheless a miracle for there is only One who can make two sticks one. Through this remarkable wonder God had secured for Ezekiel the undivided attention of his congregation. Ezekiel continued and drew from this sign God's important message. "And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:"

#### THE TWO KINGDOMS

As mentioned in earlier studies Israel under King David constituted twelve tribes, but because of King Solomon's sin God allowed a man who had been formally Solomon's servant to split the nation. During the reign of Rehoboam, Solomon's son, this runaway servant Jeroboam returned from political asylum in Egypt. Himself an Ephraimite, he took away the tribe of Ephraim along with nine other tribes and became their king. He then made Samaria the capital of his breakaway Northern Kingdom. Upon this Rehoboam raised an army of 180,000 men and planned to again subjugate the ten tribes, but a prophet of God arrested him with this message. "Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren the children of Israel: return every man to his house; for this thing is from me..." (1Kings 12:24) Thus the kingdom was effectively divided into two.

#### JUDAH AND EPHRAIM

The kingdoms then split by God were consequently referred to by Him as Judah and Israel, or Judah and Ephraim. Sadly the ten tribes never did have a godly king over them. Ultimately Ephraim was taken captive by the Assyrians who caused the ten tribes to be scattered far and wide. Tens of thousands of them came down to Judah and aligned themselves with the southern kingdom but by then Judah's kingdom days too were numbered. About 100 years later, there was no kingdom at all, for Nebuchadnezzar had taken away Judah's king. After the 70 year exile prophesied by Jeremiah a remnant of the Jews, as they then became known returned to the land of their fathers. Many stayed in Babylon and they along with representatives of the ten tribes living in countries, cities and towns throughout the known

world built up a most prosperous international trade network of which Babylon and later Jerusalem became the hub. Soon the Israelites, irrespective of tribal background became universally known as Jews. Then God's temporary division into two kingdoms was neutralized and their kings were history. Soon even the land was to be taken from them, this time by the Romans. Just 37 years prior to this disastrous event in AD 70, Jewish leaders went on record saying: "...We have no king but Caesar." (John 19:15) This tragic and lengthy span of time is foreseen with divine accuracy by the Prophets. Just read these verses from (Hosea 3:4-5) "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim: Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days."

### **THE TEN LOST TRIBES?**

"Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwellingplaces, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God. And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them. And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever. Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore. My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And the heathen shall know that I the LORD do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore."(Ezekiel 37:23-28) There has been much speculation about what happened to the ten so-called lost tribes. Some claim that they fled to North America while others affirm that Britain along with several other European countries were settled by them. The above two doctrines are propagated by the Mormons and British Israelites, who would seek to persuade us that they are the true descendents of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Another theory is that the ten tribes have assimilated without trace among the nations. The propagators of this doctrine would have us believe that the church now spiritually represents these ten lost tribes, and will be joined with Judah to form a kingdom at the coming of Messiah. The Jehovah's Witnesses have gone one better. They claim to represent all twelve tribes. However we flatly reject the whole basket full of lost tribe, or spiritual Israel theories. In our view they are all guilty of misappropriating the irrevocable covenant that God has made with the circumcised seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Remember that God is emphatic about circumcision for He said to Abraham: "And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant." (Genesis 17:14) Many records were destroyed during the destruction of the second Temple in 70 A.D. For this and other reasons, most Jewish people can not tell you with certainty which tribe they belong to. The day is coming that even as Joseph set his brothers in order around his table, Messiah blessed be He, also will set in order the house of Israel. In that day every last Jew will be set in his rightful place in the Kingdom of Israel. Yes indeed, just as the two sticks supernaturally became one in Ezekiel's hand, so shall Judah and Ephraim again become one nation in the land of Israel. That mighty son of David whom David himself called Lord shall be Israel's King. Truly in that day Israel shall say "The LORD is my shepherd;" "Even so come Lord Jesus"

### **CHRISTIANS REJOICE**

If you are a lover of God, the Jewish people and the land of Israel, these closing verses of Ezekiel chapter 37 will make you leap for joy, even as Isaiah enjoins us to rejoice: "Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:" (Isaiah 66:10)

## Chapter 17

### The Coming Russian Invasion

During the previous studies on Ezekiel chapters 36-37, we were occupied with an overview of God's plans and purposes with His covenant people Israel. Now in chapter 38, the prophet draws our attention to one particular event in Israel's history. At the outset God gives us an ominous list of nations who are to set themselves in array against His chosen people. Gog, Magog, Tubal, Gomer, Togarmah, Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya. Also the timing of this event is alluded to: "**After many days**" and "**In the latter years.**" Our aims in this study are to seek to identify the nations, motives and times related to this event.

#### WHO'S WHO IN EZEKIEL CHAPTER 38?

"And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him. And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet: Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee. Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them. After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them. Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee." (Ezekiel 38:1-9)

In order to identify the characters in this unfolding drama we must go back almost four and a half thousand years to Genesis chapter 10 which reveals to us that Magog, Tubal, Meshech and also Gomer with his son Togarmah are sons and grandson of Japheth, the son of Noah, that just man and preacher of righteousness. Reliable sources available today link Gog, Meshech, Magog and Tubal with Russia, Siberia and eastern Turkey. Gomer and his son Togarmah are linked to Germany, Poland and Western Turkey. Persia represents modern-day Iran, while Libya and Ethiopia need no introduction except to say that Sudan too would have been a part of Ethiopia in the days that this prophesy was given. This then, presents to us modern-day U.S.S.R. and her allies with the exception perhaps of Turkey, who is currently allied with the West. We don't have to think back very far to when Ethiopia, Libya and Iran too seemed firmly allied with the West. How rapidly has this situation changed. Indeed a most interesting insight into present day Russia, her allies and her aspirations is given to us here for should Russia seek to dominate the West, Israel must be annihilated. One reason for Israel's annihilation is that Russia's newfound oil-rich allies; Libya and Iran will need to be appeased. Full points so far to Ezekiel. For a man who wrote two and a half thousand years ago he sure did see modern day developments with both clarity and accuracy. Only Ezekiel's God could have fore-written world history with such precise detail. He has done this so that we might acknowledge His great power and give glory and honour to His holy name. Yes indeed dear reader the stage is set, the characters are identified and the outcome, thank God, is a foregone conclusion.

#### "AND A TIME FOR EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN"

There are several clues given as to the timing of this event. Firstly Ezekiel revealed that this prophecy would not be fulfilled until "many days" had transpired. He also states that these events will take place "in the latter years." The terms latter times or latter years throughout the scriptures are always linked with the final restoration of the land and people of Israel. The Lord Jesus Himself revealed in Luke chapter 21 that when Jerusalem again was the capital of the re-gathered Jewish nation, the "end times" or "latter days" would find their fulfillment. Ezekiel too throughout this chapter links the Russian invasion to the recent return of scattered Israel and continually emphasises the fact that the land was a perpetual desolation, but upon the return of her people has again become fruitful. Israel said he, would come home to their land which was "brought back from the sword" (The sword of Islam may I suggest.) Also the

prophet points out that this returned nation in their renewed land would be "gathered out of many people" how true, for Israel today is made up of people from over 60 nations. A further and often overlooked clue in the timing of this ill-fated invasion is that at the time of this event, "and they shall dwell safely all of them." In my view this could not honestly be said in 1990, but must indicate that Syria, and to a lesser extent, Jordan are to be neutralised so as to give Israel a period of complete national peace. There is a scripture in (Isaiah 17:1) that declares: "...Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap." The subjugation of Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Jordan by Israel could explain why none of these nations are mentioned as being party of this invasion. This view too is substantiated in Ezekiel 28:20-26 where God declares that Lebanon, as Israel's enemy will be totally neutralised when Israel is resettled by God's appointment. Thus the U.S.S.R. with no more local nations to use as springboards against Israel will amass her allies and come down from the North. Israel, dwelling at ease and with considerable wealth will prove too great a temptation to the Kremlin. I can almost hear them saying: 'It will be like taking candy from a baby.' But no-one takes candy from God's baby as the Russians and their comrades will find out, to their sorrow.

