

THE GREAT PLAN OF ALMIGHTY GOD

Chapter 12 Part 1

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New International Version used throughout unless otherwise specified.

Every plan has an expected outcome and a goal. The Great Plan of Almighty God is no different – and it has been a long time in the planning. The obvious question is: What did this Plan hope to achieve? It's clear that Almighty God had something in mind, and the sheer volume of effort that has gone into it shows it to be a Plan of great importance!

The Great Plan of Almighty God came into effect when God chose to expand His Family with the inclusion of a new group of individuals who proved in life that they had the determination to think like God Himself. To facilitate this, God chose certain individuals who reasoned from a sound basis and sought to honour their Creator and to seek His direction in all matters. To these He gave His Holy Spirit to see and understand clearly what He requires of them. These were in the extreme minority until Abraham came along. Through the line of Abraham, God chose to create a vast nation of people, which would comprise 12 Tribes. The sons born to Abraham's grandson Jacob were the fathers of these 12 Tribes. By the time these Tribes came into being, more than two millennial days had passed since Creation. There remained less than four millennial days for the culmination of God's Plan and the beginning of the final day – the Seventh Millennium. The grand finale was to be the establishment of the premier nation on earth in God's Place of Rest. But it will be a tortuous route for them to arrive there. The Jewish people set the example of how it will all be accomplished following WW2, and the prelude leading up to it. But the persecution of the Jews at that time is about to be eclipsed.

It's important to understand the time scale of God's Plan. And it's also important to understand God's motivation for doing things the way He has. Creating intelligent beings who understand the difference between good and evil and who have the ability to reason is not a decision that was taken lightly. It had been done before, when a great horde of spirit beings were created. They had a prince over them – a being that was dazzling in appearance. He was called the Lightbringer, and he was charged with bringing enlightenment to the whole nation of spirit beings in his realm. But power went to his head and he became cruel and heartless, and his conduct did not go unnoticed. He saw himself as the heir-apparent to the whole of God's creation, and being next in line for the Throne of God, so he decided to hasten the day when he would be god of all. And to do this would require a rebellion. With the power he controlled over all the created beings, Satan believed it would be a fait accompli. After all, he reasoned, God had placed him in this position in the first place and given him absolute rulership. Now it was time to receive his entitlements, and for the winner to take all.

Satan had bountiful wisdom and was cunning and inventive in making his case for succession to the Throne of God. He is also described as wily in his cunning schemes. He's very persuasive to those who are easily led. And so the coup was mounted. When Jesus was on earth, He remarked that ***'He saw Satan fall like lightning from the heaven'*** (**Luke 10:18**). He was hurled to the ground by Jesus Himself. For the first time, Satan learned of his lack of invincibility. The very One whom he disdained and treated with contempt, the One who was constantly at God's side as His assistant, was the One who overpowered him and sent him hurtling to the ground. His entourage of transgressors was cast down with him.

God has a reputation for being soft and kind and merciful, and so it wasn't expected that He would strike back. Satan believed that with a show of strength and unity God would concede to his demands for absolute power. God however, foresaw it all coming, and empowered the Craftsman at his side to deal with Satan personally. With Satan's act of rebellion he was to learn that he was ***not*** the heir to God's Throne, but instead, the Craftsman at God's side was. His dreams of the ultimate power were gone. Realizing that all hope was gone, he set about to destroy God's Throne and the entire creation. The exact means by which he did this is not disclosed other than it was an asteroid that

impacted in the region of the Indian Ocean as we know it today. The term ‘*wandering stars*’ (**Jude 1:13**) in relation to the rulers of the heavenly realms is about the only indication given that it was an *aster-oid* or *star-oid* (aster means star) that was redirected to impact the earth. It must have taken some considerable effort of redirecting the asteroid to impact. But the ‘*wandering stars*’ finally succeeded. It was a cataclysmic impact that changed the face of the earth. As Jude states, even Enoch the seventh from Adam was predicting the retribution that God would bring on these *wandering stars*: **Jude 1:13** “They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame; *wandering stars*, for whom blackest darkness has been reserved forever. *Enoch, the seventh from Adam*, prophesied about these men: “See, the Lord is coming *with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones to judge everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of all the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.*” These men are *grumblers and faultfinders*; they follow their own evil desires; they boast about themselves and flatter others for their own advantage. But, dear friends, remember what the Apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. They said to you, “*In the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires.*” These are the men who *divide* you, who follow *mere natural instincts* and do *not* have *the Spirit*.” In short, these men are the children of the devil, and they emulate their father the devil. They refuse to serve God, and attempt to find fault with God’s servants. And now they have taken to *speaking harsh words* against God Himself. In so doing, they have become the mindless puppets of the *wandering stars*.

And incidentally, it’s these ‘*wandering stars*’ that, even today, go all out to corrupt others and seek the highest positions in the religious hierarchy. They want to be worshiped like God, and actually seek to displace God in favour of themselves. By their fruits you will know them. With lies and distortions they go all out to corrupt God’s Truth. As **Jude 1:13** indicates, they usually manipulate themselves to the top of the hierarchy of Church structures, and call themselves ‘*shepherds*’ and like to appear as angels of light. It was just as true in Jesus’ day when, as the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees, they masqueraded to manipulate the masses in order to seek their admiration. As Jesus pointed out, they didn’t keep the Law of God themselves, but they added many burdens to the Law to make it impossible for others to do so. Evil, loathsome creatures today do the same, and claim that it’s impossible to keep God’s Law. They attempt to add all the burdens that the wandering stars added, and flat out refuse to keep any of them. Since they’ve rebelled against God’s Laws, they want others to do the same. And just to dispel the notion that it’s impossible to keep God’s Laws – which they love to claim, notice what the Scripture has to say concerning the parents of John the Baptist: **Luke 1:4** “*In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord’s commandments and regulations blamelessly. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren; and they were both well along in years.*” And if the ‘*wandering stars*’ are *reserved for the blackest darkness forever*, as Jude states, *then so are those who have emulated them in their lying masquerade!*

Whether or not the ‘*wandering stars*’ foresaw the catastrophic destruction that would be inflicted on the whole earth is debatable, but God did. Their objective was to destroy the Throne of God on earth, but the impact succeeded in destabilizing the whole earth and completely destroyed their habitations, together with all the lifeforms that then existed. Almighty God however, foresaw the outcome and used the opportunity to teach a valuable lesson for future generations of beings, and those generations of beings were to be formed from human beings. With the earth in chaos and confusion, a new creation was in order. With all the previous lifeforms gone, whole new species were created and *God renewed the face of the earth.* Amid all the chaos of the earth, God would create His greatest triumph – a family of sons and daughters to replace Satan and his rulers of the heavenly realms for evermore. (For a more detailed explanation of what happened to the earth, see the article at our website: *Geology, Dinosaurs, Chaos – What really happened to the earth?*)

But a great deal of planning was required if a family of intelligent human beings were to be elevated to the God-like stature of the former ruler and his minions. God’s new family would have to experience the difference between good and evil – and choose the good. What is more, they would have to understand the chaos that ensues from a choice of evil. They would have to be convinced that God’s Way is best, and to hold fast to His instructions and Laws. Throughout history, God set aside certain men of outstanding ability and stability of mind to be elevated to prominence for their faith and belief in Almighty God. Such men as Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses among many others were chosen as God’s servants. All of these became the lifeline for understanding the faithfulness that God requires. God used them as examples – like a light shining in a dark place, a light to illuminate future generations. When Abraham came along, he was called *the father of the faithful.* He extracted himself from the community in which he lived and went to the place God instructed him. God further instructed him that he would be the father of many nations. And again, Abraham believed God and

never wavered. Through Abraham's son Isaac, and Isaac's son Jacob and his 12 sons, the nations of God were established. Collectively, these nations were called Israel – the adopted name of Jacob. And all 12 Tribes are still called Israel today, but only the Jews acknowledge this name for themselves. The rest of the Tribes or nations no longer acknowledge their roots, and consequently, they no longer honour their God. As predicted in the Bible, and as God prospered them, they have gradually waned in their enthusiasm to acknowledge their Creator God and obey Him.

Power and prosperity does strange things to people, and soon they started believing that life and all that it entails happened by chance. They wanted to be masters of their own destiny, and the concept of a Creator God no longer appealed to them. The theory of evolution became their god. As the Apostle Paul so eloquently put it, because they couldn't retain God in their minds, He gave them over to reprobate minds to do things that are ridiculous and against common logic. Their thinking became illogical and delusional and their foolish minds were darkened. Darkened minds are the hallmark of Satan and his rulers of the heavenly realms. The evidence of a Creator God can be clearly seen by the things that have been made (**Rom 1:18-25**).

Speaking of the House of Israel, though they no longer honour their God, God's promise to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Israel) is immutable. God has confirmed this again and again: **Amos 3:1-2** "Hear this word the LORD has spoken against you, O people of Israel – against the whole family I brought up out of Egypt: "You only have I chosen of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your sins." (See also **Deut 7:6, 14:2, 2Sam 7:24**). To this very day God has not rejected His people Israel, but He will punish them for all their sins. Throughout the history of the House of Israel, there have been moments of illumination and a desire to establish themselves according to righteous principles. The outstanding example of this today is Ephraim – the United States of America. God speaks of their founding fathers in glowing terms. These founding fathers did acknowledge God and made every effort to establish the nation on Godly terms – terms and conditions that would hold them in good stead for generations.

Hos 9:10 "When I found Israel, it was like finding grapes in the desert; when I saw your fathers, it was like seeing the early fruit on the fig tree. But when they came to Baal Peor, they consecrated themselves to that shameful idol and became as vile as the thing they loved. Ephraim's glory will fly away like a bird – no birth, no pregnancy, no conception. Even if they rear children, I will bereave them of every one. Woe to them when I turn away from them! I have seen Ephraim, like Tyre, planted in a pleasant place. But Ephraim will bring out their children to the slayer." Yes, God is speaking directly to Ephraim when He speaks of Israel. And the Book of Hosea is Ephraim's endtime book, and is a warning to Ephraim! As God prepares to punish them for all their sins, Ephraim finds itself planted in a pleasant place.

God even describes their capital city Washington: **Isa 28:1-6** "Woe to that wreath, the pride of Ephraim's drunkards, to the fading flower, his glorious beauty, set on the head of a fertile valley to that CITY, the pride of those laid low by wine! See, the Lord has one who is powerful and strong. Like a hailstorm and a destructive wind, like a driving rain and a flooding downpour, he will throw it forcefully to the ground. That wreath, the pride of Ephraim's drunkards, will be trampled underfoot. That fading flower, his glorious beauty, set on the head of a fertile valley, will be like a fig ripe before harvest – as soon as someone sees it and takes it in his hand, he swallows it." So this is speaking of Ephraim and their CITY, set at the head of a fertile valley – a very pleasant place! A place of national pride, but God describes it now as a fading flower. And again, God describes it as an early fig – a fig ripe before harvest. But the LORD has one who is powerful and strong – one who has a large sword (**Rev 6:3-4**). And this 'one' has power to cause men to slay each other. And coincidentally, one whom Ephraim is determined to pick a fight with. This 'one' is called Cyrus. Cyrus is one of the really smart ones of the rulers of the heavenly realms. And God has called him to duty to inflict punishment on Ephraim – just as He has warned. While God has stated that He was pleasantly disposed to the founding fathers, and describes them as early figs, those who are still like the early figs are now in the minority, and it's time for Ephraim to depart.

When Jesus was on earth, He went looking for early figs on the fig tree, but finding no early figs, He cursed the fig tree and it withered (**Mark 11:13**). This was a parable for the endtime – a confirmation that what doesn't produce good fruit will be destroyed. Since God describes Ephraim as the fig-tree and acclaims the early figs that established the nation, so He also says He will destroy the nation that fails to produce the fruit. At the opening of the sixth seal, God again mentions figs, this time late figs, falling from the tree by the effects of a mighty wind (**Rev 6:12**). The intent here is to make it clear that as the [wandering] stars no longer have a place in heaven, so they will fall like late figs from a tree. Furthermore, these late figs will be just like the wandering stars when they go into captivity! Traditionally, the House of Israel followed the basest of instincts whenever they prospered. But when they go into captivity and repent of their evil and beat their breasts and plead to God for

deliverance (*salvation*), God will make a selection of 144,000 of them to whom to give His Holy Spirit (**Rev 7:1-8**). These, together with an innumerable multitude, will emerge and stand before the Throne of God (**V9**). This is the Throne of God the Father, and His Son Jesus sits on this Throne at the Father's right hand. And just to make this clear, those who are saved in the holocaust will shout these words: **V10** "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the Throne, and to the Lamb."

And just to clarify a few things: Ephraim is no worse than any of the other families of the earth. The distinction is that God blessed America and held them to the highest standards of conduct like that of the founding fathers. While the rest of the families of the earth lived like pigs, the hand of God was with Ephraim to bring prosperity to them. They recognized the evil conduct of those already living there and recognized that there was no place for them. So they proceeded to wipe them out. So far, so good! But in time, lunatics arose who wanted to learn the way of these heathen, and so there were calls for treaties and special Indian reserves. Again and again throughout the history of the 12 Tribes of Israel, God has warned against allowing the heathen to live amongst them. But the rulers of the heavenly realms were hard at work campaigning for a place for their brood. Sure enough, they won their campaign, and their brood has been a thorn in the side of Ephraim ever since. Even worse, it set the stage for welcoming heathen from all over the world, and granted them rights to free expression of their pagan ways. America became the melting pot for all the degenerates of the earth. The early fig philosophy of the founding fathers was soon forgotten as legislation began to accommodate the beliefs of all the ethnic families of the earth. This is certainly not what God intended, but it is most certainly what He predicted! Ephraim has now mixed with all the nations of the earth and corrupted their habitations.

Incredibly, we now have people who have never served God, nor honoured Him, leveling criticism against the very people whom God blessed and nurtured. God set Ephraim as the example for the world – an example of what He will do for those He loves, and what He will do when they turn away and dishonour Him. But while God intends to punish Ephraim for what they have done, no nation should imagine that they are more righteous than Ephraim. They don't even come close! When the tables are turned and Ephraim's punishment begins, the nations would be well-advised to remember Ephraim's philosophy of mercy and kindness, because all nations will be judged according to these standards. At the present time they are not making a very good showing of this. Ephraim has long had a philosophy of bringing peace to the nations and has fought many wars to this end. Truthful observers will know this to be true. And God intended this! All the nations of the earth should be grateful, but they are not! They don't like the perception that this son of God Ephraim rules over them. No nation ever desired peace – they wanted war, but only if they had the means to win it. If it wasn't for the might and power of Ephraim, the earth would have become a barren wasteland with the current technology of sophisticated weaponry. Ephraim has successfully restrained all the nations and held them to certain standards – standards they despise, but are obligated to observe. Notwithstanding, there is an underlying hatred for all things American.

Have the nations appreciated God sending His son Ephraim to guide recalcitrant nations and teach them a better way? And Ephraim is a son of God (**Jer 31:20**) and God disciplines every son he receives. The time has come for Ephraim to be disciplined, and God has foreshadowed this event. This prophecy begins in **Jer 31:15** with a parable about Rachel, the mother of Joseph, who was the father of Ephraim and Manasseh. In terms of prophecy, Ephraim is given all the rights and privileges of his father Joseph the prophet. This is further exemplified in **Rev 7:4-8** where all the Tribes of Israel are mentioned by name, but Ephraim is defined as 'Joseph', whereas Manasseh is defined by his own name. (The Tribe of Dan – the treacherous Irish today, who have traditionally fought against the Tribe of Joseph, and actively aided the Palestinians against the Jews, have no place in the family of God. They will, however, inherit tribal lands – eventually. The term 'mad Irishmen' is not without significance. Of course, the Celtic northern Irish don't fall into this category because they are not of the Tribe of Dan.)

Well, the prophecy begins with Rachel weeping for her children because they are no more (**Jer 31:15**). God says this: **V16** "Restrain your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, for your work will be rewarded" declares the LORD. "They will return from the land of the enemy. So there is hope for your future," declares the LORD. "Your children will return to their own land. I have surely heard Ephraim's moaning: 'You have disciplined me like an unruly calf, and I have been disciplined. Restore me, and I will return, because you are the LORD my God. After I strayed, I repented; after I came to understand I beat my breast. I was ashamed and humiliated because I bore the disgrace of my youth.'" Remember the disgrace of Joseph's youth when he was sold into slavery? By his brothers, no less! Well Joseph is about to bear this same disgrace once more! But it's the term 'after I came to understand' that needs further examination. In Ephraim's book, God speaks of his lack of wisdom (**Hos 13:13**), and I can tell you this: Ephraim has a lot to learn before they are restored

to their own allotment, and not before they come to understand their foolishness. As the howling winds blow and darkness descends, God plans to address this lack of wisdom. And how the leaders of Ephraim love to show their own version of wisdom! Remember Falujah in Iraq – a hell-hole of murderous insurgents, hell-bent on the destruction of American soldiers? These ‘wise brain surgeons’, the American Joint Chiefs of Staff, stopped at the gate and allowed them time to flee out the backdoor and regroup elsewhere. They actually tried to negotiate a peace deal with them! Later, their wisdom was starting to look like cowardice, and they had to go back and fight, but there was nobody to fight! The murderous insurgents had all left. Even today, they try to justify their lack of wisdom, though one or two of the gutless generals were moved sideways to make way for someone with a little more guts.

Because of their lack of understanding, they can’t seem to understand that they are fighting the age old enemies of God. But at least the Tribes of Joseph took on the task, and their efforts will eventually be rewarded.

Ephraim will come to understand though, but not before God has torn them to pieces (Hos 6:1). V5 “Therefore I cut you to pieces with my prophets, I killed you with the words of my mouth; my judgments flashed like lightning upon you.” It’s just as well God’s prophets don’t shrink back from their responsibilities. Never has this ministry been sucked into the vortex of the type of stupidity that is going on today. There is a limit to how much justification of stupidity can be tolerated, and this Brotherhood has not fallen for any of it. Mind you, it is difficult at times to level charges against the mightiest and most righteous of all nations in spite of all their faults. But in the absence of Ephraim, what nation could fill the void? There are none! God has chosen to call Ephraim His son – just as Jacob did. Joseph excelled in nation-building when he ruled in Egypt – answerable only to Pharaoh. His son Ephraim is no different in terms of prophetic fulfillment. Ephraim, like his father Joseph, has gathered the Tribes of Israel into one land and given them prosperity. And they have prospered, as God said they would, to become the greatest and mightiest nation on earth. But they’ve finally succeeded in breaking the cardinal rule: attempting to bring peace to God’s age-old enemies.

From the day that the House of Israel left Egypt, God made it clear how they were to deal with His enemies. Nothing has changed except the warped philosophy that America has adopted. Because of their half-heartedness in bringing hell to God’s enemies, other nations have been emboldened to threaten America. And how many more fronts can they fight on? Now there are threats and rumblings in the Far East, with despots flexing their muscles and openly challenging America to war. North Korea wants sovereignty over South Korea, and China is prepared to back them. China, however, wants Taiwan, and is threatening war. Japan is threatening to defend Taiwan against China and have made it clear that they will not tolerate any invasion in their sphere of influence. China is demanding apologies and compensation from Japan for the atrocities they committed during the Second World War. Relations are becoming very strained between China and Japan. Japan also has issues with Russia over the sovereignty of the Kiril Islands, and this continues to flare up. Then there is Indonesia – the most populous Islamic nation on earth. They have scarcely concealed hatred for Australia – especially since Australia liberated East Timor from the Indonesians and secured their independence, and then struck a deal with the East Timorese for offshore petroleum reserves that share a common boundary with Australia. The Indonesians feel they’ve been duped. But it seems they are prepared to bide their time while the rest of the Far East festers. It’s only a matter of time before push turns to shove, and the region becomes engulfed in wars everywhere – and the victor will take the spoils.

