

# The Bride of Satan

*(Special note: Just as this article was concluding, all hell broke loose in America as Islamic terrorists struck at the heart of American commerce, inflicting devastating destruction against many innocent Americans. This article was meant to be a warning against the Bride of Satan to coincide with the Feast of Trumpets. Instead, it has become self-fulfilling prophecy).*

**By Neville V. Stevens**

**New International Version used throughout unless otherwise specified.**

Satan has never been under any illusions about who God's chosen people are. It's the bane of his existence that God has chosen only the descendants of Jacob – the 12 Tribes of Israel. This is what God says: **Amos 3:1** “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.” It's very clear that only the people that God brought out of Egypt in the time of Moses are His people – and no-one else! That's the way it is, and it will never change! God has made His choice.

And let's be very clear on the fact that God had decided to send the Holy Seed into slavery long before Jacob and his sons were even born. **Gen 15:12** “As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him, “Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and ill-treated four hundred years. But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterwards they will come out with great possessions.”

Why would God resolve to do such a thing? Surely, the unborn descendants of Abraham were not guilty of anything to deserve this. Yet it was not optional and there was no way to avoid it. God had said, ‘Know for certain...’ that I will do these things.

In time, Jacob was born to Isaac, and had 12 sons. Jacob's name was changed to Israel, and his 12 sons were called the ‘Sons of Israel.’ And sure enough, they all found themselves living in Egypt, and eventually became slaves to the Egyptians. At the fullness of the Gentiles, and true to His Word, God led them out of Egypt with great possessions. God had mentioned to Abraham the circumstance involving the ‘fullness of the Gentiles’ – who were predominantly ‘Amorites’ at the time: **V16** “In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not reached full measure.” It was God's intention to allow the Gentiles to reach the full measure of their evil, and to bring the 12 Tribes against them to destroy them. These were certainly long-term goals! Effectively, they required hundreds of years to be fulfilled.

All this seemed like a good deal to the Israelites when they left Egypt. They had departed with great wealth, and now they were to be given a country of their own – the very land that God gave to Abraham. They only caveat was, that they utterly destroy the Gentiles – collectively called the Amorites – who presently occupied the Holy Land. No doubt every man of fighting age busily prepared his sword and shield, bows and arrows, slingshots and spears, and readied themselves for war. But their enthusiasm turned to dismay when they saw the size of their adversaries. They were giants, and the men who were sent to spy out the territory reported that they were like grasshoppers in comparison. All except Joshua and Caleb. Joshua was an Ephraimite, and Caleb was a Jew. No Levite was sent with the spies. Joshua and Caleb urged their leaders to go in and possess the land and to disregard the enormous size of their adversary. The size, power, and numerical odds of their adversary was not a factor in comparison to the great Power of God – they urged. But the House of Israel remained unconvinced. Against a nation of dwarfs they would happily oblige, but a nation of giants was another matter entirely. So they refused, and for forty years their bodies fell in the wilderness, and they were refused admission to the Holy Land.

## **THE 12 TRIBES OF ISHMAEL (THE ARABS)**

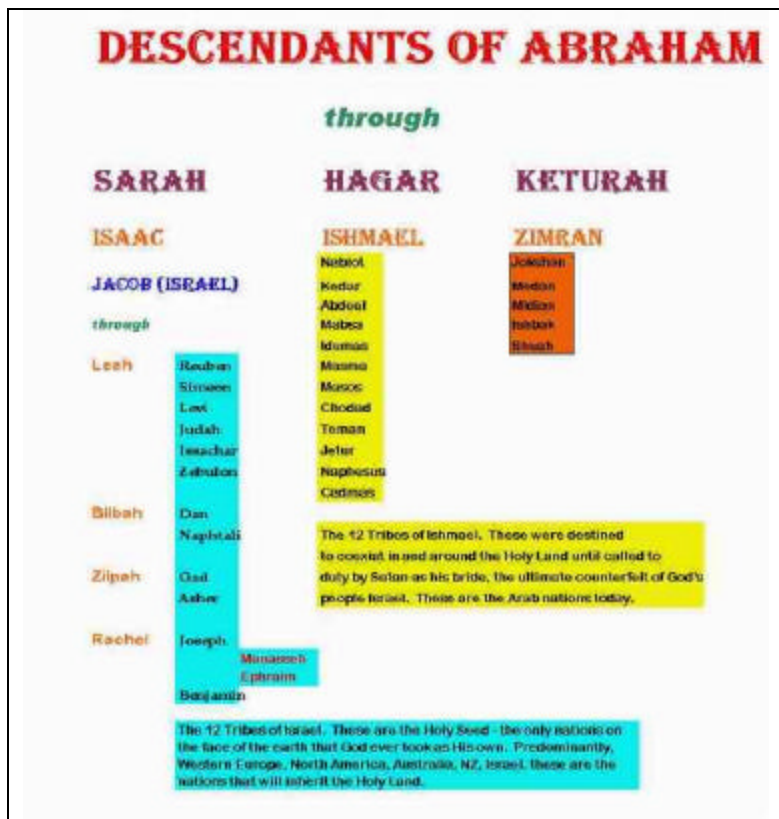
To the south-east of the Holy Land a great nation was flourishing. This nation was also made up of 12 tribes – each tribe powerful in its own right. These were the 12 tribes of Ishmael – known forever afterwards as the Arabs. The circumstances under which these 12 tribes of Arabs came into existence is well-documented in the Bible. At the age of 86, Sarah asked her husband Abraham to sleep with her Egyptian handmaiden Hagar in order to raise children to her. It was an act of love for a woman to produce offspring for her husband, and Sarah wanted to fulfill this. She knew that her husband was to sire offspring