### THE WHYS AND THE WHEREFORES

There are various reasons why an invasion of Israel is likely. Israel lies at the crossroads of the world, linking Europe, Asia and Africa. Russia has already paid dearly for her error in voting Israel into nationhood in 1948, when they thought the manipulation of Israel to be a foregone conclusion. These tactical errors have been compounded by the close friendship between Israel and the U.S. Israel today has effectively become a centre stage base for the U.S. so that the Americans regard that 'greenbacks' spent on Israel are effectively dollars spent for their own security. Though there is a deal of selfishness linked to the American's care for Israel it must be remembered that unlike the U.S.S.R., the U.S. acknowledges the God of Israel, and can boast many genuine lovers of Israel within her ranks. The above is reason enough for Russian displeasure but if she is to finance an invasion of the magnitude envisaged by Ezekiel she must have at least some petro dollars at her disposal, hence her alliance with Iran and Libya, two avowed enemies of the state of Israel. The wave on which Iran is currently surfing is generated by Muslim fundamentalism. It is the opinion of the fundamentalists that God has finished with the Jews who failed Him. Believing Jerusalem to be their God given heritage, they will see this invasion as a 'Jihad' or 'holy war'. No expense will be too great a sacrifice for them.

Currently there are thousands of Jewish people pouring out of Russia. Huge sums of money are changing hands but selling Jews is like selling one's brains. Russia spurred on with the 'carrot' of financial gain seems to be oblivious to the fact that the depletion and suppression of her Jewish population will only serve to aggravate the retardation of her technological advancement.

Ultimately, I believe it will be a case of history repeating itself. Just as Pharaoh of old realised that his brickmakers were gone, and sought to secure their return, so too will Russia seek to make good her losses. Flying in the face of Russia's greed and jealousy Israel is set to lead the world in technology. Brought forth out of many people and nations, Israel will present the best of what the world has to offer. However the U.S.S.R., true to the form of that ancient Pharaoh will seek the return and enslavement of the Jews to their own peril. According to Ezekiel, a fate similar to that which the Egyptians suffered awaits them. The plot deepens when we consider that the wealth contained in the Dead Sea is currently valued at about one trillion, five hundred and seventy billion dollars U.S. Yes indeed, nothing is hidden from the Lord God of Israel. 'His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.'

P.S Since writing this book as a series from 1986 to 1989 many interesting events have occurred. The iron curtain is now history and Germany is unified. Notice verse 6 "Gomer and all his bands." Not just part but all of Germany is to be included. God's mills grind slowly but surely. Also we now better understand why Iran and not Iraq is mentioned as an ally to Russia. Lately everyone is saying peace peace and all is well. Don't be deceived.

## Chapter 18

### Peril from the North

(Ezekiel 38: 10-17) "Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought: And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates, To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land. Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? To carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil? Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it? And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army: And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes. Thus saith the Lord GOD; Art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring thee against them?"

#### VERSE 10 – EVIL THOUGHTS

As we continue our verse by verse description of Ezekiel chapter 38, we discover that the Kremlin is to become an incubator for evil thoughts. Russia is the first world power that has sought to build an empire structured on atheistic foundations. Only a fool would build on such shifty sand or say in his heart; "there is no God" Such foolishness leaves a dangerous vacuum which mischief and evil will fill. Consequently, it will be evil thoughts and intentions that motivate the U.S.S.R. in it's dangerous game of 'international chess'. Little does Moscow realise that it is her and not little Israel that is to be 'wiped off the board'.

#### VERSE 11 – ISRAEL AT EASE

As mentioned, the Russian attack is prophesied against a background of a consolidated and prosperous Israel which, according to Ezekiel will at that time be at rest without walls, bars or gates. At no time in Israel's 40 years of statehood could it honestly be said that she was at rest. Walls, gates and bars have been the order of the day throughout the modern state's turbulent history. From verse 11 we deduce that a measure of peace is at hand.

#### VERSE 12 – GOG AND HIS GREED

Russia's intentions are clearly set out here. They think that Israel and its hard-earned wealth will be easy pickings, "To turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited". It must be one of the wonders of the modern day world, for the land of Israel had for two thousand years become a dereliction inhabited by a few squatters, but now that part of the land had been returned to its rightful owners, it has suddenly begun to flourish. Israel is today one of the seven top food exporting nations in the world. Add to this the staggering mineral wealth contained in the Dead Sea, and the U.S.S.R.'s desperate need for fertilisers and food and one can see that the trap is well and truly baited. The catastrophic nuclear disaster that occurred in the Ukraine, which is the agricultural heartland of the U.S.S.R. and known as the 'bread basket' has become a disaster area. Consequently this 'bread basket' is empty, and Russia has her back against the wall. Russia now finds it convenient to uphold squatter's rights (i.e. Palestinian rights) and will seek to gain world support for her vandalism against God's covenant land and people. What a temptation this prosperous little nation has become to the Kremlin, who through greed and godlessness has squandered her opportunities. Israel, through blood, sweat and tears has by God's grace made something of her once desolate homeland, but Russia like the proverbial bear with the honey pot, plans to suck her out overnight. How indicative of this atheistic regime. They have greatly impoverished Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Ukraine, East Germany and Afghanistan, but like the seven lean cows of Pharaoh's dream, they have remained in a thin and miserable state themselves. I am reminded of a



definition that I once heard of godless communism: 'A communist is someone who has nothing and wants to share it with everyone'. Now they plan to extend their misery to little Israel.

### **VERSE 13 – THE ARABS AND THE WEST**

Suddenly what seems to be a round table conference comes into focus. Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish and the young lions thereof are asking the U.S.S.R. some naïve questions. "Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? To carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?" Though the answer to these questions is blatantly obvious, the above mentioned nations do not seem to be of a mind to do anything about it. It reminds me of the United Nation's flowery speeches whenever Israel is under great threat. Who then are Sheba, Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish? Sheba and Dedan were Abraham's grandsons by Keturah. Genesis chapter 25 tells how that Abraham sent his six sons to Keturah and all his grandsons from before Isaac. After presenting gifts to them all Abraham sent off all his descendants by Keturah to the 'East Country'. By the way it is interesting to note that two thousand years later, wise men came from the East bearing gifts and looking for Him that was born "King of the Jews". I believe that Abraham planted the hope of the coming King in their hearts. These are just my personal thoughts but one thing is absolutely sure: "And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac." (Genesis 25:5) Going back to our original question, I understand that Sheba and Dedan, the descendents of Abraham dwelt East of Israel in the Arabian Peninsula. Israel has had little but hindrance from her cousins until now and even then, when her Arab cousins would seem to be at peace with her they offer cold comfort to Israel with their hypocritical questions. The merchants of Tarshish in my view, have more to do with Western Europe and in particular Britain. The young lions thereof, I understand to represent the United States of America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and perhaps South Africa who have more or less come forth from European stock. They, along with the Arab nations will ask questions but not get involved. Perhaps they fear Russian reprisal. Whatever the case the whole earth will be looking on as the U.S.S.R. with all her allies mobilises their war machines against Israel.