Meanwhile, America is negotiating in the region, but are not reaching receptive ears. The Far East region is well-aware that America cannot engage in a military campaign in their region while so totally committed in the Middle East. They are also aware of the continuing threats that America is making to Iran. As long as the threat doesn’t escalate (though it will), the Kurds and the Shiites are pretty much onboard with America. But at the slightest change of wind, they will turn against America in favour of their fatherland – Iran. Muktada al Sadr, the Shiite cleric, is presently carrying the torch to this end. And while he has been behaving himself lately, having secured himself a political position as a spokesman for Shiite interests, he would react in a moment against American forces if Iran was threatened with war. The Kurds have separate interests but have strong alliances with Iran. Iran, on the other hand, know they are hated by all of Sunni Islam simply because they are the Shia homeland, and they would expect no sympathy from any of the sea of Sunni hordes that surround them in the event of any escalation of threats from America. America knows this, and such a target would win the hearts and minds of all the Sunnis. America is gambling on the Sunni hordes standing shoulder to shoulder with them in the conquest of Iran, though America is presently hoping for a rebellion by the people of Iran against their leaders. They’ve assumed that a people rebellion would lead to the dismantling of the nuclear enrichment program. Why they assume that the Iranian people would favour the vulnerability of nuclear-free status is beyond any form of logical reasoning. Particularly as they see

the festering hatred from Sunnis against Shia, and like little Israel, find themselves surrounded by potential threats. And both have a common enemy – Sunni Islam.

One dangerous bit of trivia that has emerged in recent months was the suggestion by someone in the U.S. State Department suggesting that the Israelis might elect to bomb the nuclear facilities in Iran. The Israelis never suggested this – America did! Perhaps it was meant to be some sort of subliminal message to the Israelis, who never took the bait. Instead they reacted strongly against it. Why should the Israelis do their dirty work when they lack the guts to do it themselves? What sort of mindless game is being played here?

America has picked the wrong target! The Iranians (anciently Persians, even up to the 1920's when they had a name change) were traditionally favourable to the Holy Land. Bible history makes this very clear. And even with all the noisy rhetoric from America, they do share common interests of self-protection with the Israelis, even though strained at times.

Well, we have now seen the campaign in Iraq and what it has led to. Absolute power is now in the hands of the Shiites and Kurds, and their fatherland Persia is watching. Forget all about the visible leaders holding power in Iraq today. There are two leaders to watch, both of whom hold power in government; and these are Achmed Chalabi and Moktada al Sadr. Chalabi is the leader of the Kurds, and al Sadr the leader of the Shias. Chalabi is the one whom the U.S. arrested and charged with spying for the Iranians. After ransacking his home and seizing computers and documents, he was released and was immediately catapulted to prominence – much to America's chagrin! Al Sadr waged a fierce campaign against the American forces, but was later given amnesty and a seat in government power. Too many other Shias were joining him, and the situation had to be defused.

Meanwhile, America is trying to pick a fight with Iran. If their only excuse is the possibility of nuclear weapons being developed, then why doesn't America pick a fight with Pakistan, who openly admits they provided nuclear technological know-how to most of the Middle East, and even North Korea. The reason is that America seems to have fallen in love with all of Sunni Islam, and have adopted a scarcely concealed hatred for the opposition: Shia Iran.

The Kurds who live in the former homeland of the ancient Assyrians, where Ninevah was their capital, also live in the region that was anciently called Media. Anciently when they united with the Persians, they were known as the Medes. They are destined to unite once more with the Persians. It's now becoming very clear who the common enemy is to be. Apart from all of Sunni Islam, the U.S. is now shaping up to be the No. 1 foe. And I don't think Achmed Chalabi will be sending them any love letters.



The Conquests of Cyrus the Great and the Medo-Persian Empire.

The ancient Medes – allies of the Persians – still live in the same region today: Northern Iraq, eastern Turkey, and western Iran. But they are known today as Kurds – the majority of whom are Shiites.

The LORD Almighty will now replace the mightiest nation on earth with an enduring Kingdom – the Kingdom of God. There is a crop of early figs, and they are like the founding fathers of Ephraim. These are mentally attuned to God's wavelength (to use the vernacular) or more properly: God's Holy Spirit. And concluding in **Isa 28:5-6** "In that day the LORD Almighty will be a glorious crown, a beautiful wreath for the remnant of His people. He will be a Spirit of Justice to him who sits in judgment, a source of strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate." God's early figs will possess a Spirit of Justice when they make judgments, and they will use their strength to turn back the battle at the gate. What is more, they will have 3½ years to understand the means to make correct judgments, and to use the source of strength needed to turn battles back at the gate.

And just to make the distinction between these early figs and Ephraim, God makes it very clear: **Psalms 78:8** "They would not be like their forefathers – a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to Him." The reference to forefathers here is a reference to Jeroboam that led the northern ten Tribes away from God and His City Jerusalem. They turned to idolatry and found themselves taken into captivity by their enemies. It was to be a long, long time before Ephraim was again elevated to prominence and to gather again the 'lost' Ten Tribes under their wing. Today, the gathering process is complete with a nation comprising

all the Tribes of Israel gathered together in a pleasant place. And it has been a very pleasant place until Satan's insurgents violated their borders, causing a siege mentality to develop. But finally, Ephraim has come to an understanding of who the enemy is, even though 'political correctness' forbids them to openly state it. But at least this time around, Ephraim founded their nation on better principles than the forefathers who led them astray anciently under the influence of Jeroboam.

No, this time around they had founding fathers who established them on righteous principles, paving the way for the emergence of a great nation. But now, for a variety of reasons, they have become like crazed drunkards – intoxicated with the wine of deception – who are determined to rid themselves of God's influence. In so doing they have proven the parable right – that half were wise and half foolish. Their lamps of illumination are being extinguished because they lack the oil of righteousness. And as a consequence, they have lost the spirit of justice and the determination to turn the battle back at the gate. **V9** "The men of Ephraim, though armed with bows, turned back on the day of battle; they did not keep God's covenant and refused to live by his law." So, as God says, He will be a glorious crown, a beautiful wreath – in place of Ephraim – to the remnant of His people. And that crown is the Kingdom of God, which will be established in the Promised Land – but only a remnant of the House of Israel will return. A wreath is usually considered a symbol of peace. And it's the Prince of Peace who will provide the wreath of peace. Human beings don't know the way to peace, and they never have! Mind you, God did try to impart the right formula to the Israelites anciently. He told them to utterly destroy the inhabitants of the land He was giving them, and not to spare them. The Israelites, however, did not agree and frequently allowed these treacherous people to remain. Again and again they learned the hard way.

Even today, there are treacherous people occupying the Holy Land, and they even have virtual control of the Holy City of God and refuse to let the Jewish people enter the Holy Mount. These treacherous Palestinians, and all Islam for that matter, are hated by God. Those who don't learn this now are destined to learn it the hard way. The Prince of Peace plans to make war in righteousness. This is the same righteousness that God tried to impart to the Israelites anciently, when He instructed them to drive out His enemies from the Promised Land. And if the Prince of Peace plans to make war in righteousness, then who would be the logical choice of an enemy? It's patently obvious who is occupying much of the Promised Land and have no right to be there. It's Islam! From the Nile River in Egypt to the Euphrates River in Babylon, all these devil-worshippers will be eradicated. They now have the option to go quickly and quietly or to die where they stand. Either way, it makes no difference to the Prince of Peace. God's Plan will be fulfilled and the righteous Kingdom of God established – by force! And forceful men will lay hold of it. 'Bleeding hearts' and other do-gooders and 'human shields' need not apply. Things are to be very different to all you imagined if you are one of those who thought God accepted your public display of lip-service as a means of worship.

God has said that the House of Israel will end their days in terror. It's amazing how quickly terror gets people's thinking straightened out! When terrorists come hammering on your door, especially Islamic ones, it's not a good idea to show cowardice. They delight in prolonging the agony of cowards! What to do when the enemy comes pounding on your door or flooding into your cities is the most important thing you will ever do. And you need to prepare for it! What to do will be to follow the instruction that this Brotherhood will give in the final hours. From that point, you will be on your own. For those who wanted to carve out their own destiny apart from God, they will have every opportunity to do so, but it will not be the destiny they'd hoped for.

The American people should understand that their nation is divided between Republicans and Democrats, and that the Democrats are hell-bent on removing God's Name and influence from all public life. They are hell-bent on introducing all the detestable practices that God hates. What mindless creatures would advocate men marrying men? Or women marrying women? How could children be born in such circumstances and under such depravity? Since their depravity overrides any desire to reproduce themselves according to the principles laid down by God in a union between a man and a woman, God plans to deny them children and bereave them of any that are born. God now holds the whole nation accountable for this mindless depravity. **Hos 9:11** "Ephraim's glory will fly away like a bird – no birth, no pregnancy, no conception. Even if they rear children, I will bereave them of every one." Since they no longer want to experience the wonder of birth and re-creation through the normal and loving means that God has provided, Ephraim's glory will fly away like a bird, and their children will suffer the consequences. And just to recap on something God said anciently: "The sins of the fathers are on the children to the third or fourth generation of those who hate Me..." (**The Second Commandment**). And it concludes with: "...but showing love to thousands who love me and keep my Commandments." And didn't Jesus say "If you love me, you will keep my Commandments."? It's strange how so many people claim to love God but refuse to keep His Commandments!

Most Bible students should know that Jesus came only to *'the lost sheep of Israel'*. And virtually everything He said was directed to them. This also includes the phrase "With whatever measure they use, the same measure will be used against them." These words will prove to be very ominous. It is a trait of the rulers of the heavenly realms that they kill those who should not die, and spare those who should not live and it's becoming very easy to recognize their subjects. **Eze 13:19** "You have profaned me among my people for a few handfuls of barley and scraps of bread. By lying to my people, who listen to lies, you have killed those who should not have died and have spared those who should not live."

And which group is foremost in America for doing this? It's the Democrats! The most monstrous murderers are spared execution, but the most vulnerable and helpless must die. It may seem like a passing parade as far as news is concerned, but the death of Terri Shiavo was noted by God. Heartless beasts insisted that she should be deprived of food and water in order to kill her, and against all logical reasoning.

Because President Bush showed compassion in wanting to spare her, the Democrats went out of their minds in wanting her to die. As surely as the sun rises tomorrow, the guilty will be judged by the same yardstick, the very measure they used in killing the innocent. This particular case of Terri Shiavo got worldwide coverage. People were stunned at the brutal lack of humanity and decency by people who feigned outrage over the Abu Ghraib prison affair, yet chose to starve to death a conscious and helpless woman. These same hypocrites howl and rage over the rights of Moslem murderers in Guantonomo, but happily starve to death one of their own. Surely the fruits show them for what they are!



Terri Shiavo smiling at her mother. She was obviously not in a coma!

And when they have expunged God's Name from all public places, and killed all those who should not die, and have successfully moderated public opinion in favour of men with men doing detestable things 'in the privacy of their own bedrooms', what then? Well all that remains is to enforce the view that God doesn't exist, and everyone can then do as they please. And that's where the Democrats are taking America. But their sinister plans will be cut short!

The rulers of the heavenly realms go all out to corrupt God's people Israel. They have a number of most-favoured strategies. Their strategies are to introduce evil and thereby alienate the House of Israel from God. Sexual misconduct is a favoured strategy, and so is the corruption of Truth in order to turn people away from God and refuse to believe Him. And you don't need to be bowing down to idols to be guilty of idolatry. Any form of worship to the exclusion of the Creator God is idolatry. The truth is that people are willing to honour any form of a system of beliefs that discredit God. And the system of beliefs that now prevails is the theory of evolution. It seems to appeal to the intellect of those who want to discredit God and enhance their intellectual standing in society.

There is a strange irony developing among those who hate God and who attempt to prove He doesn't exist. The strange irony of all this is that the self-proclaimed 'intellectuals' of Ephraim thinks they can trace human history back millions of years – all the way back to swamp slime (they refer to it as primordial soup). Leaving aside the stupidity of evolution, if they are so hopelessly incapable of tracing their own ancestry through just a couple of thousand years, it merely magnifies their drunken stupor in their calculations of 'early' man. If they can't credibly trace their own ancestry back to the 12 Tribes of Israel, their delusions of evolution have no credibility at all. The truth is that Ephraim has no idea of who they are today, but they are universally content to ascribe their origins to swamp slime of millions of years go. Now that's real irony! They can readily identify the black Africans, Japanese, Chinese, Indians, Mongols and most of the families of the earth, and trace their ancestry for tens of thousands of years (they think!), yet the white European – they don't know where they came from, or who they are, based on historical sources.

Anciently in Egypt, the House of Israel lost all knowledge of God and His requirements. They had to be advised on which was the Seventh Day. They had long forgotten this! They had forgotten everything their forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob had taught them. As slaves, survival was their main concern. God sent Moses to straighten out their minds, and to set them on the path to recovery, and to confirm their stature as the people of God. This must have come as a surprise to them. For slaves to suddenly become aware that they are the premier nation of earth must have almost floored them. And the miracles that confirmed all this probably left them breathless. Within days, they found

themselves leaving Egypt with all their belongings as well as a goodly portion of the wealth of the Egyptians.

Well with all the wonders they had seen, they would be faithful to God forever. Not quite! Just a couple of days later, they're accusing Moses of leading them into a trap. God was leading them, as they well knew, with the pillar of fire protecting their rear, but they had to blame someone, and so Moses was accused. What irony! Here they were – liberated, with all their possessions and laden with Egyptian gold and silver and other precious jewels; they had just witnessed amazing miracles of deliverance, and now they were accusing Moses. But God's patience endured and He instructed Moses to raise his arms and divide the waters of the Red Sea for all Israel to see. Yet another miracle!

Why should anyone be surprised that human beings are so incapable of gratitude to God? Perhaps a few miracles might supplement their faith and cause them to believe. Well, here we see a prime example that this doesn't work for carnal, selfish human beings. Surely the miracle of the Red Sea crossing was enough to build everlasting faith in Almighty God! But no! Within days, they're whining and complaining again. Moses was all but driven mad trying to solve their disputes among themselves. Then they complained about lack of water, then it was complaints about having to eat manna – they wanted meat! They had meat – on the hoof; they had their herds with them, but they didn't want to share with others. They expected God to provide meat for them. So He did, but with devastating consequences and the Israelites learned the hard way. While the quail meat was still in their mouths a plague struck, but this time the miracle was against them. And the lesson was: ***Don't tempt God or you will face the consequences.***

When they were slaves in Egypt, the Israelites longed for freedom. Ironically, when they were liberated they failed to appreciate their freedom. Instead they wanted more and were never satisfied. They whined and complained endlessly, and soon were eyeing the ways of the heathen nations around them and wanting to emulate them. All the miracles that had liberated them were soon forgotten in favour of the short-term gain of titillating their senses with pagan licentiousness. And they paid the price for their contempt of God's blessings, and so God extended their wanderings for forty years. The generation that had rebelled against Him died in the desert and never saw the Promised Land.

So their freedom from slavery, and all the miracles that attained it, counted for nothing. Unless they got what they wanted when they wanted it, they would not faithfully obey God. Having the slave mentality of day to day living and survival, they lacked the vision of what God was promising them. The vision of a land flowing with milk and honey, where they could raise their children and live in peace seemed meaningless to them. Sure they wanted all this, but they wanted more – and they wanted it ***now!*** Patience and faith in the outcome was not a part of their repertoire. Only the Levites held them together, and only just! At odd times, even some of the Levites rebelled, and these were harshly dealt with. God knew how stubborn and rebellious the whole House of Israel was, but He wasn't prepared to take it from the Levites. And as it happened, nor was Moses prepared to tolerate it (**Num 16:9**), and he reminded them that God had separated them from the rest of the community for a holy purpose – a purpose far greater than the rest of the Tribes (**Num 8:15-16**).

Jesus did many miracles while He was on earth, and at that time many believed. But the rulers of the heavenly realms did not believe, and these had a reputation for killing all the prophets from righteous Abel to that present day. And they refused to believe Him and sought to kill Him. **John 10:31-33** “Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus said to them, “***I have shown you many great miracles from the Father. For which of these*** do you stone me?” “We are not stoning you for ***any of these,***” replied the Jews, “but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God.” It was the rulers of the heavenly realms that were speaking through the Jewish religious leaders. They stated that they were not stoning Him for ***any of these miracles*** – which they freely acknowledged, but for making Himself ***equal with God*** (as other writers of the NT state, including **John 5:18**). These spirit rulers actually acknowledged that the miracles were from God but still they wanted to kill Him. It's difficult to understand their thinking that the miracles were from God yet, they claimed, were done without God's authority. And of course, Jesus didn't make Himself ***equal with God*** but firmly stated that ***the Father was greater than He*** (**John 14:28**). But this is the type of mindless, convoluted nonsense that forms the basis of accusations by the rulers of the heavenly realms. And it's easy to spot them in action. They usually start with half-truths and then degenerate into huge lies. If they think they spot a chink in someone's armour they pursue it and exploit it and are relentless. And while the rulers of the spirit realm are responsible, woe betide any human being who is mastered by them and seek to do their work. If they speak against the Holy Spirit, they will never be forgiven – not now, not ever! Ah, the games people play in the hope of recognition!

So perhaps if everyone saw lots of miracles they might believe. And pigs might fly! Believing God is not a consequence of signs and wonders or even miracles. In the lead-up to the

establishment of God's Kingdom, there will be virtually no miracles for the House of Israel, but only devastation, spoliation and uprooting. There will be miracles, but they won't be recognized as such. When a super-force clears the Holy Land of Moslem vermin, they will be considered aggressors – armed thugs who are violating the rights of the poor Moslems who want to live in God's Holy City Jerusalem. And hasn't this been the European reaction to America's war against Saddam Hussein in Iraq? The 'holier than thou' attitude of the Europeans has been very marked. Behind the scenes they were openly trading with this regime, and violating their own sanctions imposed through the United Nations. What wanton hypocrisy they exhibited! And whose side do you think the Europeans will be on when the Sons of Jerusalem start clearing the Holy Land of Moslem vermin? But more importantly, whose side do you think God will be on? For their stupidity in siding with His enemies, God plans to bring a surge of terror and destruction upon them such as the world has never seen! Their 'lovers' will surge across their borders and leave death and destruction in their wake. No-one will be spared! But surely they must know in their hearts what these Moslem hordes are! Surely they remember what the Moslem hordes did to the Christian Tutsis in Rwanda – and with the sanction of Kofi Annan who was in charge of the 'peace-keeping forces' there at the time. Everyone knows what barbaric, evil creatures Islamic nations are, and if they don't, then they have lost the opportunity to find out beforehand. Then it won't just be a million Ethiopian Tutsis who are slaughtered in some remote location in Africa, it will be them!

With the demise of the Tribes of Joseph, whom they despise, the Europeans are going to be particularly vulnerable. They slid so far to the left on the issue of support for radical Islam, that they have now developed philosophies through propaganda and brain-washing that would forbid the use of military force on Islamic insurgents – until it's too late!