equal to the stars in the heavens (**Gen 15:4**) because the LORD had confirmed this. This dear, sweet woman sought to fulfill this, even though the child would not be from her own womb.

So the Egyptian Hagar became pregnant and began to despise Sarah, and provoked her to anger and despair. Sarah took her grief to Abraham who told her to do whatever she thought best to the slave-girl. So Sarah ill-treated Hagar until she fled. This may have been the end of Hagar and her unborn child as far as history is concerned, except that God had a purpose in mind. And this purpose had been set in the Garden of Eden with these words: **Gen 3:14** “So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, “Cursed are you above all livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And **I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head and you will strike his heel.**” So what has this got to do with Hagar and Ishmael? Far more than you could ever guess! Firstly, the woman spoken of here is Eve – the mother of all living. Theoretically, Eve is the mother of every human who has ever lived, yet God makes a distinction **between her seed and the seed of the serpent.**

Sarah, on the other hand, is the mother of all the Godly offspring – the only people God chose of all the families on the face of the earth. But at the crucial time of the birth of the Promised Nations of God, Hagar gave birth to a son, and here God gives a similar eulogy of what will be: **Gen 16:8** “And he said, “Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?” “I’m running away from my mistress Sarai,” she answered. Then the angel of the LORD told her, “Go back to your mistress and submit to her.” The angel added, “I will so increase your descendants that they will be too numerous to count.” The angel of the LORD also said to her: “You are with child and you will have a son. You shall name him Ishmael, for the LORD has heard your misery. **He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone’s hand against him, and he will live in hostility towards all his brothers.**”

Ishmael was 13 years old when God appeared to Abraham to confirm that he and Sarah would have a son. Abraham was already 99 years of age, and Sarah was 90. **Gen 17:15** “God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and I will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be **the Mother of Nations**; kings of peoples will come from her.” Abraham fell face down; he laughed and said to himself, “Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety? And Abraham said to God, “If only Ishmael might live under your blessings.” In view of their ages, Abraham wondered if it might not be a whole lot easier to bless Ishmael. But God was adamant! Sarah would have a son! **V19** “Then God said, “Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. **I will establish my Covenant with him as an everlasting Covenant for his descendants after him.** And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: I will surely bless him, and will **make him fruitful** and **greatly increase his numbers.** He will be **a father of 12**



The Arabs developed a satanic religion called Islam and thrust it on the world as the ultimate counterfeit of God's Great Plan. They even injected 'satanic verses' into the Scriptures in an attempt to supplant Isaac with Ishmael as the line of Holy Seed.

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rulers, and I will make him a great nation. But my Covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you by this time next year.”

So Ishmael was to become a father of 12 rulers and a great nation, but God made it clear that His Covenant would be through Isaac only. Now this really created enmity or hatred between these two.

The nine degrees of the Ismaeli system was compiled from several sources. One is Edward G. Browne's 'A literary History of Persia, vol. 1, pp. 410-15. His account is based on that of the Muslim historian an-Nuwayri, who wrote circa 1332 and who cites as his source the tenth century anti-Fatimid Ismaeli Akhu Muhsin. Joseph Von Hammer-Purgstall's 'The History of the Assassins', pp 26-29, and De Lacy O'Leary's 'A Short History of the Fatimid Khalifate' (1923; reprint, Delhi: Renaissance Publishing House, 1987), pp. 21-32. Samuel M. Stern's 'Studies in Early Ismaelism' contains an important discussion of the matter in the chapter entitled 'The Book of the Highest Initiation and Other Anti-Ismaeli Travesties'. (Excerpts from 'The Templars and the Assassins' by James Wasserman, publ. 2001.)