### **VERSES 14,15 AND 16 – PERIL FROM THE NORTH**

"And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts." Ezekiel reveals that Russia will come down like a cloud to cover the land. Some think that this eludes to an airborne invasion by paratroopers. Whatever the case the sight will be awesome. Again, the timing is given – "the latter days." God declares that He has had enough of this boasting godless nation and He will make an open international show of their destruction. Notice here that God calls Israel: "my land" I pity the people who try to touch either His people or His land. Remarkable too that Gomer and all his bands should finally line up for judgement. As earlier stated we understand this to be a unified Germany. Their day of reckoning too awaits them. That Germany should line up with the U.S.S.R. and not the U.S.A. shows us that N.A.T.O.'s days are numbered.

### **VERSE 17 – GOD DISPLAYS HIS FOREKNOWLEDGE**

What and interesting verse this is, please look at it again. It was all a mystery when Ezekiel wrote it, but now you and I can answer God's question. 'Yes indeed Lord God of Israel you did predict this Russian invasion of Israel many years ago. We acknowledge the precise and accurate prophecies of your ancient holy men and we are thankful that you have given us all this information in advance. May all this have the desired effect upon our hearts. How gracious you have been to us that we in these perilous last days might be reminded that your word is infallible. What a thrill to see your word being fulfilled before our eyes. How blessed to trust in your unchanging word and experience the joy of knowing that all your promises to us too are yea and amen in our Lord Jesus Christ.' May I add to this prayer that privilege brings with it the responsibility that we be a prayerful, careful and holy people.

"And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face. For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel; So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the

steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground. And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord GOD: every man's sword shall be against his brother. And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, and overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD." (Ezekiel 38:18-23)

#### **VERSE 18, 19 AND 20 – HOLY JEALOUSY, WRATH AND FURY**

I don't think that any of us can imagine what it would be like to see God angry, but His anger will not be veiled from Russia and her allies in that day. So severe will be the repercussion of His anger that all men, animals, birds and fish in creation shall shake. Mountains will be thrown down and walls shall fall flat. So complete shall God's devastation of Israel's enemies be that only a sixth part shall survive, about 16 men out of every 100. What an awesome event this will be.

#### **VERSES 21,22 AND 23 – "I AM THE LORD"**

"Every man's sword shall be against his brother." This reminds me of another time that God did some mountain shaking. It was when the Philistines gathered 100,000 men to keep Israel in subjugation. Because of many years of servitude Israel could only boast two swords for their entire agricultural army. Jonathon, King Saul's son, in company with his armour-bearer crept out of camp with one of the swords. Jonathon intended with God's help to take on the entire Philistine army, but because they only had one sword he said to his friend: 'I'll push them over and you kill them.' (1 Samuel 14:13 paraphrased) Could you imagine pushing over 100,000 men? However God came to the rescue for after they had killed only twenty men God stepped in and shook the mountain on which the Philistines were camped. This so shocked the Philistines that they, in sheer panic turned every man against his brother, thus virtually wiping themselves out. These events will again be fulfilled but this time upon the U.S.S.R. It makes me tremble just to think of it. How grateful I am that the Lord Jesus has borne God's wrath for me at Calvary. Thank God that those in Christ will meet His loving smile and not His fierce anger. "And they shall know that I am the LORD."

## Chapter 19

### The burial of Gog

(Ezekiel 39:1-8) "Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel: And will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured. Thou shalt fall upon the open field: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD. And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the LORD. So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel. Behold, it is come, and it is done, saith the Lord GOD; this is the day whereof I have spoken."

The first sixteen verses of this chapter give some revision of the battle set out in chapter 38. However several factors not previously mentioned are added such as Israel's acquisition of the spoils of war and the disposal and burial of the corpses which are left behind.

#### THE BURIAL OF THE U.S.S.R.'S FALLEN

From verse 17 and onwards the Prophet describes an entirely different war after which the national conversion and total restoration of Israel shall take place. This latter war is of course Armageddon and takes place when all the nations of the earth come up against Israel. God willing, we shall take a careful look at these end time events later. For now, let us seek by God's grace to have some understanding of Ezekiel's closing verses on the Russian crisis.

#### VERSES 1 & 2 – FROM THE NORTH PARTS

This is the third time that the Prophet reiterates that Gog the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, hails from a land north of Israel. "Behold, I am against thee," how pitiful is the lot of those people whom the Lord is against. How blessed to be able to declare, "If God be for us who can be against us." So severe will be His dealings with them that it appears from these verses that only a sixth part shall survive.

#### VERSES 3-5 – DEVoured BY BIRDS AND ANIMALS

Egypt's Baker, Goliath, Saul and Jezebel all became food for birds and animals. This symbolises to us that God holds the flesh in and also these heathen nations whose carcasses become food for birds and wild animals. God will smite their weapons out of their hands. With fury in His face, He will destroy those haters of Israel who dare to set foot on His land. "I have spoken it says the Lord." Oh that Russia would hear and turn in repentance to Him.

#### VERSES 6-8 AND THE HEATHEN SHALL KNOW THAT I AM THE HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL

In the last verse of the previous chapter God says: "And I will be known in the eyes of many nations." Here again He repeats the same. Oh how God's heart yearns to make Himself known not only to Israel but to all people. It appears too in these verses that the destruction of those who are confederate against God will not be limited to the armies that actually come up against His covenant people, but His wrath too will be upon those who "dwell carelessly in the isles." Both the careless and the aggressive will be dealt with in one mighty blow. "Behold, it is come, and it is done, saith the Lord GOD." Another reminder of the inevitability of God's judgement.

(Ezekiel 39:9-16) "And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the handstaves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire seven years: So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord GOD. And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea: and it shall

stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The Valley of Hamongog. And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land. Yea, all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them a renown the day that I shall be glorified, saith the Lord GOD. And they shall sever out men of continual employment, passing through the land to bury with the passengers those that remain upon the face of the earth, to cleanse it: after the end of seven months shall they search. And the passengers that pass through the land, when any seeth a man's bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the valley of Hamongog. And also the name of the city shall be Hamonah. Thus shall they cleanse the land.

#### **VERSES 9 & 10 – SEVEN GOOD YEARS**

The exact timing of this Russian led invasion is not known to man but it is my view that all these things will be fulfilled in our times. It could well be that this battle will be a last warning to the inhabitants of planet earth that the dispensation of grace is drawing to a close. It is well known that the Jewish people love to plant trees in their land. Here God reveals that they will not have to use any trees for fuel for a period of seven years. This seven-year period of fuel sufficiency will introduce a time of unparalleled wealth in Israel, however it is clear that the Messianic age has not yet dawned. It reminds me of Joseph's seven good years which preceded the seven bad, Joseph's brothers all but forgot about him during the good years, but the beginning of the seven bad years revived old guilt feelings and brought back vivid memories of their past crime against their brother.

#### **VERSES 11-16 – “I WILL GIVE UNTO GOG A PLACE THERE OF GRAVES IN ISRAEL”**

Again we see that it is Gog the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal that is being addressed here and not the gathering of nations at Armageddon. God finds a place to bury the remains of this destroyed army. “The valley of the passengers on the east of the sea” will be so full of dead bodies that the stench will stop the noses of any passing through. It must be the Dead Sea that is being referred to here for there is no valley east of the Sea of Galilee that fits that description. Verse twelve tells us that it will take Israel seven months to bury the dead but verse fourteen reveals that burial procedures do not begin until seven months have elapsed. This together with the instructions that people were not to touch the bones but set a sign by them seems to allude to radio-activity. It appears to me that the bulk of the invading force will be poised to attack Jerusalem. The most suitable route would be through Jordan. There is a large area of waste land on the east side of the Dead Sea and only about seventeen miles from Jerusalem. God has already devastated this area 4,000 years ago when He dealt with the problem of homosexuality. When God dealt with Sodom and Gomorrah it sunk down under the weight of His wrath to be the lowest place on earth. I believe God dug it deep as a grave for Gog's multitudes. If Israel were to hurl an atom bomb into the valley it would do little damage other than to those camped there seeing that the place is one and a half thousand feet below sea level. The only Israeli city affected would be Jericho and didn't Joshua warn never to rebuild that city. This then would explain the seven month waiting period and the meticulous clean-up of every bone to “cleanse the Land.” Thus Hamon-gog (the multitude of Gog) will lie as a memorial to the wrath of God against all who dare touch His people or His land.