And now we have secular lunatics and religious fanatics combining in the common interest of protecting Islam against America, and labeling America as murderous aggressors. Even the Churches of God, whom God plans to use to good effect in the last days, have gone completely off the rails in trying to revive the fake prophecies of their former leader Herbert Armstrong. And against all observable logic! In teaching lies, which the people love to listen to, they have killed those who should not have died, and spared those who should not live. They fabricated their own versions of who God's enemies are, and have white-washed His real enemies. They've lied to their people, telling them it will be a sunny stroll into the Kingdom of God. To this very day they have taught that the whole world is to be converted through Jesus' pleadings. Apparently they have never read **1Cor 15:24**. Jesus will reign until He puts all His enemies under His feet. And what does this mean? It means they will be ash under the feet of the righteous (**Mal 4:3**). And when Jesus reigns in the Kingdom of God, what do you suppose His subjects will be doing? The Churches of God seem to believe that they will be kissing-up to all God's enemies during this period. God gave certain instructions to the Churches of God in the Book of Revelation. Recall what it says: **Rev 2:26** "To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give him authority over the nations – 'He will rule them with an iron scepter: he will dash them to pieces like pottery' – just as I have received authority from my Father. I will also give him the morning star. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the Churches." This statement clarifies what is written in the Book of Micah: **Mic 4:13** "Rise and thresh, O Daughter of Zion, for I will give you horns of iron (weapons): I will give you hoofs of bronze (a reference to trampling the enemy underfoot), and you will break to pieces many nations (like pottery)." The 'Daughter of Zion' is a reference to **Rev 12:17**, and is the offspring or daughter of the 'Woman', whom God refers to as the ministry of Zion or Zion Ministry. This 'Woman' is also the embryo of the Bride of Christ. Much more could be said of this, but importantly, a woman must be faithful to her husband – a mystery that was confirmed by the Apostle Paul (**Eph 5:32**). The Ephesians just happen to be the first of the Churches that are addressed in the Book of Revelation to the Churches (**Rev 2:1**). In simplified terms, women must be bound to their husbands as one flesh, and ultimately by one Spirit. That Spirit is the Testimony of their Husband – Christ, whose Testimony is the Spirit of Prophecy (**Rev 19:10**).

There is yet no evidence that the Churches of God have the Testimony of Jesus! So far, all they have taught as prophecy has been a pack of lies that has discredited God and made Him look foolish. They have dishonoured God and made Him seem petty. They've never faced their responsibilities to God, or even sought to understand the nature of the sacrifice that God requires for selection as the Bride of Christ. They should have, however, since Jesus gave them the perfect example when He went as a Lamb to the slaughter. They fully accept that it was necessary for Jesus to do this, but balk at any suggestion that they should follow the Lamb in His faithfulness to the Father. It's rather funny they should think this, since God's two faithful endtime servants will be killed in a final all-out battle with the enemies of God. And the two witnesses will know in advance that their end has come, and that its time to follow their Lord and Master – the Christ (**Rev 11:7**). To them, it will be the greatest honour imaginable to suffer like their Christ. But these are warriors who call down fire on

their enemies leading up to this, and they will put up a fierce fight and make it a costly victory for the enemies of God. But they will know the outcome in advance, and there will be no groveling to God's enemies. The joy of victory (**V10**) for the killers of God's servants will be short-lived, and great fear will come over them after three and a half days (**V11**). Their fears will be justified! The outcome will be entirely different to when the Mighty Christ arose from the dead after being killed by them. They'll have no time to swan along in their arrogance. After the two witnesses have been presented to the Father, all hell will break loose for the inhabitants of the earth, starting with the killers who will be trampling the streets of God's Holy City Jerusalem. The two witnesses will be presented to the Father as the very offspring of the Christ – both the flesh and Spirit of His Son Jesus. All of which is yet a further explanation of the mystery of Christ that Paul referred to. These will have 'eaten His flesh' and 'drunk His blood' to be unified as one flesh through the Passover Ceremony with the symbols of bread and wine. It's a great shame that Christianity seems to have forgotten that the Passover concerns being freed from captivity – the meaning of salvation. Obviously, they are seeking the wrong salvation, which remains undefined to this very day. About the closest definition that one could extract from the rambling explanations of Christianity today is that they expect eternal life for doing nothing. If God's most faithful servants must suffer death and martyrdom, why do Christians today assume differently? Are they suggesting that they are better or more deserving than the faithful servants of God? The way some of these preachers carry on is like a grotesque pantomime, which is absolutely meaningless. Religious leaders love to play their games with staged, faked miracles in order to draw a following after them. Part of the pantomime is to cause the 'holy spirit' to knock them flat on their backs unconscious. This is supposed to be what God's Holy Spirit does. And this, they suggest, is a miracle from God. Well, God has decided that there will be no miracles from Him, except for His closest servants, and even then in such a manner that no-one can boast. But God's servants don't boast but give thanks to God for everything.

John the Baptist did no miracles (**John 10:41**), and there is good reason for this. Wasn't he good enough? Or wasn't he a servant of God? He was certainly a servant of God and a prophet, but he was more than this! How much more can there be? Well there is much more, but it's a far cry from the evangelistic nonsense that prevails today among the religious elite. Their ideas of salvation have nothing in common with God's version. John the Baptist was charged with real salvation – salvation from the enemy (**Luke 1:69-79**). But John was beheaded before this was fulfilled. But his commission still stands and must be fulfilled. And this is precisely what God plans for John's counterpart Elijah (**Luke 1:17, Mal 4:5**). There seems to be scores of 'Elijahs' around today, but oddly enough, none of them have a clue what they're supposed to be doing. Is it just possible they might be fakes? I think I've heard from just about all of them now, and the only thing they have in common is that they speak in archaic, Middle-Age English – probably because it sounds so 'spiritual'. I would have thought that the first qualification for such a role would be to understand God's Word. It's abundantly clear that none of them do! But then prophecy is for believers – those who believe God, and prophecy never came about from the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit (**2Pet 1:21**). Perhaps some of these aspiring 'Elijahs' should learn that there is a very special Spirit of Prophecy, and the Testimony of Jesus IS the Spirit of Prophecy (**Rev 19:10**). They'll also note that this Scripture is in the final Book of Prophecy – the Book of Revelation – which is yet unfulfilled. Now if they don't understand the Book of Revelation – and none of these 'Elijahs' do, then they don't have the Spirit of Prophecy. And if they don't have this, then they don't have the Testimony of Jesus – both are one and the same!

A prophet is without honour in his own household, just as Jesus said. They are also without honour in their own countries, and even in the whole world. But a real prophet couldn't care less what people think about him, and John the Baptist is known for insulting the whole crowd that came out to see him (**Luke 3:7**). I suppose when confronted by people who, all their lives, have insulted God with their teachings, there would be very little to recommend them in the eyes of a prophet. John's message was a message of repentance. Concerning the Laws of God, he was actually speaking to the choir. These people were mostly Jews who went above and beyond teaching obedience to the Law – even though their leaders were hypocrites! So what was there to repent of? Well there was hypocrisy to start with. Everything these people did was to be seen of men – an outward showing, but their hearts were not attuned to God or to His objectives. Sure they listened to John preaching about the Kingdom of God, but their main interest was in the power they hoped to attain in the Kingdom.

As for a prophet being without honour in his own household, Jesus' own brothers – the sons of Joseph and Mary – didn't believe Him, but they still suggested that He take His skills to the people to achieve fame and fortune. **John 7:1** "After this, Jesus went around in Galilee, purposely staying away from Judea because the Jews there were waiting to take his life. But when the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles was near, Jesus' brothers said to him, "You ought to leave here and go to Judea, so that

your disciples may see the miracles you do. No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world.” For even his own brothers did not believe in him.” They didn’t believe Him, but they acknowledged His miracles! Did His brothers know that He was born of a virgin birth, and that an angel had appeared to their mother informing her of this? Well, everyone else knew at the time, so it’s reasonable to expect that His brothers learned of it. They too, didn’t doubt the miracles, but they thought He should become a public figure and show Himself to the world and seek fame and fortune. Well, that’s a natural reaction isn’t it? Sure it is, from a human point of view, but not from a servant of God! The servants of God have no desire to become friends with the world – nor to seek their honour. They seek only honour from God and are prepared to wait for that honour. As for the world, they can keep their honours for their own! The Sons of Jerusalem have been taught by God. What greater honour could there be? What type of honour could the world offer that is greater than this? No, the world doesn’t seek to honour God’s servants – they try to kill them. But instead they succeed in killing themselves, which is further evidence that God protects His own sons. And as **Heb 10:31** says, “It’s a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God.” But still they like to try – silly people!

But soon the Kingdom of God will be forcefully advancing, and violent men will take it by force (**Matt 11:11-12**). But Jesus was speaking of John the Baptist, and said all the prophets prophesied until John, and added ‘let him who has ears, let him hear’. John came in the Spirit and power of Elijah, and Jesus confirmed this. But when asked, John said he was not ‘that’ prophet. He was saying that he was not that latter-day prophet who was yet to come, who was to fulfill all that John the Baptist was unable to do at that time. He died, as did Jesus, and neither fulfilled all that was written about them in prophecy. Both, however, fulfilled all that was written about them for that time. Clearly, there is much unfulfilled prophecy that is yet to be fulfilled. And there is also a whole Book of prophecy that was delivered 60 years later: the Book of Revelation. But now, all the prophets prophesied until Elijah – that Elijah, whom John said was not he. And that Elijah has made clear what has happened to the earth in the distant past, and what will happen in the future. And isn’t this exactly what the message was that John the Baptist preached? **Luke 3:4-6** “As is written in the Book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: ‘A voice of one calling out in the desert, ‘Prepare the Way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads will become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God’s salvation (rescue – Luke 1:71).’” Yes, all mankind are going to see God’s salvation all right, and they are not going to like it! When God sets out to rescue His people Israel, He leaves desolation and devastation in the wake, as we all know from the account in the Book of Exodus. So God’s enemies will not fare well when they see His ‘salvation’. In fact, they will marshal their forces for a counter-attack, and will be encouraged to do so. God will even supply them with a smooth pathway, right down the valley of Megiddo. The clues to this event are in the word ‘winepress’ and the term ‘blood flowing to the depths of a horses bridle’ (**Rev 14:19**).

God gives an exact sequence of events that are now unfolding in days, weeks, months and years so His servants the prophets know what to expect and when. But God reveals these things only to His servants the prophets and not to unbelievers. Prophecy is for believers – not unbelievers. Unbelievers must wait until they see it all with their own eyes, and then perhaps they will remember some of what they heard with their ears. Perhaps then they will have ears to hear – a favourite saying of the Lord Christ. The prime difference is that once someone has seen something, they tend to believe, at least temporarily. But blessed are they who have not seen and yet believe. This is the distinguishing feature of God’s Sons of Jerusalem – who believed long before they saw any of it. They were taught by God and they believed Him, and this, as with Abraham, was credited to them as righteousness. You didn’t see them praying in the streets and public places as the hypocrites do, and nor did you see them weeping along the sawdust trail at organized evangelical rallies. So it’s not surprising that the religious hierarchy has made themselves enemies of God’s servants the prophets – just as they did with the Christ. Or for that matter, all the Apostles of the Christian era! Those who have hated God’s Truth, have condemned themselves to experiencing it.

The Jewish people living in the Holy Land see daily the evidence of their history. And being smarter than most people, the Jews are not easily swayed by the rationalization of the ‘lost ten Tribes of Israel’ that the Promised Land is not important. To them it is! And they are prepared to fight to the death to retain it. Not only were the Jewish people smart enough to turn a desert wasteland into a prosperous and thriving community – in contrast to the nations that surround them, but they also recognized the fulfillment of Scripture that the remnant of the ‘lost Tribes’ would return. And they chose to allow vast numbers from the ten Tribes to return, while barring others from the surrounding nations. Their overall philosophy is that the Holy Land is for Israelites, though not necessarily Jews practicing Judaism.

In complete contrast, the rest of the Tribes of Israel (mainly Europe and America) have willingly admitted Gentiles from every Gentile nation on earth – most notably Ephraim, the United States of America. And it's these 'strangers' from Gentile nations that will prove to be the greatest impediment to the safety of the whole House of Israel. When the United States of America was established, it was set up as a God-fearing nation, who recognized their roots and had visions of gathering all 12 Tribes to a common homeland. There are enough historic documents to bear this out for those who want to enquire into it. It is not our purpose to be quoting these documents, but merely to point out that the meteoric rise to power of America was the divine intervention of God. From a base of two or three million people, God set out to make them the mightiest nation on earth. No other nation in all of history was able to accomplish this without resorting to the conquest and plundering of weaker nations. Only the Jews have been able to emulate this in more recent times, and in stark contrast to the nations that surround them – who never seem to prosper.

The philosophy of America has led to the prosperity of many nations, one of the most notable examples being Japan. Their surrender to America following WW2 activated unprecedented prosperity, and they became the envy of all of S.E. Asia. Slowly other East-Asian nations began to crawl out of the wilderness and embrace more realistic philosophies. Technological retooling and prosperity became the goal rather than the conquest of lesser nations.

Even Europe abandoned thoughts of conquest of lesser nations to advance their prosperity. Following WW2, Europe began to retool for prosperity rather than war. And they prospered! The 'lost Ten Tribes' became the schoolmaster for wayward tyrants who still clung to the philosophy of prosperity through conquest. Those who sought to shatter the peace soon found themselves shattered or economically disadvantaged. Well, it seemed that the world was headed in the right direction for lasting peace.

But it soon became apparent that there was a competing philosophy – a very persistent one! This was the philosophy of Islam and nothing was to persuade them from their course. Most Islamic nations are well supplied with energy resources, but they lack the resolve to use it to benefit their people. To the rational mind this type of recalcitrance makes no sense. But when you realize that the tyrants who rule these countries never submit to the will of the people, you realize that they don't have the welfare of the people in mind – but only themselves. Some like Saudi Arabia, Syria, the Emirates, Morocco, Libya and many African states see themselves as royalty – never to be deposed. Others, like Egypt and Pakistan change the rules to extend their term of power whenever it suits them. But the common factor among all of Islamic nations is their hatred for the West – notably Europe, America and the Israelis. It's the common practice of all Islamic schools to teach hatred for the West, and the students of these schools universally believe that America and the Israelis are the big bogies of this world, and the greatest threat to Islam. It's the power of propaganda that achieves this result in the minds of Moslems. Outside of the ruling class, Moslems never prosper in their own lands. Most of them live like pigs and continue to blame America and the Israelis for their misfortune. Today we are being bombarded with propaganda, and people believe it. God uses another term 'wine of deception', and people are becoming drunk on it. Of course, no-one admits it's propaganda, but use the term 'political correctness' to justify it. Oddly enough, it's only the West that believes it and falls for it. The rest of the world are astounded by the stupidity of it.

The architect of this type of propaganda is not human! This architect is the arch-rebel of the universe, who was also the architect of the greatest rebellion that ever occurred. His name is Satan and he has many helpers, and these are called the rulers of the heavenly or spirit realm. In the course of six thousand years it was open slather for Satan and the rulers of the heavenly realms. They could do what ever they pleased with their own brood. Each of them steered a course of empire building, frequently at the expense of other rulers of the heavenly realms. God rarely intervened except when the welfare of the only people He ever chose from all the families of the earth was threatened. Sometimes God acted to protect His people, and other times He chose to teach them a lesson by decimation. But God's ultimate plan was to establish them as a single nation – particularly as the Day approached – the Day of the LORD. Naturally enough, God plans to purge the rebels from among them before bringing the Tribes back to the land He promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Those who have failed to retain the knowledge of their Creator God are considered as worthless.

The vast majority of all Bible prophecy is about to be fulfilled. In the lead-up to the fulfillment of the whole Book of Revelation, devastation is decreed. Vast hordes of God's people Israel (all 12 Tribes) will be wiped out and they will cease to be nations in their own right. It's no secret that only a remnant will return to the Promised Land, while the rest will be decimated in the lands where they are driven into captivity. The Book of Revelation is really a description of God's revenge against all the nations on the face of the earth who chose to follow Satan's propaganda against

their Creator God. If you carefully note the activities of the 12 Tribes of Israel today, you will notice an almost universal repudiation of God as the Creator.

Even the vast majority of Christianity has repudiated the Creator and His creation in one form or another. Wanting to appear wise they've become fools. They should have remembered that **the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom**. They should have believed the Apostles when they spoke about Jesus in **John 1:1-2** "In the beginning was **the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God**. He was with God in the beginning. **Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made**. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. **The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.**" Perhaps they might have recalled the description given of the One who was to become the Christ in **Proverbs 8:22-31**. From inauspicious beginnings as a Craftsman at God's side, He arose to become First Lord of the Universe under God.

People will go to any lengths to appear intelligent and scientific, even to denying their Creator God. In doing so, they have taken on the very characteristics of Satan the devil – the Adversary. They reason that God will forgive them, but their peers will not, and so they ride the tide of popularity. In other words, they value their own reputations above God's, and this is a serious mistake! Are these the type of people that God would call His servants? How long would such people last in the world of commerce if they went about bad-mouthing the CEO of the corporation that employed them.

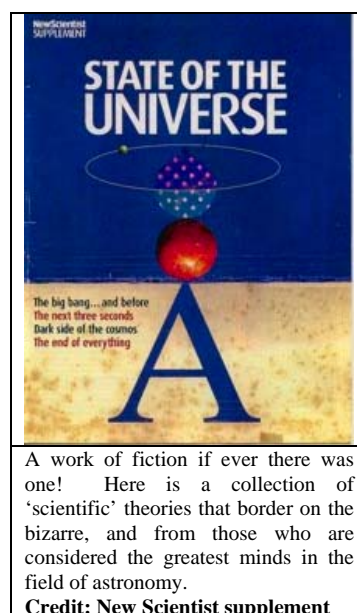
God didn't give His Holy Spirit to many people, but to those He did, He demands the highest standard of faithfulness to Him. And that standard was set by Christ. **God's Holy Spirit is the light that shines in the darkness**, and **the darkness has not understood it**. It all comes down to the state of mind of those who seek to serve their Creator God, and it's to these that God gave His Holy Spirit in order that they can see beyond human reasoning – **the darkness** that God speaks of. And **darkness** has certainly descended on the Tribes of Israel. When people turn against their Creator God, **their foolish minds become darkened** (**Rom 1:21**). When their **foolish minds become darkened**, they actually believe they have been **enlightened**.

Today, it's becoming very evident that many foolish minds are becoming darkened – especially as many people are drawn to the desire to appear 'scientific'. They express absolute ignorance of things that can be searched out and knowable, but hold in the highest

And there is plenty to grapple with. One of my favourite magazine covers showed a red circle beneath the caption "the universe when it was a trillionth of a trillionth of a trillionth of a second old – actual size". According to a popular theory, our universe "inflated" from a hyper-dense blob under the influence of a cosmic repulsion. However, that repulsion is no longer as strong: it now seems to be 120 powers of 10 weaker.	for bee Wh row 120 in s turn why we: con is ac with con scal Fro
One could say it is a fortuitous situation. If the force had weakened by only, say, 114 powers of 10 rather than 120, the cosmic repulsion would overwhelm gravity even within galaxies (where the density is about a million times higher than the cosmic average). The galaxies	
Apparently 'in the first second' doesn't sound intelligent enough for them, so they use the meaningless term 'a trillionth of a trillionth of a trillionth of a second'.	

esteem theories developed by ignorant lunatics. In the New Scientist supplement, issued on October 9, 2004, so-called 'scientists' of renown gave their pet theories on the origins of the universe. One thing they all agreed with was that the first microsecond of the appearance of matter itself is still shrouded in mystery (page 1). On page 2, this first microsecond is further divided into trillion-trillionths of a second....when the universe was the size of a pea and then expanded/infated/exploded to fill the universe. The purpose of all these trillion-trillionths of a second is to create the illusion that matter accreted into a pea-sized ball in such a short time, that it cannot be explained as a sequence – so they are conveniently off the hook for explaining how matter was created from nothing. As an article of faith, they would have you believe that this pea-sized blob suddenly appeared and then expanded to fill the universe. This whole New Scientist supplement then descends into the most mindless nonsense that the human mind could devise.