At the time of the weaning of Isaac, the proud mother Sarah noticed Ishmael was mocking and asked Abraham to get rid of him and his mother. **Gen 21:8** "The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, and she said to Abraham, "Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance of my son Isaac." The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son. But God said to him, "Do not be distressed about the boy and your maidservant. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because

it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. I will make

## **THE NINE DEGREES OF ISLAM**

### **First Degree**

Upon the taking of the oath of allegiance and the presentation of an offering to seal the oath, the seeker would be admitted to the first degree of the Ismaili mysteries, in which he accepted that the revelations of the Koran have a superior esoteric meaning, the *batin*, which might be opened to him through contact with a divinely inspired and authorized interpreter. This was the longest degree because the breakdown of past faith would need to be accomplished and its progress carefully observed.

### **Second Degree**

Next the disciple would be shown, and asked to accept, the error of the Sunni teaching and its inadequacy to answer meaningful spiritual questions. He would also be taught to suspend his own interpretation of the truth in favour of the teaching of the Imam or his direct representative, the *dai*, whose grasp of truth was superior to his own. This degree was the natural stopping place for the majority of converts.

### **Third Degree**

In this degree, the seeker learned the Kabbalistic mysteries of the number seven, which included the seven heavens, seven planets, seven colours, seven metals, and so on. He was taught that this mystery applied to the seven divine Ismaeli teachers, the *Imams*, whose names he would now learn, along with the esoteric words of power by which their aid might be invoked. This level forever separated the student from the more widespread Shiite community that recognized twelve *Imams*.

### **Fourth Degree**

The seeker was next taught that God chose to reveal Himself through seven prophets. The line included Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, Muhammad, and Ismail (or *Muhammad ibn Ismail*). The acceptance of a Prophet following Muhammad was the highest heresy to the Sunnis, among whose most rigorous articles of faith is the belief that Muhammad is the last prophet. Thus the finality of the Koran as the ultimate revelation of God's Laws *was denied*.

### **Fifth Degree**

Here the *dai* revealed that the literal interpretation of the Koran was fit only for the uninstructed masses, those who were unprepared to penetrate the *batin* with the guidance of the *Imam*. The Sunni observances of Shariah were described as steeped in ignorance of the esoteric meaning behind the concepts. A doctrine of twelve apostles extending the true faith was taught, backed up with mathematical and numerological teachings concerning the mysteries of the number twelve, including the twelve signs of the zodiac, twelve months, twelve tribes of Israel, and so on. Practical magical use of the kabbalistic knowledge was taught.

### **Sixth Degree**

Only the most advanced and discreet disciples could proceed to this level, because here they were instructed to abandon Muslim observances altogether, including prayer, fasting, and pilgrimage. These were to be performed only for reasons of social expediency. Their purpose was declared meaningless, designed solely for the subjection of the masses, while there was an allegorical meaning to these practices from which only the wise could profit. The philosophical teachings of Pythagoras, Plato, and Aristotle were introduced, and the use of reason to test religious truth was endorsed. A sixth-degree initiate could become a *dai* himself.

### **Seventh Degree**

The very few who were admitted to this degree passed from philosophy to mysticism. The dualistic doctrine of first and second causes (the preexistent and the subsequent) was taught, which challenged the belief in divine unity. Initiates of the seventh degree studied Aristotle's theory of eternal matter. Creation was explained to be the introduction of movement into matter, which produced time and change.

### **Eighth Degree**

Here the superfluity of exoteric religious doctrine was further examined. The relativity of morality and consequent indifference of action (or absence of absolute values) were proclaimed. The teachings of this degree further elaborated on the two principles introduced earlier. The nameless first cause is what we know as God. The thought of God is an emanation that becomes the second cause, the Logos, acting as a mediator between God and man. The existence of a formless, nameless, unknowable being anterior to and beyond all previous dualistic conceptions was introduced.

### **Ninth Degree**

Here the rare initiate studied in depth the Greek Gnostic cosmological teachings of the soul, the heavens, and the celestial intelligences. The ninth degree Ismaili was a pure philosopher, a law unto himself. The teaching within this degree is the source of the oft-quoted statement attributed to Hasan-I-Sabah: "Nothing is true, everything is permitted." It is reflected in the modern revelation proclaimed through the twentieth-century English magus Aleister Crowley: "Do what thou wilt shall be the whole Law." It assumes a level of ego surrender and *moral austerity* concomitant with a successful search for spiritual truth in which the initiate may at last rely on his own perceptions for an understanding of his mission.

the son of the maidservant into a nation also, because he is your offspring.” While Ishmael was Abraham’s son, it is **through Isaac that Abraham’s offspring is reckoned**. And God made this abundantly clear in **Gen 22:12** “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” He said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your **ONLY** son.” Here God confirms that **Isaac** is Abraham’s **ONLY** son! **And only through Isaac would Abraham’s offspring be reckoned.**