#### **SEEING IS NOT BELIEVING!**

For the next seven years at least, ‘not a dog will wag its tail’ against Israel. It will be an unprecedented time of “peace, peace and all is well.” Sadly these seven years will be another glowing example of man's blindness. Neither Israel nor the nations will turn to God. Israel with self-confidence, and the world blinded by sin will continue on down the trail to “Babylon” and Armageddon. I believe that these seven years when nations will speak peace and safety, shall be seen as the most perilous of the church age. It has been proved down through the ages that seeing is not believing. Never was more seen than under Moses or Christ, yet the people did not believe or trust God. Only a small remnant survived either of these times. May it stand as a warning to us to gird our loins with truth. If ever we needed to fight the good fight it is now.

## Chapter 20

### Intervening Times

#### **BABEL AND BABYLON**

Keeping in mind that the invading forces from the north together with Persia, Libya and Ethiopia have been annihilated and buried, Ezekiel now in Chapter 39:17 introduces an entirely different war. However, before considering these verses I wish to look at a period of at least 14 years which I believe separates the destruction of Communism and Muslim Fundamentalism from that final great international destruction at Armageddon. The seven years of plenty during the post war period have rolled on. Israel will have no need to cut down any of her trees for fuel as she will be left entirely fuel sufficient thanks to the ill-fated invading forces (Ezekiel 39:9) Yet during this time of worldwide reprieve, the world will continue its headlong slide toward Babel and Babylon. Many will have misinterpreted the Russian invasion as Armageddon, and shall be further led astray by the notion that this time of 'peace, peace and all is well' will never end. The future devastation of Muslim Fundamentalism when Iran (Persia) will join with the U.S.S.R. against Israel will leave a political vacuum in oil-rich Persia. Back in 1970 the Shah of Persia celebrated 2,500 years of unbroken dynasty upon the 'Peacock Throne'. I believe it possible that this future vacuum shall be filled by the deceased Shah's son, who incidentally is one of the earth's richest men. He could come out of exile in France to bring back stability to this region which, in my view will be chosen by 'Club of Rome' to float the United Nations. They for some time have been searching for a new home, New York running out of favour and worst of all out of money.

#### **ANTIDISCRIMINATION – ANTICHRIST'S SECRET WEAPON**

Discrimination will become the dirty word of that age with evermore far reaching laws of antidiscrimination being rushed through. Hardly anyone will raise their eyebrows anymore about such trifles as fornication, homosexuality, adultery, abortion, divorce or remarriage. The few saints who still try to cling to the old ways could well have law suites filed against them for their discrimination and be put behind bars. Men are learning to live like brothers and all religions are given equal status. The old ways of man's headship of his family and the honour of father and mother have been superseded by human rights to total freedom. Yes indeed perilous times have come and anyone who is not ashamed of Christ and His words in this adulterous generation is in for a hard time. Meanwhile Christ exhorts His precious ones to "...Look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." (Luke 21:28) "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." (Luke 21:36) "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." (Revelation 3:10)

#### **THE TRUMPET OF THE LORD SHALL SOUND**

Suddenly the trumpet sounds "...and the dead in Christ rise first: Then we which are alive and remain..." (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17), are changed in the "twinkling of an eye." The "little flock" who abide in "The Vine" and refuse to be intimidated hear a voice like a trumpet saying: "...Come up hither..." (Revelation 4:1) "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ," (1 Thessalonians 5:9) There is brief consternation at this event but even as the Jews refused to consider the rent veil, or the testimony of the panic stricken Roman soldiers and even as the churches refuse to acknowledge God's hand in the miraculous restoration of Israel, so too will this corrupt world not linger long in consideration of this super-natural event.

#### **"TAKEN OUT OF THE WAY"**

A this time Michael the Archangel will leave his post to complete the task of cleansing the heaven of Satan and his angels who come down to earth in a rage knowing that their time is short. Michael had been engaged by God to protect the infant state of Israel from being overrun by Satan's hoards. (Daniel 12:1, 2Thessalonians 2:7 & Revelation 12:7-9) Synonymous with this the Holy Spirit seals a combat force of 144,000 Jews who shall be the true Jehovah's Witnesses and preach the gospel of the kingdom in the absence of the church. Please note that the Holy Spirit no longer addresses the church after Revelation chapter 3. Then the 144,000 virgin Jewish men plus the two mighty prophets of God spoil Satan's plans of total

control by leading countless millions to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. However with Michael the Archangel gone, Israel is left vulnerable allowing Satan's man of sin to be unveiled. A seven-year covenant is made by him with the deluded Israeli rulers who believe that this great humanist will be able to guarantee them land rights and religious freedom. Jesus said: "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive." (John 5:43)

### **DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS**

Daniel had foreseen these seven years long ago when in his ninth chapter he declares  $70 * 7$  was determined upon Israel. Sadly after  $69 * 7$  or 483 years, Messiah the Prince was to be "cut off" indeed "...cut off out of the land of the living..." (Isaiah 53:8) Israel then too was cut off "...because of unbelief they were broken off..." (Romans 11:20) and the age or dispensation of grace began leaving seven years still unfulfilled upon Israel. Now that the church age has been concluded, the final seven years prophesied must be fulfilled upon Israel "...to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy." (Daniel 9:24)

### **SUPERMAN WAVES HIS MAGIC WAND**

The first three and a half years are amazing. This handsome, eloquent and intelligent world leader has turned out to be some sort of 'glorified Ghandi'. He gets along with almost everyone and with a mere sweep of his wand solves the world's economic problems which for decades have been teetering on the edge of disaster. One world government, one world financial system with international free trade, in matters of religion he is a wizard, he agrees that Jesus, Mohammed, Buddha and Confucius were good men in their time but he is Anti-Christ. Christ is the Greek word for Messiah. He claims himself to be the anointed one with much acclaim from the Freemasons, the Fabian society and other such institutions. Anti can also be interpreted 'instead of', this monster usurps Christ's office. Many Jews acclaim him as the long awaited Messiah. The newly rebuilt Babylon is teeming with national representatives. Thanks mainly to the Jews, an era of unparalleled technological advancement has dawned and the machinery of government is oiled by the regions unlimited oil supplies. The world's ten richest men are each presiding over a section of the globe which has been carved into ten sections for them.