It's incumbent on all who once received God's Holy Spirit to stand firm in the face of all opposition, and to endure persecution from wherever it comes. But the Holy Spirit can flame out and cease to exist in a person, and one of the primary causes of this is when people reject God's Word and refuse to acknowledge their Creator. Then they become worthless for any purpose, and fit only to be burnt. And on the authority of God they will be burned! When one chooses to rile the jealous God of Heaven, don't expect a swift transition from life to death. This especially applies to those who have deliberately chosen to corrupt others to their mindless ideas. At the start of the Day of the LORD, all ground rules have changed. The reason for this is that God has again shown the fulfillment of



prophecy with clarity. And the time has come for all those with fanciful renditions of prophecy generated from their own minds to remain silent or face the consequences. Those who once received God's Holy Spirit and then turned away face only distress and darkness and fearful gloom. But I expect they already know this! There is a raging torrent of dissidents now who not only refute God as Creator, but actually openly challenge His very existence. **Isa 8:20-22** "To the Law and the Testimony! If they do not speak according to this Word, they have no light of dawn. Distressed and hungry, they will roam through the land; when they are famished, they will become enraged and, looking upward, will curse their king and their God. Then they will look to the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness." The ultimate 'utter darkness' is death. Because of unfaithfulness, there will be much to endure before they are finally thrust into utter darkness. They have the rare privilege of serving as examples to all others. And the means of their deaths will serve as a lasting reminder of what it means to fear God rather than man. Much of Christianity refuse to acknowledge the Scripture that Christ used – called the Old Testament today. And it's the Old Testament that is the Law and the Testimony. The One who became the Christ plainly said that the Scriptures testified of Him, and He fulfilled everything that was written about Him for that time. And this same Jesus will return to fulfill everything else that is said of Him in the Scriptures that then existed. And here is yet another reference to Him in the same chapter of the Book of Isaiah: **Isa 8:13-18** "The LORD Almighty is the One you are to regard as holy, He is the One you are to fear, He is the One you are to dread, and He will be a sanctuary (a place of Rest); but for both Houses of Israel He will be a Stone that causes men to stumble and a Rock that makes them fall. But for the people of Jerusalem He will be a trap and a snare. Many of them will stumble; they will fall and be broken, they will be snared and captured. Bind up (make binding) the Testimony and seal the Law among my disciples. I will wait for the LORD, who is hiding His face from the House of Jacob, I will put my trust in Him."

God is hiding His face from the House of Israel because they don't fear Him. They haven't diligently followed God's way, nor have they sought His advice. Yet they continue to demand that God honour them and conduct Himself according to their perceived standards of behaviour. The House of Israel has decided to make their own rules and establish their own patterns of behaviour. Because they don't adhere to the Law and the Testimony, they have become alienated from the precepts of God. God has plainly said that their thoughts are not His thoughts, nor their ways His ways: **Isa 55:8-9** "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts higher than your thoughts." But this doesn't stop self-righteous people trying to inject their ideas and trying to force God to yield to their perceptions of what is right. God adds more in **V11** "So is my Word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but I will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." And the purpose for which He has sent His Word is to establish the House of Israel in the Holy Land to which **V12-13** refer. And the last part of **V13** "This will be the LORD'S renown, for an everlasting sign, which will not be destroyed." God will be renowned for His promise to return the remnant of the House of Israel to peace and prosperity. It will be an everlasting sign – and an everlasting lesson to all those who doubted His resolve to do it. The Holy Land will become a Place of Rest and an everlasting Kingdom which will never be destroyed.

Can we be sure that God is speaking of the great rescue of His people – also called 'salvation'? In the very next verse, God makes it abundantly clear: **Isa 56:1** "The is what the LORD says: "Maintain justice and do what is right, for my SALVATION is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed. Blessed is the man who does this, the man who holds it fast, who keeps my Sabbath without desecrating it, and keeps his hand from doing any evil." Contrary to the illusions of those who think they know God and who attempt to determine what righteousness is, God says His righteousness will soon be revealed. And I can tell you this: It is not the type of airy-fairy nonsense you hear today!

There are some who believe there is no such thing as freewill choice. They believe that everything that happens was destined to happen. When by their own choice they refuse to keep the Sabbath Day holy, they infer that destiny controlled them and so they are not at fault. This is merely a spin-off of the widely practiced deceptive art of astrology. They believe that human destiny is written in the stars. But when God uses such phrases as "Maintain justice and do what is right" and "keep his hand from doing evil" you know that the choice is theirs. It's all too convenient for rebellious liars to say they are not at fault because their destiny is already mapped out. In making their claim they are really saying that God is to blame, and the natural progression of their madness is to find fault with God. When God's righteousness is revealed, such people will find that their mamby-pamby nonsense has gained them nothing but death. But it was anticipated that such people would exist, and their

defense will have similarities to the Nuremburg Defense – ‘*I was only following orders*’. They had freewill alright, but they have chosen not to exercise it!

When the great rescue or SALVATION is about to occur, as stated in **Isa 56:1**, those who are still alive had better be keeping the Sabbath Day holy. There is plenty of evidence about those who once obeyed God’s Fourth Commandment, and then turned away, searing their consciences in the process, have no right of return. But that final judgment will be made by God. As for returning to God, God has made it very clear on how to return to Him in **Mal 3:7-8**. This just happens to be the big bogey for many of the former members of the Church of God. Some of them are still willing to pay elaborate lip-service to God, but balk at paying God His tenth of their income. God goes even further and indicts the whole nation of Israel as thieves, who expect God’s blessings but are happy to rob Him.

What would a man give to preserve his life? Wouldn’t he be willing to give all that he has? But God never asked for all, but only His tenth! And before anyone can return to God, this requirement will be stringently enforced. Those who find themselves in captivity will, like the Jews in Auschwitz, have nothing left to give but their lives. If they willingly go as sheep to the slaughter for the glory of God, just as the Christ did, then they will be raised to life. These will have returned to God, and set their minds on obedience to God, and would rather die than offend their God. These will be the first crop, who will be raised to life to await the completion of the killing of their fellow-servants and brothers (**Rev 6:9-11**).

So returning to God has far more implications than that expressed by religious zealots in mainstream Christianity. And if you are of the mind of those who refuse to welcome God’s righteousness when it is revealed, then neither will you be among those who are rescued. Returning to God is set to become much harder, and so is keeping the Sabbath Day holy. Both of which have become the stumbling-block of the former Worldwide Church of God, yet so many of these people felt it was a natural progression to ‘enlightenment’ simply because an evil creature told them so. How willing they were to refute God’s instruction!

As for the rescue – the promised SALVATION – once again God will use some Gentiles to provoke Israel to jealousy. And if we return to the next verse of **Isa 56** we will see examples of this: **Isa 56:3-8** “Let no foreigner who has joined himself to the LORD say, “The LORD will surely exclude me from His people.” And let not the eunuch complain, “I am only a dry tree.” For this is what the LORD says: “To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my Covenant – to them I will give within my Temple and its walls a memorial and a Name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting Name that will not be cut off. And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to serve Him, to love the Name of the LORD, and to worship Him, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my Covenant – these I will bring to my Holy Mountain and give them joy in my House of Prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my Altar; for my House will be called a House of Prayer for all nations. The Sovereign LORD declares – He who gathers the exiles of Israel: “I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered.””

When God says “I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered”, the implication is clear that they will be gathered and brought to the place of the Temple. This is what salvation means. It will mean far more than the airy-fairy nonsense projected today as ‘salvation’. ‘Accepting the Lord Jesus as your personal Saviour’ are only words if they are not followed up with the same obedience of the Lord Jesus, who served the Father faithfully and was obedient even to death. He said He came to reveal the Father (**Matt 11:27**), and that the Father was greater than He (**John 14:28**). It’s a sad state of affairs that the Son is worshipped to the exclusion of the Father. Jesus said, “Of myself I can do nothing”, and He added that He sought only to please the One who sent Him (**John 5:30**). It’s obvious that He kept the Father’s Laws because He never broke these Laws – He was without sin! And sin is the transgression of the Law (**1John 3:4**). If anyone even thinks to assume the name of Christian and then refuse to obey God’s Law, then they are deluding themselves. You may have noticed in **Matt 11:27** that Jesus said that He reveals the Father to whom He chooses. And you can believe it or not, but there is no place in God’s Kingdom for the disobedient. They will certainly not be chosen!

And since we are presently reading from **Isa 56**, we should understand the importance of keeping the Sabbath if anyone hopes to have salvation in the Place of Rest. In this chapter, God’s mentions eunuchs who keep His Sabbath, and who will receive an everlasting Name. And believe me when I say that there will be plenty of eunuchs! And just to clarify this – this means men without testicles. Satan and his rulers are famous for killing babies to prevent the Israelites from becoming too numerous and strong. Remember the story of Moses and how he was spared from death when rescued from the bulrushes? Pharaoh had decreed that all male Israelites should be killed at birth. This state of

mind still exists among them, but this time there will be no births because testicles will be in short supply.

I think we all know that God has a habit of referring to Satan and the rulers of the heavenly realms as beasts and wild predator animals like jackals and dragons. This is because of the state of their minds and their penchant for hating the people of God – the House of Israel. Their brood also has the minds of animals and they carefully assimilate the ways of their father the devil. So don't expect mercy from them! Continuing in **Isa 56:9** "Come all you beasts of the field, come and devour, all you beasts of the forest! Israel's watchmen are blind, they all lack knowledge; they are all mute dogs, they cannot bark; they lie around and dream, they love to sleep. They are dogs with mighty appetites, they never have enough. They are shepherds who lack understanding; they all turn to their own way, each seeks his own gain. "Come," each one cries, "let me get wine! Let us drink our fill of beer! For tomorrow will be like today, or even far better." Israel's watchmen should have seen the wild beasts of the field emerging against them, but they are too blind. They don't bark and raise the alarm. They don't even recognize the enemy! If they did they would have closed their borders to stop the mounting tide of insurgents wanting to cross their borders from the south. But the beasts of the field will come as a surging tide of humanity that will prove unstoppable. Are you aware of the disproportionately high crime ratio of these people from South America? Perhaps political correctness impedes you from admitting it. Satan and his rulers have held these people in reserve for this very day – the Great and Dreadful Day of the LORD. Study their history and you will soon realize what they are!

And what about the European Israelites? Will they be spared the storming from the south? Satan and his demon rulers have these bases covered too. He has vast reserves in Africa, many of whom have been infiltrating Europe for years. For years now, the House of Israel has been seeking their own gain and making predictions for financial utopia, and they believe that tomorrow will be even better than today. But the watchmen and the shepherds have failed to see the storm clouds brewing. And when these hordes storm the borders, what will they do?

The fact is that they have utterly failed to heed the warnings of their Creator; instead they have chosen to refute the Creator and His creation and virtually relegated Him to that of a myth. As an exercise, try reading the Books of the Prophets and see how often God confirms that He created the heavens and the earth. Then you will understand why God is so outraged at the presumption of those who deny Him as Creator. All those who believe that all that we see is the result of chance have no more understanding than mute dogs. And God has said they are without excuse! I just hope they are prepared to lose their testicles. And the women? Well, Satan's brood are experts at making women childless by caesarean section without anesthetic. Too horrible you say? Just wait until you see it with your own eyes (**Hos 9:11**). **Hos 13:12** "The sins of Ephraim are stored up, his sins are kept on record." **V16** "The people of Samaria (the territory ruled by Ephraim anciently) must bear their guilt, because they have rebelled against their God. They will fall by the sword; their little ones will be dashed to the ground, their pregnant women ripped open." I might add that the Book of Hosea is Ephraim's Book – specifically written for them for today! And the Book concludes with these words: **Hos 14:9** "Who is wise? He will realize these things. Who is discerning? He will understand them. THE WAYS OF THE LORD ARE RIGHT; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious stumble in them."

We touched on **Psalms 78** earlier, which is addressed to Ephraim (**V9**). Some may be tempted to believe that all these things refer to the ancient past. But God speaks in parables and reveals their meaning to His servants the prophets. Notice **V1** "O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden from of old – things we have heard and known, things our fathers have told us." There are plenty of things hidden from of old – things that didn't seem important to the vast majority of Christianity, or the House of Israel for that matter. God has revealed many secrets, but first it's incumbent on all to remember the teachings of the fathers who gave good advice to their offspring. Sadly, armies of psychologists have prorogued the good advice of the fathers, and now children rule over their parents. What is more, God is no longer a father to those who no longer follow the advice of their fathers who truly did know more about parenting than the present day fathers.

God remembers Ephraim's former rebellion against Him in Samaria, when the Ephraimites led a rebellion against God and the Holy City, and then established their own nation of Israel from the northern Ten Tribes under the auspices of Jeroboam. God is remembering it very well today! In those days their sins were stored up for a couple of hundred years, and then God brought the Assyrians against them to destroy them, and lead them away into captivity. I should also add that the king of Assyria at that time was also the ruler of all of Iraq and Persia as we know them today (**Ezra 6:22-7:1**). And the principle city of the Assyrians before they were engulfed by the Medes and Persians was Ninevah in the land of the present-day Kurds.

How well God remembers Ephraim's former rebellion! They had some two hundred years to come to their senses, but they only got worse. Since they have decided that God will not rule over them, God will allow others to rule over them. In fact, God will hand Ephraim over to them! Since Ephraim has insisted on managing their own destiny, God will give them every opportunity to do so, but it will be without His protection and intervention until they repent and turn to Him for help. When they do, they will be in want of all things – just like the Jewish inmates in the concentration camps. So the Jewish people have served as your example, America! Perhaps you don't believe that God would do it. Well, as surely as the rising sun, it's already in the planning and ready to be executed.

Should God delay in the hope that some few people might come to their senses? God knows that they only get worse day by day. Is there any chance that the teachings of God as the Creator is likely to revive? Fat chance! The arrogance of Ephraim is out of control.

And doesn't God hate homosexuality? Surely everyone knows enough about God to know this! But Ephraim has led the world in not only tolerating it, but actually encouraging it, and teaching that there is nothing wrong with it. In one sense, it's just as well there are plenty of homosexuals in America, because they will teach you a lesson you will never forget. You would not believe the horror that these faggots will suffer at the hands of God's enemies! They will suffer the severest price for their contempt of God, and God will ensure it is so. The day of retribution will bring the most severe punishment; not only to homosexuals, but to all who have actively tried to corrupt God's people Israel and insult the Great Creator God. God knows how to exact justice, and this will be obvious to all!

And let's not forget the flagrant disregard for God's Seventh Day Sabbath. Is there any possibility that Ephraim would honour their Creator on this Day? Not a chance! So neither will God honour them as they enter the Great and Dreadful Day of the LORD. The strangest thing about the Fourth Commandment is that God only requires you to rest on His Sabbath Day. Not work twice as hard – but only to rest and relax. Generally, people are happy to rest and relax on any day as long as it's not from Friday night at sundown to Saturday night at sundown. But we all know that nothing on earth would induce America to rest on this Day according to the Commandment – particularly in the present circumstances. But the circumstances will change, and at that time, they will no longer be Americans but refugees in a foreign land. At that time, keeping God's Sabbath holy will be a lot harder than it is today. At that time, the rebellious rulers of the heavenly realms will make sure you work twice as hard on the Sabbath and will kill you if you don't! But there will be martyrs who, having come to their senses will choose death rather than disobedience to God. These will be called the offspring of the Woman in **Rev 12:17**. The Woman of course is the nucleus of the Bride of Christ, and the establishers of the Kingdom of God, which will be established as a tiny mustard seed. Their immediate objective is to secure Jerusalem, the City of God, and to establish the realm of the House of David and its territories. This territory, however, will rapidly expand from the Euphrates River and to the River of Egypt, and highways will be set up to facilitate the eventual return of the 'lost Ten Tribes of Israel'.

God has predicted that some of this horrific treatment of Ephraim at the hands of their enemies will be too much even for some of Satan's brood. Some of these will recoil from the horror and mercilessness of such conduct, and will cry out to the Creator God. These foreigners will be brought to the Place of Rest also, having proven that they serve the Almighty Creator God with faithfulness. But the House of Israel itself will continue to be mute dogs until they find themselves totally alienated from God and with no hope of rescue. It will take many years for the Place of Rest to be established and for all of Satan's brood to be driven out to make way for new arrivals. So don't expect the rescue bid to start any time soon! Presently, of course, you don't want to be rescued – why would you? After all, you probably believe that tomorrow will be even better than today. So if you don't believe God then you will go on believing this. But the choice is yours! God has given you free will to do as you please, but warns everyone to remember that He is a God of vengeance and He will repay.

God knows the House of Israel is rebellious, and even describes them as dogs with mighty appetites. They are never satisfied! What you may not know is that God has fed them and nurtured them for this very endtime. It was time for the House of Joseph, that is, the English-speaking peoples of the world to come to prominence. Of the two sons of Joseph, Ephraim was to be the greater and a prince over all his brothers. Who is the greatest nation on earth? It's America. What nation arose from nothing to become the greatest nation on earth? America. Which nation has eclipsed all other nations in prosperity from the most humble of beginnings? Only America! Historians and politicians down through the years have expressed amazement that so many things came together miraculously to give them the type of stature they have today. It never happened in any other nation to this extent – only America! Old Europe has bumped along the bottom for generations, totally unable to emulate the success of America. So which nation would you say has fulfilled this prediction for Ephraim: **Hos 11:1-2** "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. But the more I called

Israel, the further they went from me. The sacrificed to the baals and they burned incense to images.” And wasn’t this what happened to Israel anciently? Hasn’t this been a pattern of their existence? But when they left Egypt, God chose the Tribe of Levi to effect their escape. And now the grandson of Israel or Jacob, whom Jacob ranked as a firstborn son, is mentioned in the next verse. Suddenly Ephraim the son of Joseph is brought to prominence in place of Israel in prophecy, and at a time when God is about to hand them over into captivity as subsequent verses show. **V3** “It was I who taught EPHRAIM to walk, taking THEM by the arms; but they did not realize it was I who healed THEM. I led THEM with human kindness, with ties of love; I lifted the yoke from their neck and bent down to feed THEM.” Yes, God is speaking of a whole nation of THEM. He healed them of the type of madness that had prevailed in the European theatre of successive royalty ambitions to conquer and subdue. Ephraim didn’t work to secure royal regimes with their excessive ambitions, but to serve the will of the people: ***Government by the people and for the people*** – a huge departure from the philosophies of European dictators, where the severest penalties were handed out for the smallest infractions of the rules. No mercy was shown or given to the common people. The founding fathers of America were determined to make the necessary changes to establish just laws through a system of ***Rule of Law***, where the whole population, from the least to the greatest, was judged equally according to the law. This was almost unprecedented in the annals of human history. Honour, decency, chivalry and concern for the disadvantaged was practiced by the Celts, and even after their conquest, glimpses of these virtues were seen periodically through such groups as the Knights Templar. But even these passed into history as tyrannical behaviour continued in the Royal Houses of Europe. The prevailing philosophy was that *‘if the people have no bread then let them eat cake’*. In other words, royalty cared nothing for the common people. They existed purely for the benefit of the nobility. If the royal coffers were running low, then the common people would be obliged to wage war against an imagined enemy to reap the spoils of war.