Islam has thrust its deception on the whole world. Righteous men of old took up arms against these Islamic hordes and drove them out of Europe. From the days of Mohammed himself, sane and sensible men have identified them as the epitome of evil. Yet today, some imagine that peace can be negotiated with them. They have always been lying deceivers and will continue to be until they are wiped from the earth. And God intends to lump all their sympathizers with them and wipe them from the earth as well. It’s hardly surprising that God speaks of their forefather Ishmael, and says: **Gen 16:12** “**He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone’s hand against him, and he will live in hostility towards all his brothers.**” Doesn’t this perfectly describe the Arabs today? And Islam in particular?

The modus operandi of Islam today is to lie and deceive, to destroy and desecrate, and always to deny culpability. The consummate example of a **wild donkey of a man** is Yasser ‘*don’t try to read my lips*’ Arafat. Only wild donkeys would have such a stumbling, bumbling fool as their spokesman. Here is a man who, by his own admission is a terrorist. He engineered the destruction of a number of commercial airlines – he is a murderer! What sane and rational government would negotiate peace with him? The late King Hussein of Jordan negotiated no less than 22 agreements with these mindless terrorists, and even while the ink was still wet, they broke them. Finally, King Hussein turned his armies on them – a veritable bloodbath – and drove them from his country. Learn a lesson from King Hussein!

The House of Israel is running out of time! They need to start learning some lessons very quickly now! The House of Israel are to be the recipients of the Power and Glory that God has appointed for them. He plans to bring them back to the Land that He promised to give to Abraham. The boundaries of that Land will continue to expand forever and fill the whole earth and beyond. But there are lessons to be learned first. Not the least of which is obedience to God and His Laws. Those who refuse are squarely in Satan’s court, and will be treated as his offspring. The whole history of the Bible magnifies either life or death – life for the obedient, and death for the disobedient. Almighty God will ensure that rebellion never arises again.

### **THE BRIDE OF CHRIST**

God has appointed a Bride for His Righteous Son. He describes this Bride as Jerusalem: **Rev 21:9** “One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “***Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.***” And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and **showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem**, coming out of heaven from God.” Jerusalem is further describes as a beautiful bejeweled City of brilliant light with 12 gates **representing the 12 Tribes of Israel** (**V12** – ***which is a smack in the eye for all those who say that God has abandoned His people Israel!***) The wall of the City has 12 foundations, which represent the 12 Apostles – the faithful servants of the Lamb. These foundations were laid to reflect the faithful obedience of these men of God, who served the Father and His Christ without compromise.

#### **So this is the Bride of Christ!**

And why does God refer to this City, which will descend from heaven, as Jerusalem? Surely Jerusalem is the City in the Holy Land that God promised to the Patriarchs. Of course, these Scriptures are speaking of a **New** Jerusalem! There is a growing tendency to assume that Jerusalem, the present Holy City of God, has no relevance today, and that everyone should sit tight and await the New Jerusalem from heaven. Yet Almighty God speaks of the present-day Jerusalem in the Holy Land and says this: **Isa 54:11** “O afflicted City, lashed by storms and not comforted, I will build you with stones of turquoise, your foundations with sapphires. I will make your battlements of rubies, your gates of sparkling jewels, and all your walls of precious stones. **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.**” In a practical world we know that armies don’t surrender to **inferior** forces! They surrender because they recognize **superior** forces!

Here we find the afflicted City, lashed by storms and not comforted. But God tells us the precise time when this city will be comforted – together with its people! **Isa 40:1** “**Comfort, comfort my people,** says your God. **Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,** and **proclaim to her** that her hard service has been



completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD'S hand double for all her sins." It's worth noting that God is speaking here of **Jerusalem and her people**. God instructs someone to **proclaim to her** this message. And who is to do this **proclaiming**? God tells us in the very next verse: **V3** "A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. **Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall be made level, the rugged places a plain. And the Glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind shall see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.**"

It was John the Baptist who later spoke these words at the beginning of his ministry. He didn't fulfill all that is spoken here, because God didn't intend him to. But he did come in the Spirit and Power of Elijah. God intended for another man to arrive on the scene who would understand the meaning of mountains being leveled, and valleys being filled. It's this man who is told to **cry out** and **proclaim** God's Truth. **And he receives his instructions directly from, and is taught by, God**. Notice the instructions he receives: **V6** "A voice says, "**Cry out.**" And I said, "**What shall I cry?**" "All men are grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, **but the Word of our God stands for ever.**" Just a minor point, but a very important one! This man alone (and his brothers and sisters) believes that **the Word of our God stands forever!** Everyone else believes that most of prophecy has been fulfilled, and what they don't understand is of no importance anyway. The catchcry today is to let the 'Gospel' be preached to all the world, and wait for Christ to explain prophecy when He returns. They forget that prophecy is not prophecy after the event – it's history!