### **144,000 JEWS AND TWO GREAT PROPHETS**

The only resistance to Antichrist's plans emanates from those elusive 144,000 Jews who preach that the commandments of God must be kept and that Jesus is Messiah and Lord. The common people hear them gladly, but Antichrist plans to mop up this minor set-back with his antidiscrimination laws. The matter is complicated by the appearance of two Prophets who perform great signs and wonders all the while concurring with the testimony of the 144,000. Antichrist frantically orders their execution but every time his men go to grab them fire comes out of the Prophet's mouth and devours them. Finally Antichrist succeeds and the Prophets are killed in Jerusalem where their dead bodies lay under international gaze for three and a half days. Then suddenly, before the eyes of all the two dead Prophets stand on their feet and are raptured after a voice speaks from heaven saying: "...Come up hither..." (Revelation 11:12) These are precisely the same words spoken to the raptured church. The world is in shock but Antichrist is in a rage for his cover is blown. Instead of a smiling 'Ghandi-type' leader, he shows his true colours and proves to be a raving dictator like Hitler only much worse. I notice in Revelation chapter 14 that the 144,000 Jewish witnesses are in the presence of the Lamb in the Heavenly Zion. They too seem to have been taken up in a rapture, however their converts were all beheaded because they refused the number of the beast. (Revelation 20:4)

### **THE WOMAN PROTECTED**

When Antichrist will have made an end of destroying all tribulation saints "And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them..." (Revelation 13:7), he will turn his attention to the woman, who of course is Israel. Israel brought forth the "Man child" while in a marriage covenant with Jehovah. She was cut off because of unbelief. Jehovah Himself divorcing her (Jeremiah chapter 3 and Isaiah chapter 54). Let me say again. "The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth..." (Corinthians 7:39) Israel is still "the

woman"; she is still God's covenant people and she shall be restored to her Husband and her God when she confesses her fault. It is because of this covenant that Antichrist will now give all his attention to the genocide of Israel or the death of "the woman". This of course is impossible (Jeremiah 30:11); firstly God takes a remnant and allures her into the wilderness where she shall be preserved we believe, in Bozrah (Hebrew) or Petra (Greek) (Isaiah 63:1-6). Again a third of Israel shall escape during Armageddon when the Lord splits the Mount of Olives so that they may escape Antichrist and Satan's final attempt of genocide against Israel. Why genocide? If all Jews were killed God's word would be broken for the covenant with His wife Israel would be dissolved through death. Armageddon will bring about the destruction of all anti-Semite's and covenant breakers who acknowledge Babel and Babylon. The devil will be defeated and all Israel (meaning the faithful remnant) will be saved to rule under the authority of Messiah Yeshua their King. The church, His bride shall sit with Him in His throne. (Revelation 3:21)

## Chapter 21

### Armageddon

“And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood. Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan. And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you. Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord GOD. And I will set my glory among the heathen, and all the heathen shall see my judgement that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them. So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward.” (Ezekiel 39:17-22)

“And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped. And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.” (Revelation 14:14-20)

“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty... And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.” (Revelation 16:13,14 &16)

#### THE DESTRUCTION OF THE GODLESS

The above scriptures set before us a time when the Lord shall ride upon a cloud of destruction. With His great judgement sickle He will harvest all the seed of contradiction to God's commands. As earlier stated the capital of this malignant amalgamation of unrighteousness is Babylon, which will mushroom briefly from the earth's plain. This overnight wonder will sweep the world off her feet and gather together all who are confederate against God and His covenant people Israel. (Please compare Jeremiah chapter 50 and 51, and Revelation chapter 15 to 18), and see that the final restoration of Israel is synonymous with the final and eternal destruction of Babylon. Gone too are the relative terms with which Ezekiel described the U.S.S.R. and her allies earlier in the chapter, for from verse 17 Ezekiel begins to describe an entirely new and truly international battle. The intent of this battle is the destruction of Jerusalem and the genocide of Israel.

#### NEBUCHADNEZZAR AND ANTICHRIST

Once before Babylon's ominous power overshadowed the world when Nebuchadnezzar built a golden idol ninety feet high. (See Daniel chapter 3) In chapter two, Daniel revealed that Nebuchadnezzar was himself the head of gold upon the image of a man made up of various minerals which was destined to be crushed to powder by “The Stone” (*who is none other than our Lord Jesus Christ Himself*). Being dissatisfied with this divine revelation the king set about making an image which would be solid gold from head to toe. Promptly he turned this colossal structure into an idol and commanded all people and nations of the earth to bow and worship his ‘pile of gold’. Who would dare resist Nebuchadnezzar's unquestioned power? The gold gleaming in the sun, the greatest international gathering ever, the greatest international orchestra playing, unparalleled feasting and festivity, all the five senses of



humanity were tuned and surrendered to his demands. The world fell prostrate before his idol, but three men said NO, and wouldn't you know it, they were Jews. I love the record that Daniel has given of these events. Especially the answer that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego gave to the fuming potentate. "... O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up." (Daniel 3:16-18) The king then commanded that this stubborn trio be cast into a fiery furnace that had been made seven times hotter. However all the fire could do was burn the ropes which bound these faithful Jews. God was with them in the midst of the flames, the outcome was not that all nations came together to bow to an idol, but they were gathered to witness Nebuchadnezzar bowing before God and the Jews. It is important that we understand that these events are figurative of Satan's final attempt to bring this world into subjection to himself. The three Jews represent the third part of Israel, and the seven times hotter fire represents seven years still determined upon the Jews. When all the world bows to 'Anti-Christ's idols' (See Revelation chapter 13), the Jewish remnant will refuse. This refusal will destroy Satan's plans for world control and at the same time bring down God's sickle of judgement upon all who follow Babylon's pernicious ways. The end result? - A purged Israel and a purged earth. All who participate in Babylon's fornications and adulteries will be cut off and die. "And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God. Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle." (Zechariah 13:8 - 14:3) "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come our of Sion The Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins." (Romans 11:26-27)

### **THE SALVATION OF THE GODLY REMNANT**

From the beginning God always intended that Israel should be a blessing to every family upon earth. Armageddon will be a tool in God's hand with which He shall purge Israel and the nations. When this is fulfilled, Israel shall acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord and the nations shall acknowledge that Israel is the "head, and not the tail." In dealing with these principles all nations will be brought to order and to Jerusalem which will replace Babylon and become both the old earth and new earth's eternal capital. The prophet Joel too accurately foresaw the universal and international upheaval which must precede God's will being done on earth as it is in heaven. "And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call." (Joel 2:30-32) Joel under the Holy Spirit's guidance was aware of the international struggle aimed at dividing the land that the Almighty has forever given to the Jews. "For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land." (Joel 3:1-2) Zephaniah too gives to us a most graphic account of what must take place in regard to the ungodly among the Jews and Gentiles, before the King of Israel shall be seated upon His throne. "In that day shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy doings, wherein thou hast transgressed against me: for then I will take away out of the midst of thee them that rejoice in thy pride, and thou shalt no more be haughty because of my holy mountain. I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the LORD. The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid. Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. The LORD hath taken

away thy judgements, he hath cast out thine enemy; the king of Israel, even the LORD, is in the midst of thee; thou shalt not see evil any more. (Zephaniah 3:11-15) Yes indeed, this "afflicted and poor" remnant shall be rich in blessing before their God for in their hour of desperate need they shall all be saved. As it is written: "Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. (Jeremiah 30:7)

#### **A DAY OF JOY AND GLADNESS**

What a day of rejoicing it will be when Jacob is saved from what seemed certain annihilation. To what shall we attribute this glorious victory? Israel's salvation shall not differ from that of any other. It will be brought about by national repentance and return to the Lord. In that day she will sing a new song: 'Our hope is built on nothing less than Yeshua' blood and righteousness.' As it is written: "And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn... In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness." (Zechariah 12:10, 13:1) May we in closing return to the chapter currently under study. "So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward." (Ezekiel 39:22) Happy day when Israel's sins are washed away. Oh how we shall rejoice when God's blessed and holy name is glorified in the salvation of His covenant people Israel. In that day Israel shall truly be a blessing to and be blessed by every family upon earth.