It was the emergence of a new nation that would change all this and destabilize the tyrannical behaviour of European royalty with a simple concept: the Rule of Law. The chill winds of rebellion began to sweep across Europe as the common people began to take stock of their forced obligations to unworthy rulers, and royal heads began to roll – instigated by the common people. But in Europe, anarchy became just as bad as the royalty they despised. It soon became obvious to the people that they had exchanged one form of tyranny for another. An overriding desire developed among the common people to try their luck in a new land – far from the tyranny that had enmeshed them for so many generations. The New World – as it was called – offered them new hope and new opportunity for life and freedom. Disquiet and then panic began to set in among the royal houses of Europe, as more and more people sought the freedom offered in the New World. It was the able-bodied men and their families who were migrating to the New World and this was leaving a vacuum of cheap labour in Europe – a matter of grave concern to the European monarchy. And if their hopes were that the New World would eventually falter, and their citizens return home, everything imaginable conspired to prove them wrong. The discovery of gold created a new wave of determined people in addition to the reports of lush green pasturelands and the prosperity of ranchers. Wild game was plentiful, and families could live happily in self-sufficient circumstances. Only in America! And this is where everyone wanted to be. And the fairytale dreams and aspirations of the new nation never ended. America was draining the European swamp! And it was all built on hope and achievement – rather than the suppression of both human desire and free will so widely practiced by old Europe. It was a new order of everything, and the old was passing away. Europe was predicting that America would fall on its own sword through eventual anarchy and lack of a central figure – namely a king. They had convinced themselves that suppression of the people through royal edict was the only means of controlling the masses. The term ‘loyalty to king and country’ was soon to be replaced by loyalty to country only. The people of the New World no longer retained loyalty to a king, but became patriotic to their country, and the patriotism never ended.

Then came a system of government that had no equal in the world to that time. ***Government by the people and for the people***, and an electoral process, together with a Constitution, that guaranteed this process in perpetuity. A new nation was born, and that nation prospered. The political system was the very best that human beings could devise. But still it lacked perfection. It lacked some very important elements that come with knowledge of the Creator God. Among these are that with knowledge comes responsibility. Since they acknowledge that the Creator bestowed on them certain unalienable rights (life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness), it’s incumbent upon the recipients to acknowledge their Creator if they are to retain those rights. But the Creator God knew from the start that the more He blessed them, the further they went from Him (**Hos 11:2**).

God says of Ephraim that he is like a child: **Jer 31:20** “Is not Ephraim my dear son, the child in whom I delight? Though I often speak against him, I still remember him.” God has spoken

against Ephraim – rather severely I might add. But He has real regard for him, and hopes to do him good at the end of his trial. It would be pointless to suggest that Ephraim could learn their lesson and start honouring their Creator short of the most severe of trials. In the U.S. Congress, what seem to be relatively simple issues can turn into the most convoluted jousts imaginable. You can speak all you like about ‘partisan politics’, but it simply isn’t the case. In spite of all their waffling, the Democrats are against all law that is directed towards societal stability. Not only have they been at the forefront of having the Ten Commandments removed from courts and government buildings, now they want all references to God removed from everywhere in government, and even in schools. Mind you, this only applies to *Christian* schools – not Moslem schools. They only want to control *Christians*! So would anyone even suggest that a return to Godliness is possible under the present system of government?

God has foreshadowed some Godly slogans in the Kingdom of God. **Jer 31:23** “This is what the LORD Almighty says, “When I bring them back from captivity, the people in the land of Judah and its towns will once again use these words: ‘The LORD bless you, O righteous dwelling, O Sacred Mountain.’” Yes, this is where the remnant people will return – to the land of Judah, who have already begun to pave the way for them. But the leaders of Judah are not yet strong enough, but they will be! The Sons of Jerusalem will show them how, and then they too, will become strong (**Zech 12:5-6**). Like the Sons of Jerusalem they will consume the surrounding nations like firebrands among sheaves of wheat. The difference is that the Sons of Jerusalem have no regard for political correctness or any regard whatsoever for the enemies of God. And though this may seem insensitive to some at this present time, within months rather than years, they will begin to change their opinion. I don’t want it to appear as an idle boast, but the present work of this Brotherhood is almost complete. We will be a very different Brotherhood when you next see all of us. You will however, see signs in the sky for a little while.

God gave the House of Israel some freewill choices when He said, “I have set before you life and death; therefore choose life.” **Deut 30:19** “This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live, and that you love the LORD your God, listen to His voice, and hold fast to Him. For the LORD is your life, and He will give you many years in the Land He swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.” I can tell you this: the House of Israel doesn’t love the LORD their God, and they certainly don’t honour Him. They like to listen to opinionated fools who have never known God, but they won’t listen to their Creator God. They refuse to hold fast to the Word of God, and will soon find they have made disastrous choices. God decides how He will be worshiped, and anyone who departs from this have chosen death. There will be no place for them in the Land God swore to give to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This Land is the Promised Land – the Place of Rest to the remnant of the House of Israel.

Central to the establishment of the Promised Land is the removal of all who have no right to be there. Naturally enough, no ‘roadmap for peace’ will ever accomplish this! Even a successful two-state solution wouldn’t achieve these results, since the Palestinians would still be on God’s Promised Land. President George W. Bush has a good grasp on this, but seems unaware of the final solution. This final solution is the same solution adopted by the rulers of the heavenly realms in WW2 against the Jewish people. God plans to deliver this same solution back on their brood. It’s called justice! All students of the Bible should understand that the enemy is Satan and the rulers of the heavenly realms, and it’s these that the Son of Man came to do battle with, and to destroy their work (**1John 3:8, 1Cor 15:24**). Their work is their brood and all that they control, and they are easily identified as those who hate God’s chosen people Israel. And I might add – without cause!

In a letter to Ariel Sharon of Israel, President Bush stated his view that “in a final deal, there will be no right of return [for Palestinians], and there will be no adjustments to the 1967 borders and the status of Jerusalem.” When told of this, Mahmoud Abbas the replacement for Yasser Arafat, bristled, and retorted that such considerations were stage 3 of the negotiations, and are yet to be considered. He added that President Bush doesn’t have the right to prejudice final-status issues. So it’s very clear that these things will never be conceded by the Palestinians. The Israeli negotiators should demand that these things be resolved immediately, and before anything else. The Palestinians and all of Islam lost the 1967 war, and because of their unjustified attack on the Israelis, lost all rights to anything. Now they face what they would consider and unjustified attack on them, and the outcome will be very different. There will be no roadmap for peace for the Palestinians, and since they planned to seize the Promised Land and to slaughter the Israelis, in the interests of justice, the slaughter will be turned on them. And believe me, it will be an overwhelming slaughter! God will make an example of just how worthless the work of the devil is.

THE MESSIAH STEPS UP...

Bible students will be aware of the Mighty One and His conquest of the Edomites on the western seaboard of what is known as Saudi Arabia today. The account is given in **Isa 63:1-6**. It should not go unnoticed that Satan's 'holy' cities of Mecca and Medina are there. This will be the beginning of the treading of the winepress of God's wrath. It's with some amusement that I listen to the explanations of Christian groups trying to explain **Rev 19:13-16** as being a reference to Jesus' execution by the rulers of the heavenly realms. For starters, He was crucified naked, and His coat was still in good order when it was taken by the casting of lots. No, the staining of His garments represents the blood of the nations who will be caught up in "the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty". Then they will know that this is the same Jesus who delivers hell to the inhabitants of Edom in Saudi Arabia, and who emerges from this conquest with clothing spattered with blood (**Isa 63:3**).

You have to admit that things are a little different to what traditional Christianity has been teaching. Christianity in general now needs to take stock of their teachings and stop trying to deceive their congregations with lying fabrications. These teachers are going to be held doubly accountable! (**James 3:1**). While it may seem logical for the Churches of God to be teaching the same tired old fabrications that have masqueraded as prophecy for these past seventy years, it's done nothing to illuminate anyone on what God's intentions are. At the very least, they should have been aware that it's the Edomites and Ismaelites who have been so determined to seize the Promised Land and to displace or slaughter the Israelis. They should have known that God hates the Edomites (**Mal 1:3**) – some of whom call themselves Palestinians – and who form a large part of the territories surrounding the Promised Land. But for seventy years the Churches of God have ignored God's enemies, as being any part of prophecy, and generated their own – calling it 'prophecy'! And so they chose to decide for themselves, and ignored the very plain Scriptures that identify God's enemies. Did they ever listen to God?

Strangely enough, it wasn't mainstream Christianity that got involved in false prophecies, but it was mainly the Churches of God who believed the worthless shepherd (**Zech 11:16-17**) and the prophecies he devised from his fertile imagination. Howbeit with some plagiarism from other sources! It was he who first devised the fiction that the Tribe of Simeon (Germany) was really the ancient Assyrians. Apparently, he decided that German means 'war-men' and this was enough to make the leap to conclude they were the ancient Assyrians. The real Assyrians are still living right where they lived anciently, though there was some expansion during the Turkish Ottoman Empire. In fact, this expansion penetrated the Balkans, all the way to the Danube River. But bear in mind that this occurred in the last few hundred years, not 2,500 years ago. If, as the worthless shepherd claimed, the Germans are the Assyrians, then so are all the Saxons, who were Germanic, and who invaded Britain and displaced the British Celts. It was the Saxons who established the English throne, which the Churches believe was the line of David and the throne of David. And how wrong they were! What all this goes to show is just how shocked the Churches of God will be when *real prophecy* descends on them! And this is the same prophecy that God speaks of in the Bible, which the Churches of God have ignored.

In the final days, God has appointed a final ministry to precede the captivity of the House of Israel. It's a message of repentance – to repent of past wrongs and the disgusting treatment of the Word of God. What the lying distortions of God's Word have done is to bring God's reputation into disrepute, and made Almighty God look like a fool. The prophecies of the Churches of God have all failed during the past seventy years because they were all based on human interpretation of the Scriptures. You have to wonder what all these so-called shepherds were doing for the past seventy years. They seemed to have gleaned all their prophecy from or other authors rather than the Word of God. End-time events have crept up on them, and now they have no idea what to expect. Many felt their pride was wounded, and have now turned against God Himself. How odd that they should blame God for their own errors, when at least once a week on the Sabbath, they held the Truth in their hands. They didn't believe God, but they believed their shepherds, and they cunningly glossed over any Scriptures that contradicted their teachings. And now, crunch-time has finally come!

Many servants of God down through the ages saw the importance of obedience and service to God, and shared the eternal objectives of what God plans to achieve. There are many people today that pay elaborate lip-service to God, and some even go to extensive lengths to perform ritualized services to Him based on what they believe would be acceptable to Him. There are plenty of instances of ritualized worship described in the Bible, but oddly enough, none of these are acceptable styles for the type of worship acceptable to most people today. In the minds of many, they are just too Jewish! Never mind that Jesus said that salvation is of the Jews, they like to pretend that salvation is of the Gentiles! Even Jesus was Jewish, so their arguments for salvation being of the Gentiles, lacks any

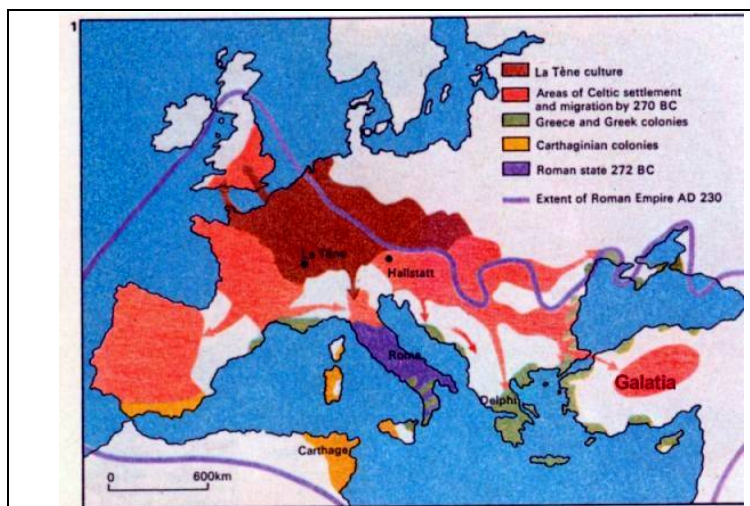
form of Biblical logic or support. Long before Jesus walked the earth as a man, God planned to call to duty the two Tribes that remained faithful to Him and the Holy City Jerusalem. Salvation will come through these two Tribes. As for 'salvation', all those who will be salvaged will be rescued from the hands of their enemies. This is made very clear throughout the Bible, and was confirmed in **Luke 1:69-79**. You only need to read the story of Moses and the Exodus to understand God's meaning of salvation. With many miracles and overwhelming power Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt – all 12 Tribes.

The fact is that Moses was not a Jew! He was not of the Tribe of Judah, but of the Tribe of Levi. Judah and Levi are collectively called 'Jews' in the Bible, because the Jewish line of kings continued to serve God in Jerusalem anciently. In fact, the first time that the term 'Jews' is mentioned in the Bible was when the northern ten Tribes waged war against the two southern Tribes (**2Kings 16:6** KJV). Students of the Bible will recall that ten of the Tribes of Israel abandoned God and His City of Jerusalem, and turned to paganism under their ruler Jeroboam. Only the two Tribes of Judah and Levi remained faithful to God and remained in Judah and honoured God's Holy City Jerusalem. The prodigal ten Tribes were driven far away and lost their identity. They became enmeshed with Gentile nations and their religious beliefs, and disavowed any allegiance to God or their former state, and set out to plot their own destiny.

Hundreds of years later, through the efforts of the Apostle Paul, Gentiles rose to prominence in Christianity, and established two great religions – Roman and Coptic (Eastern Orthodox) Catholicism. The Eastern Orthodox religion held out for the teachings of Paul, together with the Holy Sabbath observance, while the western or Roman religion refuted this as Judaising. The arguments raged for centuries, until the Roman Emperor of Constantinople decided to hear both arguments. The fact that the Council of Nicaea (325AD) resolved nothing is hardly worth mentioning. As the term 'Orthodox' implies, the Eastern Orthodox church was determined to uphold the teachings of the Apostles, which the western church claimed was Judaising. And this became the catch-cry against their opponents. When Emperor Constantine declared Christianity to be the religion of the Roman Empire, Rome decided they needed to win the hearts and minds of former pagans, so they began to substitute what they called Judaising for a transparent form of paganism – adopting many of the pagan holidays as their own, but with a Christian flavour. In time, Christianity became scarcely recognizable as the teachings of the Teacher.

This brand of Christianity gained favour, and its effects were far-reaching. But devout men refused to compromise the teachings of the Christ and Apostles, and maintained their faith through many persecutions: the charges being Judaising! And Judaisers were characterized by predominantly one thing – they kept God's Sabbath Day holy, and observed the Annual Holydays! And neither would they compromise the date for the observance of the Passover. What is more, they refused to compromise God's instruction in favour of human reasoning and were prepared to die as martyrs. There are few people on this earth today that would be prepared to face death in the cause of God. As terrible as these persecutions have been down through the ages, they are nothing in comparison to what Satan and his demon rulers are planning for the near future.

It's not surprising that in the days of Constantine, who ruled from Constantinople in Galatia (known as Turkey today) there was a large contingent of Celts living there, who held to the teachings of the Apostles and Prophets. In Constantine's place of rule in 325AD, there were seven Churches who are mentioned in the final writings of the Apostles – the Book of Revelation. And while over 200 years had passed since the Book of Revelation was first given to the Apostle John, it



The Celtic Levites provided pathways all the way to Galatia (Turkey today) for the migration of the Tribes of Israel to Europe. Yet once more, and for the third time, God will use the Levites to rescue the House of Israel. It's also worth noting that the Celts were also well represented in Northern Italy, and to a lesser degree in Greece in 270 BC.

was significant to Constantine that it described seven Churches in his domain and, furthermore, these Churches were to figure prominently in the final days or endtime of God's Great Plan. Being a ruler of consensus, Constantine chose to mollify the masses in order to win hearts and minds, and to establish his reign over a vast Empire. Hence people began to do what seemed right to them. They were obligated by the emperor's decree to become Christians, and the choice was between the eastern and western brands of Christianity. The western Roman sector made it attractive for their congregations by incorporating many of their pagan beliefs as a form of worship including their doctrine of the immortal soul. So win, lose or draw while on earth, they had immortality dwelling in them, and when they died they would go straight to heaven. Nothing else was important. **However, nothing is further from the Truth!**

Meanwhile in Rome, the Council of Cardinals were busying themselves with proselyting to the world to establish their position in the religious hierarchy, and in time, started many pogroms to destroy the opposition – namely 'Judaizers' (true Christians) and Jews. In doing so, they completely broke away from the traditional teachings of Jesus. The document of the Book of Revelation, of which they were well-aware, does not mention a church in Rome, but only the seven Churches in Celtic Galatia. And this left Rome somewhat miffed! What this indicates is that in the final days of God's Great Plan, only those who held to the teachings of the Apostles would feature prominently, and this excluded Rome. In the very place where Rome had vehemently tried to eradicate the teachings of Jesus, that is, in Galatia, seven Churches would emerge in the endtime. What this further indicated is that they would have strong ties with the Celts.

It was the Celts who first settled in Britain, and were known as the **British** or **Covenant people** – from the Hebrew word '**Berith**' meaning **Covenant**. With the invasions of the Angles and Saxons, they were driven westward into Wales and Northern Ireland, north into Scotland, and into Brittany in France. The Welsh and the Scots are the descendants of the **Tribe of Levi** – **the Covenant people**.

Formerly, they had been a mighty nation that had dominated Europe, and had actually created a corridor all the way to Galatia to provide pathways for the migration of the remnants of the Tribes of Israel still scattered in the Middle East.

Eventually, the Celts were subdued by conquest from being a nation in their own right, but only after they had facilitated the establishment of the lost ten Tribes of Israel in Europe. The significance of all this is that the original Celts were of the Tribe of Levi (see the article at our website: '**Historically, who were the Levites?**'). All these things were done in order to set the stage for the **final day** of God's Great Plan – **the Seventh Millennial Day**.

Most Christians today would accept that Jesus the Christ is their High Priest (**Heb 3:1-2**), and that He serves at an altar in heaven that is in the exact form for which the Sacred Tabernacle or sanctuary was built by Moses (see **Heb 8:9**). The early Christians understood the importance of this, and chose to accentuate it in the Book of Hebrews. At no time did they ever suggest that the God-appointed service performed by the Levites under Moses was 'done away' as many would like to think. The Book of Hebrews made it very clear that the Tabernacle that God appointed Moses to build was to be **an exact replica of the one in heaven** (**Heb 11:24**). In this Holy Place, only the sons of Levi were permitted to serve God. Once the Tabernacle was erected on location, the presence of God dwelt there, and He alone decided who would approach Him.

In the days of the Exodus, it was Moses and Aaron who could approach God, and God spoke face to face with Moses. Later, through the faithfulness and obedience of Jesus, a new way was established through the curtain to enable the **offspring** of Christ to approach the Father. Jesus actually came to **reveal the Father** to all of **His offspring**. Bible students will note that on the last day of His life on earth, Jesus referred to the Apostles as '**My children**' (**John 13:33**). These **children** had been confirmed as the **offspring of the Christ** (which was foretold in prophecy long ago – **Isa 53:10**) and the recipients of the double-portion of God's Holy Spirit. This second portion was the **Spirit of Christ** which the Father was planning to send **in Jesus' Name**.

So all of Christianity was to be established on the foundation of the Apostles, who in turn, were founded on the Spirit of Christ sent by the Father, and which **became** the **offspring of Christ**. It wasn't a question of **blood-lineage**, but of **Spirit-lineage**. The double-portion of God's Holy Spirit bonds the **children of Christ** into one mind and Spirit regardless of their ethnic background. But the full-measure of God's Holy Spirit can only come through **The Branch** or **Olive Tree**.