So what is this man to cry out and proclaim? It's something that is very controversial in this mad world. He's to proclaim that all men are grass. He's to proclaim that they're like the flowers of the field that wither and die under the breath of the Almighty. He's a man who has no regard whatsoever for the enemies of God! Everyone, apart from the House of Israel (and those who have been grafted in) are the enemies of God. And while all of Christianity is saying that everyone who has ever lived are God's people, and all will be resurrected to receive glory or damnation, this man is saying the very opposite – because he firmly believes that **the Word of God stands forever**. And what does the Word of God say on this matter? Here it is in **V17** "**Before Him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by Him as worthless and less than nothing.**"

It's outrageous that the Churches of God continue to teach that the whole world is God's people by proxy. In the early part of their reforming of Truth under the shepherd that God appointed for them, they understood that God had chosen only the 12 Tribes of Israel that He brought out of Egypt as His own of all the families on the earth (**Amos 3:1-2**). How quickly they forget. While the fortunes of the Church of God waxed and waned over the past **seventy years**, today it's in full retreat from Truth. The great falling-away is now in full swing with everyone trying outdo everyone else with sanctimonious dribble. The legacy of that man Armstrong has almost run its allotted course of **three score years and ten**. Considering the appalling conduct of the past few years, it can only get worse from here.

So does **the Word of God stand forever** or not? Didn't the **earlier prophets** warn of what it would be like? Hasn't God made clear the foolishness of people who **don't believe His Word stands forever**?

Almighty God gives numerous examples of all that He plans to do, and makes known things that are to come. He confirms that all that was spoken through the earlier prophets still stands. **Zech 7:4** "Then the Word of the LORD came to me: "Ask all the people of the land and the priests, 'When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh months **for the past seventy years**, was it really for me that you fasted? And when you were eating and drinking, were you not just feasting for yourselves? Are these not **the Words the LORD proclaimed** through **the earlier prophets** when Jerusalem and its surrounding towns were at rest and prosperous, and the Negev and the western foothills were settled?'" And the Word of the LORD came again to Zechariah: "This is what the LORD Almighty says: '**Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the alien or the poor. In your hearts do not think evil of one another. But they stubbornly refused to pay attention; stubbornly they turned their backs and stopped their ears. They made their hearts as hard as flint and would not listen to the Law or to the Words the Almighty had sent by His Spirit through the earlier prophets.** So the LORD was very angry. '**When I called, they would not listen; so when they called, I would not listen,**' says the LORD Almighty. 'I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations, where they were strangers. The land was left desolate behind them, and no-one could come and go. This is how they made the land desolate.'"

Why does God use this example? He's clearly making a reference to a preexisting condition. He's warning that by failing to listen to His Words spoken through **the earlier prophets** He would not listen when they call out to Him. He gave them **seventy years** to come to their senses!

For the benefit of those who are beginning to understand prophecy, God continues to speak, but this time He puts His stamp of authority on everything He says! Continuing in the next verse: **Zech 8:1** "Again the Word of the LORD came to me. **This is what the LORD Almighty says:** "I am very jealous for Zion; I am burning with jealousy for her." **This is what the LORD says:** "I will return to Zion and dwell in Jerusalem. Then **Jerusalem** will be called **The City of Truth**, and the mountain of the LORD Almighty will be called **The Holy Mountain.**" **This is what the LORD Almighty says:** "Once again men and women of ripe old age will sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with a cane in his hand because of his age. The city will be filled with boys and girls playing there." **This is what the LORD Almighty says:** "It may seem marvelous to the remnant of this people at that time, but will it seem marvelous to me?" declares the LORD Almighty. **This is what the LORD Almighty says:** "I will **save** my people from the countries of the east and west. I will bring them back to live in Jerusalem; they will be my people, and I will be faithful and righteous to them as their God." **This is what the LORD Almighty says:** "You who now hear these words spoken by the prophets who were there when the foundation was laid for the house of the LORD Almighty, let your hands be strong so that the Temple may be built. Before that time, there were no wages for man or beast. No-one could go about his business safely because of his enemy, for **I had turned every man against his neighbour.** But now I will not deal with the remnant of this people as I did in the past," declares the LORD Almighty. "The seed will grow well, the vine will yield its fruit, the ground will produce its crops, and the heavens will drop their dew. I will give all these things as an **inheritance** to the remnant of this people. As you have been an object of cursing among the nations, **O Judah and Israel**, so will I **save** you, and you will be a blessing. Do not be afraid, but **let your hands be strong.**"

Here we see that God confirms that He will **save** both **Judah and Israel**. And all their fortunes will hinge on Jerusalem and Judah. **V14** "**This is what the LORD Almighty says:** "Just as I had determined to bring disaster upon you, and showed no pity when your fathers angered me," says the LORD Almighty, "so now I have determined to do good again to **Jerusalem and Judah**. Do not be afraid. These are the things you are to do: **Speak the truth to each other**, and render true and sound judgments in your courts; do not plot evil against your neighbour, and do not love to swear falsely. I hate all this," declares the LORD."