## Chapter 22

### **“But I have gathered them unto their own land”**

“And the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity: because they trespassed against me, therefore hid I my face from them, and gave them into the hand of their enemies: so fell they all by the sword. According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions have I done unto them, and hid my face from them. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name; After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid. When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; Then shall they know that I am the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there. Neither will I hide my face any more from them; for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.” (Ezekiel 39:23-29)

### **“BECAUSE THEY TRESPASSED AGAINST ME”**

The Lord Jesus said: “And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.” (Luke 21:24) A few days later on His way to Calvary He added: “But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children.” (Luke 23:28) If the Babylonian captivity lasted for seventy years after all that Israel had done against the Lord then what was it that brought about this great catastrophe which kept them from possessing their land for nigh on two millennia? We understand that these dark days came upon Israel because of their rejection of the Prince of Peace. It was precisely forty years after John the Baptist had concluded his call for Israel's repentance that Jerusalem was attacked by Titus and the merciless might of Rome. Even awesome Massada held no safety for those who once could have been gathered under His wings, “as a hen gathereth her chickens”, for God had given them over to the cruel will of their enemies. Jeremiah clearly foresaw the restless wanderings that were to follow when he wrote: “My people hath been lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains: they have gone from mountain to hill, they have forgotten their restingplace. All that found them have devoured them: and their adversaries said, We offend not, because they have sinned against the LORD, the habitation of justice, even the LORD, the hope of their fathers.” (Jeremiah 50:6-7)

### **A GENERATION IN ISRAEL'S FUTURE**

Nevertheless, those who have gloated over God's dealings with Israel or have sought to harm the wandering Jew have done so at their own peril for God's word stands: “I will...curse him that curseth thee...” (Genesis 12:3) Jeremiah goes on to say: “For Israel hath not been forsaken, nor Judah of his God, of the LORD of hosts; though their land was filled with sin against the Holy One of Israel” (Jeremiah 51:5) As revealed in earlier studies God through His foreknowledge shows to us that a generation in Israel's future will admit their fault and seek the Lord. “In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the children of Israel shall come, they and the children of Judah together, going and weeping: they shall go, and seek the LORD their God. They shall ask the way to Zion with their faces thitherward, saying, Come, and let us join ourselves to the LORD in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten.” (Jeremiah 50:4-5) Then it shall be what Ezekiel has declared in this our closing study of his inspired words.

### **“...WEEPING MAY ENDURE FOR A NIGHT...” (Psalm 30:5)**

Oh how it grieved the heart of God when He had to turn from beholding His beloved Son who took upon Himself both Israel's sin and ours. Deep too was the grief and dark the night that separated Jehovah from Israel because of her refusal to accept the Lamb of God, the Lion of the tribe of Judah. Hence her aimless wanderings about a hostile world. Yet though all this be true God exhorts us through His servant Isaiah: “For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace,

and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth...I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth." (Isaiah 62:1, 6-7)

**"...BUT JOY COMETH IN THE MORNING." (Psalm 30:5)**

The joyous anticipation of Israel's restoration causes the night of separation to seem but a moment to her longing loving God. I am reminded of Jacob and his true love Rachel. "And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her." (Genesis 29:20) "For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer." (Isaiah 54:7-8) Jehovah, blessed be His holy name, has spoken much about His true love's return to Him. His word is permeated with His love for her. An invitation is given to the godly to sing with Him the songs of redemption in anticipation of Israel's return to His side. Happy is the man who can sing songs of Zion with his God in the joyful assurance of Israel's return and restoration. Zephaniah sang them in chapter 3:16-20; Micah sang them in chapter 7:8-20; Amos sang them in chapter 9:11-15 and Isaiah too sang this blessed song in chapter 27:2-3,6 &13. Yes the story of turmoil, blood, fire and brimstone we have traced through the book of Ezekiel has a blessed and happy ending.

**"THEN SHALL THEY KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD"**

All these trials and tribulations are set by God to bring Israel back to Himself. We too as individuals can speak of storms and tempests but all shall be forgotten when we see Him. In that day the heathen shall know that Israel went into captivity because of their iniquity, but glory be to God, Israel shall know that : "...I am the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there. Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD. (Ezekiel 39:28-29)

## Chapter 23

### The Holy People

“And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name... And they shall call them, The holy people...” (Isaiah 62:2 & 12) What a vivid contrast we find here in these words from Isaiah when we compare them with what Moses had prophesied for the times that would pass before the above prophecy was fulfilled. “And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations whither the LORD shall lead thee.” (Deuteronomy 28:37) In direct fulfillment of Moses’ prophecy, the World Book Encyclopedia gives the following definition: ‘Jew – slang, to bargain with over-keenly beat (down) in price, used in unfriendly manner.’ Even worse the Oxford Dictionary states the following: Jew – Person of Hebrew race, unscrupulous usurer or bargainer, cheat, overreach.’ The rejection, despidal and persecution of the Jewish people by the nations is commonly known as anti-Semitism, and has led to horrendous crimes against this people by which so obviously have been set apart from the nations by God. Balaam, one of history’s first hired advocates of anti-Semitism was forced by God to bless and not curse Israel. Among his blessings, the following prophecy is found: “...the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.” (Numbers 23:9) A people apart, a history of sorrows, a lonely pathway of anguish and grief. How is it that the chosen people of God have become the rejected people of our world, and however shall they recover to become the head of the nations as has been promised?

Christianity is the only religion that has been born out of the rejection of its own people. The Lord, Yeshua Messiah is a Jew from the house of David, born in the Land in David’s City. He is the foundation stone of faith for millions. Christianity is a Jewish religion with its roots firmly planted in the Patriarchs and Prophets. The Christian handbook, the Bible, has been written, compiled and preserved by Jews. The divine inspiration of the Bible is again clearly seen by its declaration that, Messiah blessed be He, should be rejected by His own: “He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.” (Isaiah 53:3)

I am aware that the following observations are very delicate but could I truly be called a Christian friend of Israel if I failed to broach it. I believe with all my heart that Israel’s sad lot is a direct consequence of her rejection of Yeshua.

There will be a steady deterioration in her relationship with the nations despite her best efforts. Let me balance this by saying again that the nations are courting disaster too by their rejection of Israel as God’s covenant people in their God-given land. Eventually, these two gross errors will find their fulfillment in the emergence of a false messiah. He will have universal acclaim both in Israel and the world. Far from being “a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief”, he will rise with lightning speed to a position of world supremacy. His feigned friendship with Israel will serve no other purpose than to give him access to Israel’s ‘soft belly’: “I come in my Father’s name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.” (John 5:43) His aim will be the total annihilation of all Jews from the face of the earth.

Praise God that he who knows His own has already chosen a remnant among His people. This remnant shall be preserved by His mighty right hand and will totally revolutionise world opinion in regard to the Jews. When He who was despised and rejected by His own is enthroned as “King of the Jews” in Jerusalem, Israel too shall reverse its current position and be the head, not the tail of the nations, Jerusalem shall be the joy of the whole earth: “And they shall build the old wastes, thy shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.” (Isaiah 61:4) “And it shall come to pass, that as ye were a curse among the heathen, O house of Judah, and house of Israel; so will I save you, and ye shall be a blessing: fear not, but let your hands be strong. For thus saith the LORD of hosts; As I thought to punish you, when your fathers provoked me to wrath, saith the LORD of hosts, and I repented not: So again have I thought in these days to do well unto Jerusalem and to the house of Judah: fear ye not... Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD.

Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you." (Zechariah 8:13-15, 22-23)

Oh Israel, how we long to see you fulfill your God given destiny. What a wonderful change shall take place in regard to the attitude of the nations. The Jews, humbled by their amazing rejection of Messiah, will be a meek and lowly people perfectly suited to rule the world under the guidance of their King.

I remember being saddened some time ago when British Royalty went to visit the late President Sadat of Egypt in the Royal Yacht. No King or Queen want to visit Israel, how different it will be then. "Thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD; for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me."(Isaiah 49: 22-23)

Oh wonderful, wonderful word of the Lord which gives us such hope even though today, a darkness is descending upon both the Holy Land and our world. Arise, O lover of the God of Jacob, pray and intercede for Israel for the promise is sure, and our God has commanded us who are watchmen to take no rest until His holy name is vindicated. Then shall the Jews be called "The holy people" to the glory of God. O Lord, hasten that day.