The word '**earnest**' used in the KJV (**2Cor 1:22, 5:5, Eph 1:13-14**) is a legal term, still used today for this purpose, and means a **down-payment** or **deposit** on the whole article, which in this case is **the full measure of God's Holy Spirit**. This is made clearer in the NIV in **Eph 1:13-14** "And you also were included in Christ when you heard the Word of Truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having **believed**, you were **marked in Him with a seal**, the promised Holy Spirit, who is **a deposit** guaranteeing our inheritance **until the redemption of those who are God's possession** – to the praise of His glory."

The down-payment or deposit of God's Holy Spirit was to continue 'UNTIL the redemption of those who are God's possession' (see **Eph 1:14** again). God mentions His possession in the Book of Malachi, but here He refers to them as His treasured possession: **Mal 3:16-18** "Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other, and the LORD listened and heard. A Scroll of Remembrance was written in His presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honoured His Name. "They will be mine," says the LORD Almighty, "in the day when I make up my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him. And you will see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not."

Those who were the recipients of the down-payment of God's Holy Spirit in the Churches of God will have to wait to receive the full-portion of God's Holy Spirit. They'll have to wait UNTIL the redemption of God's treasured possession – those who have been appointed to rescue them from the hand of their enemies. It will be a tortuous route for many, and a time when they will have to learn to fear God. There is no fear of God today by the Churches or the wider masses. All you ever hear from them are insults against God and His teachings! All that their smart-mouth antics have done is to condemn them. And God is going to make the distinction between the righteous and the wicked very obvious! It will be very clear who serves God and who do not!

There is no point in claiming to be the children of Christ if anyone thinks they can ignore the foundation established by the Apostles and prophets (**Eph 2:20**). And for all those who believe that obedience to God is not the example set by the Apostles and prophets, then they have no hope of receiving the double-portion of God's Holy Spirit. There have been many who have received the down-payment (or earnest) of God's Holy Spirit, when they repented, were baptized, and received God's Spirit. But the final payment or Counsellor, as the Spirit of Christ is known, never came to them. And it will not – until God's treasured possession is activated, and the choice will be to listen and believe, or rebel and die! But I can tell you this: God is tired of the old rebels in the Churches of God and is seeking a new generation. The old rebels will die like flies, and at a later time will face judgment. It was a serious decision when those of the Church requested baptism and received the down-payment of God's Holy Spirit. To then turn away and teach others to do likewise is, in fact, fatal!

Beyond the time of the Apostles, who received the double-portion of God's Holy Spirit, all those who followed had to be content with the earnest or down-payment UNTIL the redemption of God's possession. God foresaw the time when He would redeem His treasured possession (**Mal 3:16-18**), and provided a teacher (**Mal 2:4-7**) who was to precede the Christ into Jerusalem (**Mal 3:1**), and be ready to identify and welcome the Mighty Christ when He arrives. God appointed His teacher – not a sycophantic, show-pony who hungers for the praise of men, but a man who stands in awe of God and trembles at His very Word and Name. God chose a man who is not impressed with human beings or their garbled sanctimony or empty promises to their congregations. God chose a man who believes you are either with God or against Him – that there is no halfway. God chose a man who stands ready always to take the battle to God's enemies, one who doesn't negotiate terms and conditions, or enter into lengthy debates with unbelievers. Those who still struggle to come to grips with God's instructions cannot be a part of God's treasured possession, and God makes the clear distinction between those who are and those who are not. Jesus once said "Let the dead bury their dead" (**Luke 9:60**). Dead people don't bury other dead people! Jesus was referring to those who are spiritually dead – as the dead! The dead are those who refuse to acknowledge God or who find fault with Him and level criticism of His Way, or who just flat-out don't believe Him. The dead are also those who once believed God but have turned away in disbelief and have chosen their own ways. Either way, God labels them as dead!

The redemption of those who are God's treasured possession is not far off. These are the sons of Levi, though not all descended from the Levites. Almighty God made provision for those who are not of the traditional Levite line. God has offered priesthood status to those who have received the down-payment of His Holy Spirit – subject only to them receiving the Counsellor, which, when added, is the full measure of God's Holy Spirit and the tie of kinship with the Mighty Christ Himself. **Heb 10:19** "Therefore, Brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, His Body, and since we have a High Priest over the House of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled (with the sacrificial Blood) to cleanse us of a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water (baptism). Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur each other on towards love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

It bears repeating that if Christ were on earth today, He would not be a priest because there are other men who offer the gifts prescribed by Law (**Heb 8:4**). That is, there are men on earth today who are priests! Not only in the Order of Moses and Aaron, but also in the Order of Melchisedek – the very One who met Abraham at the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him. And that High Priest is the Christ! (**Heb 7:11-28**). The old Levitical Priesthood lacked the ability to make men perfect, and was insufficient to generate the type of nation that God has envisaged. But it needed to be in place for the Law to be given to the people (**V11**). But by the grace of God and through His faithful Son Jesus, a new and better way has emerged. On the eve of the greatest Sacrifice of all, God promised the very Spirit of His Son to those who truly serve Him, and this completed the full-measure of God's Holy Spirit. But the Holy Spirit is given only to those who obey God (**Acts 5:22**). God's Law had to be in place for the start of the Seventh Millennial Day – the Great and Dreadful Day of the LORD: **Mal 4:5** “Remember the Law of my servant Moses, the Decrees and Laws I gave Him at Horeb for all Israel. See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before the Great and Dreadful Day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to [the] children, and the hearts of the children to [the] fathers; or else I will come and strike the [earth] with a curse (utter destruction).” Which Decrees and Laws were they? The ones God gave His servant Moses at Horeb or Mount Sinai! I emphasize this because the disobedient like to pretend that this refers to sacrificial laws of the priesthood with the ablutions and Temple procedures. They wish! Why would non-priests believe that God would require them to remember such procedures? **No, they know very well what LAW was given at Mount Sinai!**

It was the job of the priesthood to teach the Law and to administer it. This will be done in the fledgling Kingdom of God in the Holy Land. God knows how hard-headed the House of Israel is to observing His Law, and under the existing administrations, any form of legislation to enforce the Laws of God would be impossible. But God has foreseen the day when this will change – and after He has purged the rebels and stripped them of their power and prestige, and send them into slavery once more, a remnant will emerge. This remnant will understand what has happened and why. What is more, they will know that a rescue is underway. And the very people whom they treacherously dealt with – the Jews – will be their rescuers.

The treachery involves favouring the Palestinians in order to placate the rest of Islam – those nations that openly admit hatred for the American people. It's these same people that America is hell-bent on winning their hearts and minds.

Of all the people on the face of the earth, only the Tribe of Joseph (predominantly the U.S., Britain and Australia – those whose first language is English) took the fight to the former Babylonian Empire. Everyone else on earth wanted to trade with them! Surely there is warning enough in the Book of Revelation (**Rev 18**) to prohibit trade with Satan's capital and to encourage his desire to activate his ancient City and Empire. Even today, I still get letters from dopes who claim that Babylon the Great is really Rome the weak. This crazy fiction was first developed by a crazy woman – a demon-possessed woman called Ellen G. White, in the early 1800's. She also predicted that Christ would return in 1844. In addition, she claimed that wine (Gr. 'oinos' means fermented wine) was the devil's brew, and unlike Jesus, banned the drinking of it. The Seventh Day Adventists substituted grape juice to represent the Blood of Christ – not wine! There is an interesting bit of trivia attached to this. The famous winemaker 'Penfolds' adopted a slogan when they established themselves in 1844. Their slogan was '1844 to evermore' – an obvious jab against the mad woman! Nevertheless, the idea has persisted to today that Rome the weak is really Babylon the Great, and God was wrong! Every dreamer who had visions of being a prophet contradicted God and pushed the same old tired barrow. In their view, God was not only wrong when He spoke of Babylon throughout the prophecies of the Old Testament, He was still wrong when He spoke of Babylon in the Book of Revelation. So you begin to see just how bankrupt the beliefs of some people are! Little wonder they are so bereft of understanding when they can't believe God in such a fundamental manner. They like to come up with multi-point fabrications of their brand of prophecy, but never quite manage to explain how God got it so wrong. I wonder if it will every dawn on them that God didn't get it wrong – they did!

During the course of six thousand years, human beings have had the opportunity to learn what obedience to God means, and we have plenty of examples to go by as **1Cor 10:1-11** indicates. And in

A bit more trivia: I recall one dope from the Worldwide Church of God who wrote a compendium. In it he was elaborating on Noah's grandson Nimrod. So embedded was the belief that Babylon was Rome (or vice versa), he claimed that Shem killed Nimrod in **Rome (not Babylon)** and plucked out his eye. It wasn't enough to put their own interpretation on the Babylon mentioned in the Book of Revelation, he went right back to the source of the Babylon on the River Euphrates in Mesopotamia and tried to weasel the notion that this was a reference to Rome. No doubt the worthless shepherd viewed it with satisfaction following his plagiarizing of Ellen G. White's ideas.

V11 “These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.” The warnings represented disobedience to God and His Covenant. Those who refused to honour that Covenant were therefore isolated from the new and better way that was coming. The New Way is based on the original Covenant, but with the addition of God’s Holy Spirit. The New Way is a reference to the New Order that is spoken of as a future event in **Heb 9:10**. No-one has been released from the obligation to serve God in obedience and faithfulness, but only from the obligation to offer sacrifices at the Temple for remittance of sin. There remains a High Priest who serves at the Altar in Heaven. He presents Himself in place of the animal sacrifices that were formerly required for the remission of sin. But He does this only for the children of God! And let’s be very clear that all of humanity are not the children of God! So who is? The Apostle John spelt it out for us: **1John 2:22** “Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ (fake Jews – more about this later). Such a man is the antichrist – he denies the Father and the Son.” The children of God would never deny the Father and the Son!

And just to expand on this, John made it very clear why the Christ came and why He will return: **1John 3:1** “How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God.” **V7** “Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as He is righteous. He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason why the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.” No-one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God’s Seed (the Holy Spirit) remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; neither is anyone who does not love his brother (others of the children of God). Hasn’t God told us what is right? And He plans to do it again! Once more, when all hope is lost, the House of Israel will be told to “Remember the Laws of my servant Moses, the Decrees and Laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.” (**Mal 4:4**). Though most of ‘all Israel’ will be dead from a whole raft of calamities that will befall them in the Great and Dreadful Day of the LORD, yet a remnant will return to the Place of Rest. The rulers of the heavenly realms will not give them up easily, so much force will be employed to rescue them – just as it was in the days of God’s servant Moses. The Bible records the many wars that were fought at that time at the direction of God Himself.

Surely it’s clear enough that John the Baptist came in the Spirit and power of Elijah (**Luke 1:17**). And surely it’s also clear enough that through the Spirit and power of Elijah that a horn of salvation would be mounted to rescue God’s people Israel from their enemies (**V69-71**). And it’s equally certain that through the Spirit and power of Elijah the means will be set up to facilitate this rescue. At this present moment in time, no rescue seems necessary. Although the House of Israel is presently waging a war against terrorism, they are managing to keep terrorism contained – but only just! Even so, God has clearly said that the House of Israel, predominantly the English-speaking peoples of the nations will end their days in terror. Perhaps some forget that all that happened to the House of Israel anciently are designed to be examples for us on whom the end of the age has come. Ephraim is famous for letting political considerations regulate their desire to bring retribution to their enemies. This was particularly evident in the Vietnam war. They had the fire-power to utterly crush their enemy, but chose only to match the aggressors with blow for blow. And finally, they turned back and fled, allowing the Viet Cong to stage a bloodbath against their own people. This campaign served to reveal Ephraim’s soft underbelly, which has been exploited ever since.

What we are seeing today is an accurate assessment of what God anciently predicted as examples for us. **Psalm 78:9** “The men of Ephraim, though armed with bows, turned back on the day of battle; they did not keep God’s Covenant and refused to live by His Law.” Note the link between defeat in war and their refusal to keep God’s Covenant and His Law. Turning back on the day of battle has become the hallmark of Ephraim’s military endeavours. Remember Somalia? They could have wiped Somalia off the map, but they turned tail and ran. In this campaign they couldn’t even claim the fear of collateral damage. A million civilians in Mogadishu turned against them with weapons from their cupboards, putting America on notice that the whole nation of them was the enemy. And it was these same people that America was supposed to be liberating from that tyrant and warlord Mohamed Adide. Remember Fallujah in Iraq – the hotbed of insurgency? Did they use the famous ‘shock and awe’ to bring them down? No, they withdrew and negotiated ‘peace’, only to find that most insurgents escaped and continued fighting on other fronts. They had them bottled up and ready for slaughter, but chose to show compassion to the most depraved of humanity, believing it would win the hearts and minds of Iraqis.

There is a clear-cut rule in warfare: If they are not with us, then they are against us – and this just happens to be a saying of the Mighty Christ (**Matt 12:30-32**). In this regard, Jesus made it clear that speaking against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or the age to come. And

this has far reaching ramifications for those who speak against the Scriptures, and the Apostle Peter made this very clear: **2Pet 1:19** “And we have the Word of the Prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the Day dawns and the Morning Star rises in your hearts. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” We have the Word of the Prophets made more certain than ever before, particularly as the Day begins to dawn. Those who continue to put their own interpretation on everything and refute the prophecy of Scripture face death – never to be forgiven in this age or the age to come. If after hearing the knowledge of Truth, you turn away, then there is no further sacrifice for you (**Heb 10:26-27**).

Some seem to think they have God over a barrel because of a loophole. They insist that God is bound to forgive them through some form of deathbed confession or a ‘last-rites’ ritual. Those who believe this have never known God or believed the Scriptures. Mainstream Christianity has done a grave disservice to their constituents by declaring that ‘good’ Christians go to heaven when they die. There is nothing in the Bible that suggests this, and it has led to the strange belief that such people have immortality dwelling within them. And there is no Scriptural support for this either. The ‘soul’, for want of a better term, is merely a pattern of one who has, or once had, God’s Holy Spirit, but it’s also true that the soul that sins shall die. And the purpose of this pattern is to reproduce an exact replica of the original being, together with his or her memory bank. For those who never had God’s Holy Spirit, there is no ‘soul’ or ‘pattern’ and resurrection is impossible for them. Their soul is their body and their persona, and where their body is, that is where they are. And since it’s given to all men once to die, all finish in the grave. Those who did have God’s Holy Spirit and then turned away, “there is no further sacrifice for them, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.” (**Heb 10:26-27**). Those “who deliberately keep on sinning after receiving the knowledge of Truth” (**V26**) should know what to expect. The reference to sinning is made very clear in the next verse – a direct reference to the Law of God’s servant Moses: **V28** “Anyone who rejected the Law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the Covenant that sanctified him, and has insulted the Spirit of Grace. For we know Him who said, “It is mine to avenge, I will repay,” and again, “The Lord will judge His people.” It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God.” And the Law of God’s servant Moses was given at Mount Horeb (**Mal 4:4**) on two tables of stone, and those who reject it will die without mercy.

People died without mercy when they rejected the Law of God’s servant Moses, and their deaths were sanctioned by God. Those people died – never to live again! But those who once received God’s Holy Spirit – the Spirit of Grace – a guarantee of everlasting life to those who recant sin and sin no more, becomes even more ominous to those who deliberately continue to sin. Such people have “only a fearful expectation of judgment and raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.” Such people will surely know that rejecting the Law of Moses magnifies how much more severely they deserve to be punished.

But God is merciful to those who love and uphold the Law of God’s servant Moses, and who try hard to avoid any type of sin. Even when, from time to time they are caught in a trap, and find themselves sinning, they have an Advocate – a lawyer – who defends them. And that Advocate is Christ! **1John 2:1** “My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have One who speaks to the Father in our defence – Jesus Christ, the righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. We know that we have come to know Him if we obey His Command[ments].” (See also **Job 16:19-20**).

Those who obey God’s Commandments are in the extreme minority today, so atoning for the sins of the whole world is not an option – unless they repent of their sins. Although Jesus came only to the lost Tribes of Israel, there are pathways provided for the Gentiles. And there is to be a very great number of these, from every nation, tribe, people and language who will turn to God and receive their white robes of righteousness (**Rev 7:9-10**). If you understand the Scriptures, then you will know that these Gentiles emerge from the winning side of the coming holocaust that will engulf the whole House of Israel. These people will view the slaughter and mistreatment of innocent people to be monstrous acts of barbarism and would rather die than engage in it. Present-day Oscar Schindler’s will emerge to alleviate the suffering of the House of Israel and will risk their lives in the cause of God’s people. God will view it as an act of kindness to Him when one of these gives even a cup of cold water to His little ones. And those who don’t will feel the full force of God’s vengeance!

Satan and his rulers of the heavenly realms have successfully deceived the whole world, and the whole world is in the grip of their dementia. The House of Israel, and particularly America, has

acted as a buffer to the type of madness that has plagued this earth for millennia. When God saw the founding fathers of America, it greatly pleased Him; he saw them as righteous shepherds who would guide His flock to greatness. Mind you, the founding fathers were not perfect, but they wanted the nation to be founded on Godly principles, and they made this very evident in all they proposed and did. In the annals of human history, this was unusual in the extreme. *'Government by the people and for the people'* had not been done since the days of the Roman Empire, and even then the Roman Senate did not conduct themselves wholly for the benefit of the people, which they were bound by oath to do. But it was a good model for the fledgling American nation. Caesar was replaced by a President, and a two-tier system of government was established, with all the checks and balances to ensure a righteous nation. But unlike the Roman Empire, America's success was not based on the conquest of lesser nations. The multi-national nature of the Roman Empire was also adopted by America based on the concept that *all men are created equal* and endowed with certain unalienable rights; among these being life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

While these are commendable objectives, not all men are created equal; after all, not even Adam and Eve were created equal! *God appointed Adam to rule over Eve*, which is bad news for the feminists. But the words of the Declaration of Independence were mere words and did not reflect the true feelings of the writer – as assessed by present-day philosophers. If they did, then why did it take 150 years for the Suffrage movement to come to prominence and succeed in their objectives? Mind you, they did say *all men* are created *equal* with no reference to women, and women continued to have the same status as given by God: *the man rules over the woman* – until the Suffrage Movement succeeded in changing it. And I think everyone knows that *slaves were not considered equal either*. Perhaps it was thought that some men *'are born more equal than others'* (to quote a line from George Orwell's *Animal Farm*). No, it was only in the 20th Century that all men (and women) were suddenly declared equal – *and what a mistake that was!* During that century, wars raged almost incessantly, and all men were *not* equal during those wars. And any who thought all men were, were shot as traitors on the battlefield, or at best, dishonourably discharged. *'The enemy is the enemy and don't forget it!'* In other words, the enemy is *not* equal!

So all men were *not* created equal, regardless of what anyone says. Almighty God has declared that of all the families on the earth, He chose only the 12 Tribes of Israel (**Deut 7:6, 14:2, 2Sam 7:24, Amos 3:2**). So the rest of the world are *not* equal – whether man or woman! The only way they can approach equality is to obey God in all His Laws, and become an Israelite through the process of being grafted into the tree. Something God made provision for from the earliest times. Whereas those who *rejected the Law of God's servant Moses* faced death, they now face death *as the enemies of God* (**Heb 10:26**). God has many enemies; in fact, the whole world is hostile to Him. Like their father the devil, the whole world refused to have God rule over them. And seeing as how the House of Israel always wanted to be like the Gentile nations, they've adopted many of the Gentile concepts of God. Most notably, 'the immortality of the soul'! With such promises of a reward in heaven for doing nothing, it's not surprising that most Christians (and pagans) have no motivation for obedience to God.