It may seem hard to bear for some people, who have imagined that salvation was a stroll in the park, and a foregone conclusion. The reality is quite different! Almighty God has seen fit to remind everyone once more of His instructions through **the earlier prophets**. In other words, it is time to start **speaking the truth to each other**, and forsaking the madness of false prophets and teachers who understand absolutely nothing because they haven't listened to **the earlier prophets**.

And for all those who hate the Jews, God has some surprises for you. Salvation really will be of the Jews – just as Christ said. Leaders will emerge from among the Jews. This is what God says: **Zech 9:6** "Foreigners will occupy Ashdod, and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines (Palestinians today). I will take the blood from their mouths and the forbidden food from between their teeth. **Those who are left will belong to our God and become leaders in Judah....**" Believe me when I say there will be no Philistines left,

Notice that God says through **the earlier prophets** that He had **turned every man against his neighbour**. One of the later Prophets also confirmed that this is what He came to do. This is Christ, and this is what He said: **Matt 10:34** "Do not suppose that I have come 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 those of his own household." In saying this, Christ was quoting from **the earlier prophets: Micah 7:6** "**The day of your watchmen has come; the day God visits you.** Now is **the time of their confusion**. Do not trust **a neighbour**; put no confidence in **a friend**. Even with her that lies in your embrace be careful of your words. **For a son dishonours his father, a daughter rises up against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law – a man's enemies are the members of his own household.**"

The earlier prophet confirms this to be **the Day of the Watchmen; the Day God visits you**. And also adds that this is **the time of their confusion**. Confusion seems to be endemic among Christianity today! But believe this: confusion is set to reach monumental proportions unless you begin realizing who the real enemy is!

The summer is a time for harvesting, and Micah speaks of gathering fruit: **Micah 7:1** "What misery is mine! I am like one who gathers summer fruit at the gleaning 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.** Both hands are skilled in doing evil; the ruler demands gifts, the judge accepts bribes, the powerful dictate what they desire – they all conspire together. **The best of them is like a brier, the most upright worse than a thorn hedge.**"

And this is what Christ meant when He said **He didn't come to bring peace, but a sword**. And everyone will be in serious trouble for not listening to **the earlier prophets!** But now is the **Day of the Watchmen!** And this is **the Day God visits**, but because of the **confused** state of mind of the vast majority, they won't recognize Him!

only their captives – the Jews! These will **belong to God** and become **leaders in Judah**. God adds this: **V8** “But I will defend my House against marauding forces. **Never again** will an oppressor overrun my people, **for now I am keeping watch.**”

Zechariah again speaks of the **leaders of Judah** and again confirms that God is **keeping watch on that day**, which is still to come: **Zech 12:4** “**On that day** I will strike every horse with panic and its rider with madness,” declares the LORD. “I will keep **a watchful eye over the House of Judah**, and I will blind all **the horses of the nations**. Then the **leaders of Judah** will say in their hearts, ***The people of Jerusalem are strong, because the LORD Almighty is their God.***”

When the **leaders of Judah** come to the realization that **the people of Jerusalem** are **strong** and **the LORD Almighty is their God**, they will understand the fundamental mistakes that led them into captivity. They will see the Palestinians falling like nine-pins all around them and they alone left standing. They will understand that this is the Mighty Power of God, and they will understand the meaning of being **strong**. Bear in mind that God counsels **both Judah and Israel** to be **strong (Zech 8:13)**. But it’s **Judah** that is called to service with the **Sons of Jerusalem** (the people of Jerusalem). They and the Levites will dwell together to bring the promised salvation to the whole House of Israel – all those still left alive. The great rescue (**salvation**) will begin! God says this: **Zech 9:13** “**I will bend Judah as I bend my bow and fill it with Ephraim**. I will rouse **your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece**, and make you like a **warrior’s sword**.”

Judah will be filled with Ephraim and the two will be joined to become one stick in God’s hand with which He will flay the nations. But the fight against **Greece** will be the **Sons of Jerusalem’s fight**. There are reasons for this, which will be given at another time.