## Chapter 24

### The Kingdom of God

We have been seeking to study the subject of 'Israel's Destiny' and it has been our aim to firstly distinguish between Israel and the church. I trust that we have been able to show from God's word the clear distinction that He has put between these two covenant peoples: Israel – the wife of Jehovah (Isaiah 54:5), the church – the Bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:32)

In our early studies we looked on with sorrow as God declared that His marriage with Israel was unworkable. This sad state led to a bill of divorce (Jeremiah 3:8). Yet this was not the conclusion of Israel's Destiny but rather the beginning. God still insists that He is married to her and displays His unfailing love and tender mercy in calling her to repentance and return (Jeremiah 3:12-14). How is it that she was divorced (cut off), but still married to Him? You see, divorce does not dissolve the marriage covenant, the marriage covenant can only be dissolved by death: "The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth:..." (1Corinthians 7:39) Let Babylon have her broken covenants and promises. Jerusalem is built upon the unbreakable promises of Him whose word is for ever established in Heaven: "And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail. Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery." (Luke 16:17-18)

The bulk of our studies have centered on that long and winding pathway that by the goodness of God, will lead Israel to repentance, restoration and restitution in regard to her relationship with her Husband. Surely it has been a hard road, a road covered with thorns and briars, a road of tragedy, horror and holocaust. Yet by faith, we declare a light at the end of the tunnel. Her King is that light for He has died that she might be reconciled to her Husband. However He came not to marry His Father's divorced wife, this would be abominable, His work was to restore Israel to the Father through His death and resurrection. However, He too is taking a Bride from the earth which is neither Jew nor Gentile but a separate covenant people; flesh of His flesh and bone of His bone, to sit with her Husband upon 'David's Royal Throne'. This then is the climax of things upon the earth, Israel restored to Jehovah and the 'Espoused Virgin' married to Christ. Then shall the 'Kingdom of God and the power of His Christ' come on earth as it is in Heaven. When our Lord taught us to pray, He began and ended with : "Thy kingdom."

We see then that the Kingdom is central to all of God's plans and purposes. How we long for this Kingdom to come. It should be part of our daily prayer, for then and then alone shall there be : "on earth peace, good will toward men..." (Luke 2:14) Therefore we pray for the peace of Jerusalem for she too is central to God's great Kingdom plan. In the Kingdom age Jerusalem shall be the joy of the whole earth. The apostate religions in an unholy union with the Babylonian or Harlot church are tripping over one another in their haste to remove the yoke of God's commandments. Like the Pharisees of old, they have: "...made the commandment of God of none effect..." (Matthew 15:6) In vain do they worship God: "...teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." (Matthew 15:9)

Sadly the churches rather than be despised, rejected and hated by the world are hobbling along like the 'unjust steward' making concessions in the form of justifying and sanctifying the breaking of God's commandments. They are winning the popularity contest. May the Lord's words echo in our ears Saints: "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." (Mark 8:38) Yes, Babylon that city of broken covenants and promises is drawing her crowds. Praise God, that : "Narrow is the way" of truth and light which leads the repentant sinner toward Jerusalem. Satan's castles upon the sand shall soon be gone but those who with their Savior have set their: "face like a flint" to go to Jerusalem shall be to the eternal glory of God. Though the United Nations and the one world religion have sold themselves to Babylon, yet shall the day dawn when the nations truly united by God, shall go up to Jerusalem.

Here is Isaiah's prophecy of jubilation: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." (Isaiah 2:2-4)

What a day this will be when Israel is restored, Messiah sits upon the throne of His father David and the church His blood brought bride sits with Him in His throne (Revelations 3:21). Interesting to note that a portion of (Isaiah 2:4) has been plastered upon the wall of the United Nations in New York. The irony of this anti-Zionist movement using the writings of one of the greatest Zionists of all time is great. How Satan loves to use God's word out of context but God shall contend for His word and : "shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people."

In that day all that hate Jerusalem and the Jews shall be eliminated from the Kingdom as goats are sorted from among the sheep. The head of the post- tribulation and true United Nations shall be the Man from Glory, the Son of David. Then 'Jesus shall reign wherever the sun doth his successive journeys run: "...every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." (Romans 14:11) The fulfillment of this glorious promise in the establishment of God's Kingdom on earth is literal and sure. Therefore let us pray earnestly for the Peace of Jerusalem in the certain knowledge that God's Kingdom shall come upon earth as it is in heaven. In that day all Israel shall be saved for they are appointed by God to be His representatives and His blessing to earth's every nation, every kindred and every tribe.

"And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;" (Ephesians 2:17-19) Yes "both" Israel the wife of Jehovah, and the church the bride of Christ shall be there as an eternal witness to the fact that the covenants and promises of God cannot be broken. Blessed be God, blessed Kingdom, blessed Jerusalem: "Blessed be the LORD GOD, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen." (Psalm 72:18-19)



## Chapter 25

### The Millennial Reign of our Lord Jesus Christ

#### 'A TALE OF TWO CITIES'

Our previous chapter 'The Kingdom of God' could just as easily have been called: 'A Tale of Two Cities'. So great is the conflict between Babylon and Jerusalem that one will be completely annihilated. Jeremiah chapter 50 and chapter 51 should be carefully studied along with the book of Revelation. Here Jeremiah sees the return of his people to Zion along with the total and eternal destruction of Babylon: "Then shalt thou say, O LORD, thou hast spoken against this place, to cut it off, that none shall remain in it, neither man nor beast, but that it shall be desolate for ever." (Jeremiah 51:62) "Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her. And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all." (Revelation 18:20-21) When Babylon finally falls the whole earth will be in ruins yet out of this great confusion the King of Kings will bring harmony and order.

#### THE LIGHT OF A NEW DAY

After that gross darkness of Babylon light shall shine forth from Jerusalem for Israel's Messiah shall establish: "On earth peace, good will toward men." In that day He shall be as Simeon has prophesied; "A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." (Luke 2:32) Gabriel too declared: "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." (Luke 1:32-33) First His Kingdom shall be established in time upon the old earth. One thousand years later His Kingdom shall be established in eternity within the new heavens and upon the new earth. The Millennial reign is at hand and must precede the eternal state. This final thousand years will fulfil the week or seven thousand years. Six thousand years of blood, sweat and tears, and then the rest day; a thousand years of peace: "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgement was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished, this is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." (Revelation 20:1-6)

#### THE RIVER OF LIFE

The millennial reign of Christ shall be a time of unparalleled peace and prosperity when for one thousand years mankind shall be under the iron rod of the King of the Jews. Thus a perfect governor shall have the government upon His shoulder. Perversion and poverty shall all be things of the past for the earth shall be renewed, refreshed and revitalised by the river that flows from Mount Zion: "Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed. And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and every thing shall live whither the river cometh." (Ezekiel 47:8-9) This river of clear water represents the word of God which shall not only bring moral and spiritual cleansing but will also restore the earth environmentally. The curse too shall be removed and the earth shall yield her strength: "Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." (Isaiah 55:13)

**THE KING OF KINGS**

Every nation shall pay homage to the "King of Kings" in that day and man again shall be the noble head of his family. No more political and industrial pollution either for every family will dwell under their own vine and under their own fig tree. Woman shall be at man's side as a fruitful vine and children shall sit around the table like olive plants. Even "the trees of the field shall clap their hands" when they behold His glory. In that day there shall be true liberty for men, women and children. The earth shall bless the Jew who is the "lion of the tribe of Judah", who has subdued all things by the power of His might. Satan and his demons shall be for a time locked away in the "bottomless pit"

**ISRAEL GREAT, BUT MEEK AND GENTLE**

Rising out of the great humiliation of having despised and rejected their precious Yeshua, Israel will have been well groomed by God to cope with her elevated position. This broken hearted and contrite remnant shall be greatly blessed by both God and man. Can you imagine our joyful bliss dear saints as we the church and Bride of the King sit with Him in His throne throughout this blessed one thousand years.