Most Christians would ridicule the Moslem belief that Moslem martyrs go straight to heaven for killing Christians and Jews. And well they may! But what sort of mental gymnastics supports their view that they themselves go to heaven for doing nothing? One is as bad as the other! What good are all of *God's warnings of judgment and flames of fire* if it's all circumvented at death with a flight to heaven? No wonder there are so many people who no longer believe in, or obey God. When Peter spoke of *the Word of Prophecy being made more certain*, and the need *to pay attention to it as the Day dawns* – to what end? If everyone is to go wafting off to heaven when they die, surely this is a good outcome for believers – *except if it isn't true! And it's not!* The vast majority of all those who have ever lived are dead – never to live again. They had their shot at life – a onetime only experience, and they are dead forever. Without God's Holy Spirit dwelling in them at death, there is no resurrection again to life. They are dead and gone, and their only reward was in this life.

It's the Holy Spirit of God that enables the arising from the dead: **Rom 8:11** *"And if the Spirit of Him that raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you."* It really is a stupid assumption to be teaching that everyone has immortality dwelling in them. There are precious few people on earth today that have God's Holy Spirit living in them! To be *given life to a mortal body*, the Holy Spirit must first have been living in that person during their *first* life. Otherwise, they will *not be raised to life*. They will be dead forevermore. What possible reason would God have for raising billions of the dead who never distinguished themselves in obedience to Him, back to life again? Jesus was *the first of many brothers* to be raised from the dead; do billions who were not brothers also qualify for such a miracle? For what purpose would God do this? To further increase the disobedient on this earth?

Does God need more disobedient human beings? No, the final call is going out for the righteous to prepare the way for the LORD. The Mighty Christ is preparing to return – not to cater to the disobedient, but to destroy them, and rid the earth of them. Unneeded and unwanted are the unrighteous – both now and forever into the future! It will be both a time of cleansing and retribution. And it all begins with the cleansing of the Levites, and the establishment of them as the wave offering.

But God still remembers Ephraim, and still considers him a son – just as Jacob declared. But Ephraim is the prodigal son who has to learn his lessons the hard way. And God's retort is '**So be it!**' Turning back again to **Psalm 78** we find that God knows how to deal with Ephraim and to bring them back to His way of thinking. **Psalm 78:31-34** "God's anger rose against them (men of Ephraim – **V9**); He put to death the sturdiest among them, cutting down the young men of Israel. In spite of all this, they kept on sinning; in spite of His wonders, they did not believe. So He ended their days in futility, and their years in terror. Whenever God slew them, they would seek Him; they eagerly turned to Him again." The Father will welcome back the prodigal son after he has squandered his inheritance.

Who would have believed just five or six years ago that Ephraim (America) would be spending billions of dollars to guard against terror? Who would have believed that Moslems would be responsible for the worst calamity in their history on September 11? Who could have believed that terrorism could so penetrate their defenses and leave the population with a loathing of Moslems? Ask anyone today '**Who are the terrorists?**' And the answer is always '**Islam**' from those who have not been emasculated by political correctness. And a growing number of people, even in the news media, are growing sick of being influenced by psychologists and other mindless fools whose central platform is political correctness and who like to convey the impression that they understand the human mind. There are six billion variations of the human mind on earth today, but eventually there will be only one – the mind of Almighty God and His Christ. **And it's this mind that psychologists could never understand!**

God prepared His servants in advance of the Great and Dreadful Day of the LORD. He taught them and will train them in the Godly art of warfare. And for all the children of the devil, God says "**Vengeance is mine – I will repay!**" And the same Creator God that led Moses and the children of Israel out of Egypt leaving devastation in their wake, will do the same again! This time with an entirely new outcome: This time the Israelites will enter the Promised Land to a welcoming committee who will grant them Rest. God has chosen two Tribes – Levi and Judah – to be the advance guard and to secure the Holy Land. Next in line is Ephraim – God's beloved son – in honour of His servant Jacob who chose him (**Gen 48:17-20**). None of the Tribes of Europe receive much consideration at all in the Scriptures – only the three premier Tribes of Levi, Judah and Ephraim. God has disdain for the Tribes that have chosen their own kings, and this is true of all of Europe. Only the Tribes of Levi, Judah and Ephraim do not need or want a human-appointed king over them. Ephraim, having gotten rid of the king (George III) that ruled over them prior to the Declaration of Independence, resolved never to have another. Of Ephraim, God has said they would be many days without a king: **Hos 3:4** "For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without *ephod* or idol. Afterwards the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to His blessings in the last days." The *ephod* is the garment worn by a Levitical priest. There is nothing more certain that Ephraim has lived many days without a Levitical priest! The Book of Hosea is filled with references to Ephraim, and in fact, it is rightly called Ephraim's Book. America is the one nation of European origins that has resisted the temptation to have a king rule over them. Mind you, France was quick to follow suite and bump off their king during the French Revolution. But they retained the regal regalia in Versailles as evidence of 'The glory that is France'. Following this, Napoleon had his moment of glory until he proclaimed himself, not king, but Emperor of France and Europe. And the people rallied to their Emperor. Napoleon started off all right, but soon allowed personal grandeur to cloud his vision.

This is the type of thing that couldn't happen in America. And the reason is that Ephraim is a different cut-of-the-cloth. They would more readily accept the ephod than a king. **But now is not their time for that.**

Judah and Israel will be joined as one nation, never again to be divided. All hostilities will cease between them, and God will pour out His Spirit on this remnant, and they will become the premier single nation of the earth forever (**Eze 37:15-24**). This unification culminates with David their King ruling over them forever (**V24**). As the previous chapter shows (**Eze 36**), all this occurs after God has rescued them from the foreign lands where they will be driven in captivity.

That's a wonderful outcome, but it will take many years to achieve, and much planning. There must be housing to house all these people, and God is concerned to save the dwellings first

(**Zech 12:7**) against any insurgents who decide to attack. God also makes the point concerning the **Sons of Jerusalem** that if anyone does attack, they will surrender to them: **Isa 54:13** “All your sons will be taught by the LORD, and great will be your children’s peace. In righteousness you will be established: Tyranny will be far from you; you will have nothing to fear. Terror will be far removed, it will not come near you. If anyone does attack you, it will not be my doing; whoever attacks you will surrender to you.” And just so there is no misunderstanding of the terms of the surrender, they will surrender as slaves, and this will serve as a warning to all others. It will be a happy day for the Sons of Jerusalem when any nation decides to mount an attack against them. The enemy’s feeble efforts will be met with overwhelming force like nothing ever seen before! God gives a description of this in **Zech 12:7-9** “The LORD will save the dwellings of Judah first, so that the honour of the House of David and of Jerusalem’s inhabitants may not be greater than that of Judah (this is to fulfill the statement that salvation is of the Jews, who will be strongly allied with the Sons of Jerusalem – V5). On that day the LORD will shield those who live in Jerusalem, so that the feeblest of them will be like David, and the House of David will be like God, like the Angel of the LORD going before them. On that day I will set out to destroy all the nations that attack Jerusalem.”

I’m predicting that those weaklings who thought Jesus was a weakling will learn their lesson the hard way. The solution to their dilemma was simple. All they had to do was to ask any Jew, and they would have told them what ‘**Messiah**’ or ‘**Christ**’ means. After all, the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God – the same Scriptures that Christ used – and they knew what to expect, howbeit, they had the timescale all wrong concerning the Christ’s first appearance. They knew that John the Baptist was to precede the coming of the Messiah, and that suddenly the Messiah would appear at the Temple. And this is what the Christ did. The Christ however, did not fulfill the Jewish leaders’ expectations. He didn’t destroy the rulers of the heavenly realms – instead they destroyed Him. But what about all the miracles? Well, the religious leaders among the Jews didn’t attempt to explain them. Were they of God or not? The Jewish leaders were reluctant to answer when asked! All they required of Jesus was for Him to pound on their enemies as the Messiah is supposed to do. He didn’t do it, so they concluded that He wasn’t the Christ or Messiah. But they overlooked many Scriptures to arrive at this conclusion. For starters, they were not under threat from anyone; in fact they were under the protection of the Roman Empire. They were even permitted to have their own rules and laws. These Jewish leaders had aristocratic status with the people and exercised it to the extreme. Did they really need to be rescued from the hands of their enemies at that time? In truth, their perceived enemies were really their allies who protected them and gave them the right to live in peace. The Temple itself was their ticket to glory because of their expectation that the Christ would suddenly appear there. They were quite capable of turning their protectors into their enemies – and this is precisely what they did a few years later with insurrection after insurrection. And finally they burned down their own Temple!

Titus pleaded with them not to destroy the holy house and offered them safe passage out of there. But they declared a fight to the death, believing they would force the Messiah’s hand to arrive and save them. And if He had done so, they reasoned, they would be favourably positioned to take power in the new, promised Kingdom of God. The problem was they didn’t understand the Scriptures, and they certainly had no vision of what God intended. But for all the piety they exhibited, such piety was soon dispelled as they set about killing their own people and robbing them. Josephus mentions 8,400 who were killed for the possessions they were carrying (Wars, 7.1.358). And what a time they chose to be killing others for their valuables! They literally had no hope of winning the war! Titus had offered them safe passage out of there, but they rejected it. As a Roman commander, Titus had no option but to slaughter them all.

In their minds, this was the Temple described by Ezekiel (chapters 40-48), which was supposed to last forever. Well they were wrong about that! Firstly, this wasn’t the Temple described by Ezekiel, and Jesus had predicted that it would be destroyed and that not one stone would remain on another. And secondly, the Messiah had come and gone and they failed to recognize Him.

But the most important point the Jews missed at that time was that Jesus was not just another human messiah like Moses, or for that matter, like Judas Maccabee whom they hoped the new Messiah would emulate. No, the new Messiah was to be of the very God Family, and one who would qualify by

against you. After every victory I persuaded you to peace, as though I had been myself conquered. (346) When I came near your temple I again departed from the laws of war, and exhorted you to spare your own sanctuary, and to preserve your holy house to yourselves. I allowed you a quiet exit out of it, and security for your preservations; nay, if you had a mind, I gave you leave to fight in another place. Yet have you still despised every one of my proposals, and have set fire to your holy house with your own hands. (347) And now, vile wretches, do you desire to treat with me by word of mouth? To what purpose is it that you would save such a holy house as this was, which is now destroyed? What preservation can you now desire after the destruction of your temple? (348) Yet do you stand still at this very time in your armor; nor can you bring yourselves so much as to pretend to be supplicants even in this your utmost extremity! O miserable creatures! What is it you depend on?

Josephus: The Wars of the Jews, Bk 6, Chapt 6, para 2, V346

risking everything for the sake of His future offspring. He was prepared to be killed by the rulers of the heavenly realms, and suffer this agonizing death believing that God would raise Him from the dead. With the successful conclusion of His death and resurrection, He was empowered to be the Christ or Messiah, and to sit at the right hand of God. This same Jesus will return, but I expect most people already know this (**Acts 1:10-11**). And just to remove any ambiguity about whether Moses was a messiah in the true sense of the word, Moses rescued the 12 Tribes of Israel from slavery, and Jesus was a prophet just like Moses (**Deut 18:15, Acts 7:37**).

But when the Jewish people see just how strong the Sons of Jerusalem are, they will have a change of heart. Then they will realize that the LORD Almighty is their God (**Zech 12:5**). Then they too, will start consuming the surrounding nations like a flaming torch among sheaves (**V6**) and leaving those nations in death and destruction. They will realize that God's former instructions when He led the House of Israel out of Egypt and to the Promised Land will apply once again. They must drive out the inhabitants or slaughter them – man, woman or child. These are evil, loathsome creatures whose minds can never be attuned to God. They have no place in God's Great Plan. They've acted like animals and now they must die like animals. Just one act of terrorism is enough to identify these people for their evil ways, but there have been thousands of such acts. Their motivation for these acts is hatred for the House of Israel. God loves the House of Israel, and these people hate them. With such disparate views, they can never be attuned to God. God decides whom He will bless and whom He will curse, and those decisions have been made. Humanity has muddled its way through six thousand years, and it seems they have never learned any Godly lessons for righteous behaviour and justice. But God is a God of vengeance and justice, and as the Creator of all that exists, He makes the rules. This is the way it is, and this is the way that it will be for endless generations of the inhabitants of the Kingdom of God. Rebellion will never again be tolerated. God made the decision long ago that the rightful occupants of the Promised Land would be the House of Israel and no other.

All other nations have their own lands and they should have appreciated it and been good stewards of their own domain. But no, they never could. Although they never knew it, they had other rulers plotting their destiny for them, and these were always working behind the scenes to regulate the lives of their subjects. These evil spirit creatures had an agenda – a total hatred for God and His people. The rulers of the heavenly realms hate God and everything He stands for. For generations these evil creatures have been provoking the House of Israel into a fight in numerous theatres of war, and all in the vain hope that they could wipe them from the face of the earth. Right now, the rulers of the heavenly realms are amassing their forces for the biggest showdown of all time. They now know that because of political correctness the House of Israel doesn't have the heart to smash them to oblivion, but only to fight a limited war against enemy combatants. If the role were reversed there would be no mercy shown by the rulers of the heavenly realms. Killing defenseless people doesn't faze them at all, even when they are killing their own people. As for the people of God, the House of Israel, given the chance they will inflict atrocities on a scale unimaginable in the past. If anyone thinks they have seen hatred in the past, then they have seen nothing yet.

What is God trying to teach us all? He's trying to teach us the difference between good and evil – the difference between those who serve Him and those who don't. With line upon line and precept upon precept He has been teaching His servants. His servants know and understand what the stakes are, and they know that God is right in all that He proposes and does. The House of Israel presently does not see things the way God does. They have underestimated the enemy and they are unequipped to deal with them in a way that would bring lasting peace. And with each passing day, they are falling further into the trap of granting privileges to those who don't deserve them. The war on terror has failed because they failed to identify the enemy. It's not just a few insurgents, but whole nations that hate and despise the House of Joseph. Only one nation has restrained the rulers of the heavenly realms, and that one nation is Ephraim – the United States of America. But America has proven to be a silly dove – always seeking to make peace with God's enemies.

It's the Jewish people that will be the first of the nations of Israel to see the light. They will really have a change of heart at that time: **V10** “And I will pour out on the House of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a Spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me (Jesus), the One they have pierced (Jesus), and they will mourn for Him (Jesus) as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for Him (Jesus) as one grieves for a Firstborn Son (Jesus).” The House of David will be established in the very early days of God's Kingdom, and is initially comprised of the House of Judah and the House of Levi: **V11** “On that day the weeping in Jerusalem will be great, like the weeping in Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. The land will mourn, each clan by itself, with their wives by themselves, the clan of the House of David and their wives, the clan of the House of Nathan and their wives, the clan of the House of Levi and their wives, the clan of Shimei and their

wives, and all the rest of the clans and their wives.” So this will really be a day of mourning when the Jewish people come to the realization of what they did to the Messiah at His first appearance. The whole land will mourn, together with all the clans of Judah and Levi.

But does anyone know about the weeping in Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo (V11) in the ancient territories of the Tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh? Because I know of nothing in the past to reflect this magnitude of weeping and mourning. But I do know of a future event that will bring this type of response, but now is not the time to be speaking about it. It will be very fresh in the minds of those who mourn at that time for the Firstborn Son!

Following this weeping and mourning, it will be time to start the rescue of Ephraim from the foreign lands where they will be scattered. Returning to their former home in North America will no longer be an option at that time.

But surely America is invincible – what nation could conquer them? What nation would dare take on the might of the U.S.? Perhaps no individual nation could, but collectively all the nations could, and even now they are wearing down America’s power, and forcing America to become



The new Georgian parliament simultaneously unveils their new flag – seen hanging from the walls here, and being waved by the enthusiastic crowds. Their new flag is identical to the former Knights Templar, and reflects their Polish roots and their former associations during the Crusades.

overextended and vulnerable. America’s allies are thin on the ground, and actually comprise only the brother nations of the Tribe of Joseph (Britain and Australia). It would be remiss of me not to mention the brave Poles who also joined the fight in Iraq. Their history of valour, and particularly the severing of supply lines of the former Moslem Ottoman Empire, is not forgotten. They’re the founders of the famous *Cossacks* of Georgia (*founded by Polish leader Steven Bathory, 1575-86*) on the Black Sea. With the recent change of regime in Georgia, they adopted a new flag. Set in a sea of Moslem scum, they launched their new flag – the identical flag of the former

Knights Templar. The Poles and the Georgians will be remembered with favour when the time comes. Their valour, both past and present, will not be forgotten.

There was another facility called the Tent of Meeting, and this was where Moses conducted the business of the 12 Tribes. Meetings were held there, but it seems that Moses spent most of his time trying to solve the complaints and disputes of various parties, many of whom had forgotten that they had been liberated from slavery and were in the care of God. They wanted a better lifestyle like the nations around them. They wanted to live in cities and enjoy the comforts of life. They lived in hope that every time they moved camp, they would enter the Promised Land. But each time they moved during the forty years, it proved to be a meandering track in the desert. It seemed to be never-ending. For some, Moses was becoming the enemy, and the obvious one to blame for their woes. Some actually desired to return to Egypt as slaves. And the reason they gave was to be able to eat of their garden produce. Eventually, their rationale led to them being against both God and Moses. This was apparent by the remark, *‘Is God able to spread a table in the desert?’ (Ps 78:18-19)* So their cynicism had reached the point of accusing God of being unable to provide for them. Well, they got what they demanded, but they paid a severe price (V31).

God proved to them that He was able *‘to spread a table in the desert’*, and did so! But He exacted a hefty price for their insolence. Well, they learned their lesson and repented and everyone lived happily ever after. *Not quite!* Instead, they developed the guile of the serpent and resorted to flattery and insincerity: V36 *“But then they would flatter him with their mouths, lying to him with their tongues; their hearts were not loyal to him, they were not faithful to His Covenant.”* They could never quite grasp what it was that God required of them. They made a Covenant with God – an agreement – and wholeheartedly ratified it, but while they demanded absolute compliance from God, they were unwilling to fulfill their role. Instead, they whined and complained that God required anything of them! Their idea of a Covenant was for the other party, in this case, God, to be held fully accountable and subject to scrutiny, while they were free to do as they pleased. Whereas once they

were slaves, now they were free, but freedom was not enough. The Jews who were held in concentration camps in the Second World War certainly understood the meaning, and they desired it above all else. Today, freedom means different things to different people, and the cries of 'freedom' that ring out today seldom reflect the desire for true freedom. But freedom is a precious asset if you possess it, and all of Ephraim – the United States – has it, but don't appreciate it.

Sure there are injustices in the world, and even in the U.S., but freedom guaranteed under the Constitution of the U.S. could be summarized as the pursuit of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. No nation can guarantee happiness since the pursuit of happiness and its successful achievement is a matter of personal choice, and virtue is its own reward. People who live rational, sensible and logical lives have this guarantee of freedom. Obviously those who don't are those who develop anti-social behaviour, who can't live according to law, and who love to find fault with others. In their minds, someone else is always to blame for all adversity that befalls them. Freedom to them translates into the right to sue others whenever adversity in any form is encountered, and the courts always seem willing to oblige. Not surprisingly, vexatious and frivolous litigation has become the norm rather than the exception. It's become the cash-cow of legal firms.