Amid all these announcements of wonderful outcomes, God changes to another subject – an ominous subject, and a severe indictment against the shepherds of Israel. This is how He leads into the subject: **Zech 10:1** “Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who makes the storm clouds. He gives showers of rain to men, and plants of the field to everyone. The **idols speak deceit, diviners see visions that lie; they tell dreams that are false, they give comfort in vain**. Therefore the people wander like sheep oppressed for lack of a shepherd. **My anger burns against the shepherds, and I will punish the leaders**; for the LORD Almighty will care for **His flock, the House of Judah**, and make them **like a proud horse in battle. From Judah will come the cornerstone, from him the tent-peg, from him the battle-bow, from him every ruler**. Together they will be **like mighty men** trampling the muddy streets in battle. Because the LORD is with them, **they will fight and overthrow the horsemen**.” What a contrast between **the shepherds of the flock** and **the House of Judah!** The shepherds are considered worthless with their **lying visions** and **false dreams**, and their stupidity in **giving comfort in vain**. And there is also the question of **idols that speak lies and deceit**. This is to be the big test, and if you fail this test you will die in the lake of fire! So says Almighty God! The deal offered by Satan and his henchmen will be that whoever bows down to the image of the beast will be spared. Now this will sound like a good deal to the cowardly shepherds who teach their wishy-washy doctrine, and who will **never trample the streets like mighty men**. God has already condemned these men and their fate awaits them. They continue to lie in God’s name and **give comfort in vain**. When they try to comfort you to disobey God to save your lives, be aware that you will have a second death to face – in a raging fire!

And what of God’s mighty son Ephraim? And whether you like it or not, Ephraim is God’s son (**Jer 31:9, 20**). God’s mighty son Ephraim is supposed to gore the nations to the ends of the earth! (**Deut 33:17**). But sappy, weak leaders have allowed atrocities to continue without redress. Remember the U.S. embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania? Remember the bombing of the USS Cole? These were acts of war! What’s it going to take to see the American people get off their butts and execute some summary justice to these disgusting Moslem scum? Are they waiting for a few more embassies and ships to be blown up?

Ephraim has been appointed to deliver a deadly blow to Islam, a blow so severe that it would seem to be fatal. It will take all the power of a master strategist called ‘Death’ to heal this deadly wound and to rally the Islamic scum once more. This is not a war of writs, subpoenas and charge sheets, God expects Ephraim to use the great power He has given them. The time has come to be strong – not weak! The problem with Ephraim is, they continue to listen to the lying, faggoty, so-called Christian ministry who instill weakness into everyone. When Ephraim goes to war, they go as the **‘armies of the Living God’** just as David said! God demands an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth! Get your act together, America, and stop being weak. You have a strong leader – start supporting him! Islam is Satan’s instrument of death – you never negotiate with Satan’s hordes! Ephraim has a bad habit of turning back on the day of battle

because they don't understand God's Laws and His requirements of His people (**Ps 78:9-10**). They turned back and refused to conclude total victory over Saddam Hussein and the vile Iraqis. When are they going to be strong and start acting like the '**armies of the Living God**'? Well, God reveals that the Jewish people will, just as soon as they learn their lesson and start listening to the Sons of Jerusalem!

Perhaps the reader is not aware of the significance of the New Jerusalem being called the Bride of Christ, and the Holy City Jerusalem on earth today being the very embryo of the Bride of Christ. But this is what the Scriptures are talking about. When God speaks of present-day Jerusalem, He is speaking of the City and the people that bear His Name – just as Daniel said: **Dan 9:19** "O LORD, listen! O LORD forgive! O LORD, hear and act! For your sake, O my God, do not delay, because the City and your people bear your Name."

The leaders of the Churches of God continue to plumb the depth of madness to produce some new thing with which to titillate their followers. They apparently have nothing new to bring out of the storehouses, and some have cut themselves off completely from any new understanding, simply because they are no longer **teachers of the Law**. Why not believe what Christ said: **Matt 13:52** "He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the Law who has been instructed about the Kingdom of Heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old"

How can anyone who is *not* a **teacher of the Law** speak of the **Kingdom of Heaven** with any authority? But what of those who claim to be teachers of the Law? Have you seen them trying to justify the spurious book of Galatians with the claim that it's speaking of the Law of Moses, which they claim was done away? They keep saying the Law of Moses was added because of disobedience and is now done away because they are so good, and virtuous, and righteous, and no longer need it.

Well this is what God says: **Mal 4:4** "**Remember the Law of my servant Moses, the decrees and Laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.**" God says '**remember**', and they say forget it! And who is it that comes bringing **a doctrine of repentance**, together with a reminder to **remember the Law of Moses**? It's the one who comes in the Spirit and Power of Elijah (**V5**). If Almighty God says the nations of the earth are worthless and less than nothing, how much more worthless are those who have corrupted His Word and refused to believe that **His Word stands forever**?