**HYPOCRISY REVEALED**

Yet for all of this and though appearances are good, it becomes clear to those who have discernment that hypocrisy is rife even under the Lord's perfect government. For this reason Satan and his demons are again released in order that all hypocrites may be made manifest. So we see that God has a purpose for good and for evil. He restrains the evil, He locks away, and He releases in accordance with His purpose. There shall be no saint upon the "New earth" that has not been tested upon the Old Earth. Only those who have chosen the Lamb of God shall live eternally. Satan's final fling then shall bring in this earth's eternal doom. I believe that we shall never see this earth again, for the fires of hell which rage within shall break out and the heavens and earth which are now, shall melt with fervent heat. "But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men... But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." (2 Peter 3:7 & 10)

**YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN**

Nevertheless says Peter, we according to His promise are looking for new heavens and new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness. It shall be clearly seen by all that even a perfect government upon a perfect earth could not cure man's sin. The word of God stands unchanged. "Except a man be born again" Adam and Eve couldn't even make it in their perfect state much the less we who were born of corruptible seed, unless we're: "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." (1Peter 1:23) Satan, his demons and all mankind that were not born again will dwell upon the old earth which shall become a raging inferno. I believe that the old universe with the old earth shall be sucked into a black hole known as the "Bottomless pit". Eternal darkness and eternal fire shall be their lot. "There shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

**THE LION SHALL LAY DOWN WITH THE LAMB**

Although the final millennium will not be heavenly bliss, yet it will be a welcome reprieve for this weary war-torn earth. Out of that final age, millions will come to love God and trust in the finished work of His blessed Son. Not one of Adam's children will ever set foot upon the new earth or enter into the New Jerusalem to come, without the blood of the Lamb. From Abel to the last millennial saint that puts his trust in God, all must enter in at 'The Door' for Christ is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and ending of the Salvation of God. Regardless of the final and violent end determined upon the last millennium by God this closing dispensation shall be bliss for the earth's poor and downtrodden. The earth shall be full of children. No more abortion in the west, no more starvation in the third world, no more godless indoctrination in the north. Look at how Isaiah sees this closing age: "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick

understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the suckling child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea." (Isaiah 11:1-9)

**OH JOYOUS ANTICIPATION**

What joyous anticipation have the redeemed; to see the glory of Christ's millennial reign which is just a little foretaste of the eternal state. Yes the Father's house within the New Jerusalem will be heaven on earth eternally. Never again a need for Satan to test a hypocrite for all shall be eternally redeemed. The eternal state is for those who have washed their clothes in the blood of the lamb: "They shall be one." "Thus shall we be forever with the Lord." 'Hallelujah'.

## Chapter 26

### Conclusion

“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.” (Revelation 21:1-9)

**WHAT ANTICIPATION OF ETERNAL JOY** have we who love God. We know that our full redemption is nigh and that soon the long awaited and eternal day shall dawn. I understand that six of the seven thousand years determined upon our planet are all but fulfilled. Soon the last day of the week which is the seventh, or rest Millennial, shall begin. This final thousand years will then conclude earth's times and history. The old then shall pass away and all things will become new. However God Almighty will not farm this earth for seven thousand years without taking from it His harvest. His Son's toil in blood, sweat and tears shall be richly repaid and a golden yield of earth's overcomers shall be brought into the Father's granary. Yes indeed the Father's House shall be filled in accordance with His loving plan. Much stubble and chaff produced by the earth shall be burned. But all who answer to Christ through the rebirth shall be separated as 'wheat from the tares' to enter into that abode where there are pleasures for evermore. There shall be no more of sins sorrow and death in that day for the One who bore all our sins shall then dry all our tears. Isaiah who himself shall be there wrote the following words with great anticipation: “For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.” (Isaiah 64:4)

**WHAT PART THEN HAS ISRAEL TO PLAY** in the eternal purposes of God? From God's word we see a great future for the Jews both in the Millennial Kingdom and in the eternal state to come. Though Israel are in for a time of trouble such as has never been seen upon the earth, God will redeem His repentant remnant and will set them on high. Let us read again from God's word concerning Israel: “Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it... Therefore fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the LORD; neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid. For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished... And ye shall be my people, and I will be your God... The fierce anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have done it, and until he have performed the intents of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it.” (Jeremiah 30:7,10-11,22 &24) God will never make an end to His dealings with His covenant people. Even after sun and moon have passed away there shall be an Israel and a Jerusalem in the presence of Almighty God. As the church, the Bride of Christ is “a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people” in the presence of God, so too shall Israel have her place in His eternal purposes.

**PAUL WRITES CLEARLY OF HIS DUEL OCCUPANCY** within the Father's House: “And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of

God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together growth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:17-22) Please notice the "Ye also" and "we both" continually employed by Paul in this passage. Not only does Paul declare that room has been made for both Israel and the church, but he in fact claims that we are the actual building materials. Yes Christ is the foundation stone and the headstone of the corner but Israel and the church: "are builded together for an habitation of God."

Now this is the city that Abraham, father of many nations looked for: "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." (Hebrews 11:10) It is written in John chapter two that the Lord when He had cleared the Temple said: "...Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Lord was clearly speaking of the resurrection of His own body for He certainly is that Temple in which the fulness of the God head bodily dwells. Yet I see another fulfillment also. May I suggest that the three days also represent three millennial days at the end of which the eternal house of the Father shall be completed. The writer to the Hebrews goes on to speak of this wonderful climax to the purposes of God: "But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect," (Hebrews 12:22-23)

**THE "HEAVENLY JERUSALEM", THE CITY OF PEACE** is indeed the city for which Abraham longed. This city with all of its glory and housing both Israel and the church is set to come down upon the new earth: "And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:" (Revelation 22:3) Even as my dear wife is my helpmeet here on earth, so too shall Israel, God's covenant people be Jehovah's eternal helpmeet, and the church in covenant relationship with Christ, shall sit with Him in His throne as His eternal helpmeet also. In that day the typology of marriage and every other typology shall be replaced by the eternal plan and antitype of God. How excited we are about the glorious anticipation of the eternal state in which both we and Israel shall have part. Let us conclude this study with a glimpse of the New Jerusalem: "And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb." (Revelation 21:10-14) Notice here that the city is made up of both the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve Apostles of the Lamb. Yes Israel, a wife by covenant to Jehovah, and the church now espoused but then married to Christ as represented here. The church hasn't replaced Israel nor has Israel prevented the church, but both have been builded upon One Foundation Stone.

**IT IS ISRAEL THEN AND THE CHURCH THAT SHALL BE THE ETERNAL HELPMEETS OF THE FATHER** and the Son in the eternal state. These two in holy union with the Father and the Son shall make up the administrative headquarters of the new and eternal earth. Many other people and nations shall dwell there from Able to the last Millennial saint, but Israel and the church are central to the eternal plans and purposes of God. How fitting therefore that we the church today show loving care toward Israel. That we be faithful to our God, to our great commission and to Israel.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for letting me share this book 'Israel's Destiny' with you. From the outset I have had this glorious end in view, but have waited patiently that we might together lay the foundation to this one of eternities great wonders, 'the love of God in His dealings with Israel.' This same great love will also guide each one of us who trust Him to our own glorious and eternal destiny.

**PRAYER**

Oh Heavenly Father what a wonder of wisdom and love you are. How we long to come and live in your House. To think that you should use us to help you is exceedingly more than we could ever ask or think. Father and loving God of Israel, we love you, we thank you for your great and steadfast love in the wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.