The problem is that this phenomena is not going to go away. Wrongful dismissal, minor accidents, perceived discrimination of one form or another; all of these are cash-cows for the greedy. Not surprisingly, these litigants are usually characterized by low personal achievement in their lives, and in inbuilt desire to get something for nothing. Cunningly, these people usually seek an apology for the perceived wrongs they pretend to have suffered. If an apology is given, then this becomes an admission of guilt and the catalyst for getting litigation underway. While these people seek feigned 'justice', Almighty God has other ideas about the meaning of justice. What is more, God holds the whole nation accountable for lack of justice. And I can tell you this: frivolous lawsuits will come to a very abrupt end as mere survival overrides all other considerations. Perhaps if some of these crazed litigants were forced to watch the Oscar Schindler movie before going into court, they might have a better appreciation of the meaning of rights, privileges and freedom. Perhaps then they might withdraw their frivolous lawsuits and be thankful – but I doubt it!

Those people who didn't appreciate the freedom guaranteed under the Constitution will no longer have such freedoms. At that time, such evolutionary theory as 'survival of the fittest' will be the bane of their existence. There's nothing new under the sun; it has all been done before – and the outcome is largely the same where human beings are concerned. Our Beloved Jesus foresaw times of great trouble culminating at the end of the age. He warned of betrayals, even within families. In saying this, He was quoting from the prophet Micah. This is what Jesus said: **Matt 10:32-36** "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown before my Father in heaven. Do not suppose I came to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn 'a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law – a man's enemies will be the members of his own household'." **V39** "Whoever finds (saves) his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." This is obviously speaking of martyrdom, and the perilous times that will accompany it. And just to relate the importance of the prophets at such a time, Jesus added this: **V40** "He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the One who sent me. Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward. And if anyone gives a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."

It should surprise no-one that when Christ spoke of disowning Him before men, such actions would become rampant in the endtime. So what would qualify as disowning Him? Well, the answer is anything that refutes what He is, or anything He has said.

1. He is the Word of God. So anyone who refutes the Word of God – the recorded Scriptures – is refuting the Christ.

2. He is the Creator. Since He made everything that exists as the assistant at the Father's side, any suggestion that He is not the Creator is classified as disowning Him. And there are plenty of so-called 'Christians' who crave to be considered intelligent and to be admired by their peers, who believe all life evolved as a matter of chance.

3. He is the Christ or Messiah. He is the Mighty Warrior who will restore Israel as the premier nation of earth. This should be self-explanatory to all readers of the Bible! From beginning to end, God set out to shown in the Bible that He plans to create a God Family from faithful and dedicated people. But of course, people have rejected this Christ in favour of a false Christ, and in doing so have fulfilled the Scriptures. The Stone the builders rejected has become the Chief Cornerstone. **Matt 21:42** "Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The Stone the builders rejected

has become the Capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. He who falls on this Stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed." The 'Capstone' is further described as the Chief Cornerstone in **Eph 2:20**. The capstone or chief cornerstone is the uppermost stone in the pyramid shape – the stone that is illuminated on the dollar bill (see inset). You'll notice that at the time that Jesus quoted from **Ps 118:22**, He was speaking to the 'builders' of that time who rejected Him. If you read **Ps 118:22** you will learn a little more about 'salvation' and its true meaning. Those who fall on this Stone – or even the lesser stones – will be broken to pieces. And you are going to see a whole lot of this in the near future. It's a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God! God is a merciful and tolerant God and He makes allowances for offenses committed in ignorance, but those who claim to know the Truth and teach error in defiance of God's Truth have no further sacrifice remaining. That seems fair and just; after all, if they reject the Chief Cornerstone what possible use could they be to Him?

There are plenty of self-proclaimed 'builders' today, but they are not building on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets! Already they seem to have forgotten all about the Stone mentioned by Daniel that most self-proclaimed 'builders' have quoted at some time in their literature. This is the Stone that crushes all the kingdoms represented by the gold, silver, bronze and iron and clay – at the same time (**Dan 2:35, 44**). And this comes at the time of the setting up of the Kingdom of God – yet another glaring deficiency in the doctrine of the 'builders'! So the 'builders' have rejected the Chief Cornerstone – the Rock of Ages; the One who declares the beginning to the end. But He is also the Rock of the New Dawn, who is also described as the Sun of Righteousness: **Mal 4:2** "But for you who revere my Name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in [His] wings." After a long dark night there will be the New Dawn – a time of a new order and a new government: the Kingdom of God. Those who revere God's Name are described in **Mal 3:16**.

The reason that these 'builders' have rejected the Christ is because they have never understood the Scriptures. How could they understand? As long as they were learning from others who were not led by the Spirit of God, they received no enlightenment. Notwithstanding, they were not taught by God. Why is it so hard to understand that all God's sons were taught by God? Why is it so hard to understand that at the most crucial time in all history, God would have sons who would be taught by Him through His Holy Spirit? And these sons were not taught by any man, but accordingly, they were taught as they were led by the Holy Spirit – so there was no avenue open to them to boast. These sons willingly and openly believed God and knew what to expect in the fulfillment of prophecy. Nor did they rush out to try to win converts. Any converts were required to prove they believed God as a first step. If they only wanted to debate the teachings of the 'builders' who had already rejected the Chief Cornerstone, they were obviously not being led by God's Holy Spirit. Virtually all of Christendom falls into this category. Yet many were called but few were chosen (**Matt 22:14**). The chosen ones know what God's instructions are and what is required of them. It's not unlike the later crop who are described in the Book of Revelation as the called, chosen and faithful followers: **Rev 17:14** "They (the Greek/Macedonian king and his armies) will make war with the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because He is the Lord of lords and King of kings – and with Him will be His called, chosen and faithful followers." How could any sane 'builder' imagine that the King of kings will return peacefully and rule by consensus when it's clear that the super-power of the region at that time is to make war with Him? And who is to be with the King of kings when He engages this enemy in this war? It's the called, chosen and faithful followers! Those who have been unfaithful to God have no hope of being there!

God chooses according to the strength of the beliefs of His followers. They must be like Abraham, who believed God and this was credited to him as righteousness (**Rom 4:3, James 2:20-23**). And what a world we live in today! No-one believes anything God says, but choose rather to believe in a doctrine of patent nonsense. I hope you just read **James 2:20-23**, because now you will know that God is not pleased with wishy-washy nonsense of the do-nothing brigade of self-proclaimed 'builders'. Because they have not believed God, they have only one option left: to offer themselves as living sacrifices and go as sheep to the slaughter. Like Abraham, who believed God when he offered his son Isaac for sacrifice, he believed God could raise him from the dead (**Heb 11:19**), and this is the type of faith that will be required by all who hope to be raised from the dead. But as James said, first you must do something, and that something is to offer yourselves as living sacrifices and go as sheep to the slaughter in honour of God's Name. This is your only hope of being chosen for anything.

It's pointless assuming that there is any hope of rewards for doing nothing or perhaps just some periodic lip-service. Even demons believe there is one God and shudder and tremble (**James 2:19**). So even believing there is one God will not get you very far unless you are prepared to serve Him – as His Son Jesus did (**Acts 8:32-33**). And the Apostle Paul made it clear that this option

remained for anyone who desired to follow Jesus and serve God in the same manner (**Rom 8:36-39**). In fact, it's the only option for the Churches of God. They must prove themselves faithful as they face death.

So we are seeing a time of rewards which the Christ will bring with Him. A time, not of peace, but of a sword! A time of betrayal, a time when just a cup of cold water may mean the difference between life or death. And most particularly, a time when disowning Christ before men will bring devastating and justifiable results. It's also a time when a man's enemies will be the members of his own household. Like spoilt brats, people will turn against God when adversity strikes, and what is more, they will blame those who steadfastly hold to the teachings of Jesus and seek to kill them. Such is the madness of hypocrites and venomous vipers!

Jesus was quoting from the prophet Micah, so let's see what Micah says. **Mic 7:1** "What misery is mine! I am like one who gathers summer fruit at the gleanings of the vineyard; there is no cluster of grapes to eat, none of the early figs that I crave. The Godly have been swept from the land; not one upright man remains. All men lie in wait to shed blood; each hunts his brother with a net." There is an interesting inclusion about early figs in Ephraim's Book: **Hos 9:10** "When I found Israel, it was like finding grapes in the desert; when I saw your fathers it was like seeing the early fruit on the fig-tree." The founding fathers of Ephraim were devout men, and have continued to inspire successive generations of Americans to uphold devout principles – though not necessarily to obey all of God's Laws. It's the duty of God's prophet to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to their fathers in order to prevent the utter destruction of life on earth. But praise be to God, He plans to select a new crop of fruit and dispense with the old. And at the time of the rescue, this new crop will remember the principles established by the fathers, which held them in good stead for so long. They will remember the basis on which their nation was founded, and will see the need for similar principles of righteous Law in the Kingdom of God.

As for receiving a prophet's reward, you first have to receive the prophet. Considering the madness that prevails today, people in general are too blind to recognize prophecy and be warned. The Christ never came to bring peace – but a sword! But even the sword won't be recognized until it's at their very throats. So who is God speaking of in the preceding three verses of **Hos 9? V7-9** "The days of punishment are coming, the days of reckoning are at hand. Let Israel know this. Because your sins are so many and your hostility so great, the Prophet is considered a fool, the inspired man a maniac. The Prophet, along with my God, is the Watchman over Ephraim, yet snares await him in all his paths, and hostility in the house of his God." God's prophet is the watchman over Ephraim – which is quite distinct from being a watchman over the Churches of God. The watchman is not particularly interested in the machinations of the Church organizations and their troubled doctrine of lies and deceit. The fact is that God is presently dealing with Ephraim, and the Churches will find themselves caught up in Ephraim's troubles.

While the Churches of God were supposed to be developing into a building or house of God based on the foundation of the Apostles, they've been building on the foundation laid by a worthless shepherd for many years now. They continue to believe that Israel is only of secondary importance, when everything that is written, even from the days of the Patriarchs is to establish all 12 Tribes of Israel in the Holy Land, and to achieve this through the crucible of war – in the same manner as in the days of Moses and Joshua. Members of the Churches of God will only become important when they come to realize they are not important. If this seems to be a contradiction, then they need to shed their arrogance and come to terms with reality. God doesn't choose anyone who is overcome with their own importance. Such people only lead others astray, and the Churches of God have successfully proven this point. Just imagine what would have happened if a Church member had pointed out to the worthless shepherd, Herbert Armstrong that the Church didn't give birth to the male child Jesus (**Rev 12:13**). Such an admission would have utterly destroyed their doctrine of deceit and false hope. It was the House of David that gave birth to Jesus, and Jesus plainly said that He is the root and offspring of David (**Rev 22:16**). As for the House of David, you can read **Zech 12:10-14** and find out who comprise the House of David. It's the Jews and the Levites – the same people who remained faithful to the City of God anciently. These are the obvious choice for the establishment of the House of David and the Kingdom of God.

As you probably well understand by now, the mythical 'place of safety' in 'Petra' in the Moslem heartland was merely fabricated lies and deceit, or at best, wishful thinking. What logical reason would God have for taking the Church to a 'place of safety' when their role is to go as sheep to the slaughter? Did Jesus ever say that because you are of the Church you no longer need to die as He did? No, even in the final meetings with the Apostles, Jesus pointed out to Peter the manner of his death (**John 21:19**). The Apostles all faced death, and only John remained long enough to receive the Book of Revelation (**V22**). The Churches of God need to realize that the days of punishment and the

days of reckoning are at hand – the time of Ephraim's punishment. This is the time that all the prophets spoke of, and this is the time for the Church to be led to slaughter and be killed – and to await the killing of their brothers who are to be killed as they were (Rev 6:11). As much as you had hoped to believe it, there is no free ride to paradise and eternal life.

Just remember one thing. Jesus didn't have to die! At any moment He could have requested 12 legions of angels to wipe out His enemies: **Matt 26:53** “Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and He will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen this way?” Jesus set the example for all His offspring that they must be like Him! They must be prepared to be living sacrifices! Down through the ages, men have suffered many horrific deaths, frequently preceded by unthinkable torture. The English had a whole raft of officially sanctioned tortures which were conducted in public. The most horrific of these were reserved for the act of treason. ‘Hung, drawn and quartered’ and ‘broken on the wheel’ were just a few of the many nasty acts of retribution shown towards charged felons, and much of it was conducted in a carnival atmosphere in public. Consider the outcome if any of these felons had the option of calling on 12 legions of angels to rescue them. They would surely have exercised that option! So it's no small matter that someone who had that option would refuse to exercise it, and choose rather to suffer the ignominy of torture and death. And this is what makes the greatest sacrifice of all so spectacularly great. Jesus had this option to save Himself, but chose death and humiliation rather than fail His Father. He knew that if He endured this death, then God would raise Him from the dead.

By showing this type of faithfulness, Jesus demonstrated that human beings could put service to God before all else. In the right circumstances, they could shed the shackles of the reasoning of Satan and his cronies, and see the vision of everlasting peace in God's Kingdom. Like Jesus, they would see the greater vision of suffering ignominy for a greater cause. It's a question of whether they believe God is the Rewarder of those who diligently seek Him – just as He was in the case of His Son Jesus.

So it's a question of faith – the type of faithfulness that Abraham had, which earned him the title of Father of the Faithful. Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his only (to use God's emphasis) son Isaac – believing that God was able to raise him from the dead (**Heb 11:19**). Being the father of the faithful, we must look to Abraham as a father and hold to his faithfulness that God is able to raise us from the dead. When God speaks of Abraham's only son, He is making a clear distinction between Ishmael – who was born to the slave woman Hagar, and Isaac who was born to Sarah. Ishmael, of course, is the father of the Arabs and his offspring have no part of the inheritance of Abraham and his son Isaac. Through perversion of the Scriptures, the descendants of Ishmael, namely Islam, have promoted Ishmael to the ranks of Isaac, and now claim his inheritance. But again and again, God has confirmed that they will not share in the inheritance of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The Arabs father Ishmael is not even considered by God to be the son of Abraham! And God makes this distinction very clear: **Isa 51:1-7** “Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn; look to Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who gave you birth. When I called him he was but one, and I blessed him and made him many.” So for all those who don't believe that the offspring of Abraham and Sarah are important, and don't believe that these are the heirs of the Kingdom of God, then they're in for a rude awakening. When the shockwave hits, such people will be left bewildered and will realize that their faith was based on nothing at all. Those who have rejected their father Abraham and Sarah as their mother will realize they have rejected the only people God ever chose from all the families of the earth (**Amos 3:1-2**) – the progeny of Abraham and Sarah! In the despair of what they face, they will need to look to Abraham and Sarah in order to get their priorities right. Even now, they should realize that the descendants of Ishmael are their enemy and are plotting on a global scale to take their lives. Seven years ago, **Zion Ministry** was warning of this, and was met by howls of ridicule, abuse and derision from all the self-righteous and sanctimonious religious charlatans, whose only objective is to draw a following after them. And their drawcard was the promise of ‘salvation’ for doing nothing. Salvation, they insisted, was merely a transition from one state to another, with no intermediate consequences. They insisted that this transition would occur in an instant under their auspices. All their followers had to do was to believe them. And this is the present state of Christianity! They believe their leaders but refuse to believe God! They continue to mischaracterize the meaning of ‘salvation’ and have made the whole panorama of God's purpose look petty.

But God's purpose is not petty, and the whole world is about to find this out! The Kingdom of God will be established in a political climate of horror and destruction. Political and religious ideologies have played right into the hands of Satan and the rulers of the heavenly realms and have accelerated the acceptance of their mentality. Considering the vile excesses of promiscuity and justification of anti-social behaviour that is now considered normal, could anyone possibly imagine that

the present-day descendants of Abraham are ready for the Kingdom of God and the legal system that would accompany it? Most of the legislation that has been enacted in America in the past 50 years would have to be repealed to even start the process of reconciling the legal system with God's Law.

Naturally enough, God doesn't plan to put new wine into old wineskins, and neither will He modify failing law systems that, as future generations will testify to, have led to the destruction of mighty nations by effectively removing God's favour. The shallow, baseless ideas of God's salvation preached by worthless men posing as shepherds will quickly wither when the real storm begins, and people will seek answers. They will not find the answers in such worthless doctrines. At that time they will get the answers from the ones who know what is right; from people who have God's Law in their hearts. But the hearers of the news will not be willing to accept it. Rather they will reproach their teachers and hurl insults at them. It will be just as Isaiah says: Continuing in the Book of Isaiah: **Isa 51:3** "The LORD will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; He will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of singing. "Listen to me, my people; hear me, my nation: The law will go out from me; my justice will become a light to the nations. My righteousness draws near speedily, my SALVATION is on the way, and my arm will bring justice to the nations. The islands will look to me and wait in hope for my arm. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies. But my salvation will last forever, my righteousness will never fail. Hear me, you who know what is right, you people who have my law in your hearts: Do not fear the reproach of men or be terrified by their insults."

It's not as if God has been secretive about these things. He has spelt it all out in the pages of the Bible, but men have refused to believe Him. When life is good and people live in safety and prosperity, they don't much care for God's warnings about impending doom. In America today, where God's eyes are focused out of consideration for the 'lost sheep of Israel', the American people have concentrated on building a lifestyle acceptable to all. Regardless of what excesses are proposed, somehow they are all accommodated on the presumption that 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness' is an individual right of choice and the right of everyone to do as they please. Not only are all types of lifestyles accepted, but now the 'cultures' of depraved people are actively being encouraged. While God says: 'Learn not the way of the heathen', legislators insist that the way of the heathen even be taught in the schools. God doesn't intend to waste good wine on these old and decrepit wineskins. God's wine gladdens the hearts of believers, but Satan's wine sends his brood mad. And all who drink of the cup of Satan will go mad and bring about their own demise. But the wine of the Cup of the Christ will offer hope to all that drink it. And if they endure to the end, they will be rescued.

Imperceptibly, the wine of Satan has been intoxicating the whole House of Israel, and we are now seeing the rampant excesses of people who no longer know their God. They knew a new millennium had begun and thought that the greatest consideration was 'the millennium computer bug'. I had to laugh when foolish 'shepherds' tried to imply that this had something to do with prophecy. If they had even the merest knowledge of computers, they would have known that this was just an elaborate ploy to extract money from corporations who were convinced they were vulnerable. What a hoax that was! No, the New Millennium ushered in something more realistic than this. It was the fulfillment of the six millennial days allotted to Satan and his rulers, and as the example of the Seventh Day Sabbath indicates, it was the beginning of God's Seventh Millennial Day. This was the Day that all the prophets and Apostles spoke of; the culmination of all that is written. It's the time of The New Order, as the Book of Hebrews puts it (**Heb 9:10**), and a time of global changes to the scheme of all things. Those who are caught unawares will have everything swept away, and will suddenly find themselves in want of all things. Those who have held others captive through false hope and doctrine will be the first to turn against their Creator and blame Him for everything (**Isa 8:21**).

We of the Brotherhood of the Sons of Jerusalem (**Zion Ministry**) observed plenty of this type of thing among those who thought of themselves as some 'great ones', who craved the approbation of men. We observed these creatures arguing their favourite doctrine from the Bible for months and years, all of which was designed to obscure God's Truth. They howled and raged against us, but when all we have said and taught came true in complete accordance with Bible Prophecy, these creatures turned against God and became atheists, and now offer their spurious arguments to discredit their Creator. On the authority of God, the consequences of their actions will be catastrophic. 'Olde English justice' will seem like a cakewalk! This is God's Holy Day: the Seventh Millennium, and what went unpunished in previous generations is now held to a full accounting. It's a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the Living God! These evil creatures had the opportunity to learn and increase their dimly low enlightenment, but chose to go the other way rather than admit their own errors. But misery loves

company, and so they sought to corrupt others and make them twice the sons of hell as they are. They would have been better off taking Jesus advice and putting a millstone around their necks and casting themselves into the sea (**Matt 18:6**).