We skipped over some of the verses in **Zech 9**. In **V1** the marginal rendering is more accurate: **Zech 9:1** "The Word of the LORD is against the land of Hadrach and will rest upon Damascus – for the eye of the LORD is on all mankind, as well as on the Tribes of Israel – and upon Hamath too, which borders on it (Damascus), and upon Tyre and Sidon, though they are very skilful. **Tyre** has built herself a stronghold; she has heaped up silver like dust, and gold like the dirt of the streets. But the LORD will take away her possessions and destroy her power on the sea, and she will be consumed by fire. Ashkelon will see it and fear; Gaza will writhe in agony, and Ekron too, for her hope will wither. Gaza will lose her king and Ashkelon will be deserted. Foreigners will occupy Ashdod, and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines."

Here the earlier prophet speaks of God's intentions concerning the **surrounding peoples** of the Holy Land. These are the same peoples, which this prophet speaks of a little later: **Zech 12:6** "**On that day I will make the leaders of Judah like a**

**firepot in a woodpile, like a flaming torch among sheaves.** They will consume right and left **all the**



*The City of Tyre* is today a thriving city and seaport. God has issued a judgment against this city and says **it will be consumed by fire** (**Zech 9:4**). This has not happened yet!



surrounding peoples, but Jerusalem will remain intact in her place.” Now all this is totally alien to any doctrine that leaders of the Churches of God might have today! They wouldn’t have a clue as to where they could slot these words amid the fanciful nonsense they currently teach.

The prophet continues to describe these endtime events: **V7** “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.” So Judah is to receive ‘equal billing’ with Jerusalem’s inhabitants – the House of David. Formerly, God sent a Levite priest and prophet to establish the House of David; his name was Samuel. Samuel rejected Saul, the former king, in God’s name, and called David from the fold. God has agreed to establish the House of David forever. At a much later time, in the Book of Revelation, God again speaks of this House of David, and refers to it as a ‘woman’ who gave birth to the man-child – the Christ! Christ also confirms that He is both root and offspring of David (**Rev 22:16**).

The fledgling House of David had to fight all the surrounding armies for seven years before Jerusalem could be established. Zechariah goes on to record this: **V8** “On that Day the LORD will shield those who live in Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among 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.” So where does all this fit in with the pathetic doctrine currently being taught by the Churches of God? Well, it doesn’t fit in because the Churches of God were never given the Spirit of Prophecy! This didn’t, however, stop them from inventing their own renditions of prophecy. And what a tangled web they wove! In seventy long years, the allotted lifespan of a man, and with all the intensive study and preaching, they failed to identify the enemy of God – the bride of Satan! Instead they targeted the Catholic Church and deceived everyone. Now, fully half of them have gone even further and have adopted many of the teachings of the Catholic Church. The Gentile Church they so despised has now become their mentor. How confused they have become! With such instability of mind, it won’t be such a great leap for them to accept the coming ‘mark of the beast’. Since they’ve never believed anything God has said through the earlier prophets, and neither have they raised their voices to warn the people of God, they would do well to heed God’s warning now: **Rev 14:9** “...If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, he, too, will drink of the wine of God’s fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of His wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulphur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name. This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God’s Commandments and remain faithful to Jesus.” Now isn’t this a smack in the eye for those who say you must not obey God and keep His Commandments! And here we see that the saints who obey God’s Commandments are the ones who remain faithful to Jesus!

God makes no secret of what it will involve to exercise patient endurance. He makes it perfectly clear in **Rev 20:4** “I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony [of] Jesus and because of the Word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.”

And if you are going to remain faithful to Jesus, then you had better fulfill the requirements of the offspring of the ‘Woman’ described in **Rev 12:13** “When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the Woman who had given birth to the male child. The Woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time, times, and half a time, out of the serpent’s reach.” Two things here. Firstly, are they to walk as the ancient Israelites did when they came out of Egypt, or does God say they will fly – like Elijah did when he was taken away in a flying chariot? And secondly, this occurs after the dragon or serpent has been hurled down to the earth, and Christ takes the reigns of power and the Kingdom of God (**V10**). So Christ’s reign begins when the dragon is cast to the earth. Is this the time when all the rewards are handed out, together with the triumphal return of Christ with all His saints? Hardly!

After the Woman is taken to a special place reserved for her in the desert, the dragon turns on the offspring of the Woman with great fury and makes war against them: **V17** “Then the dragon was enraged at the Woman, and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring – those who obey God’s Commandments and hold to the Testimony of Jesus.” The rest of her offspring are clearly those who have been left behind of all the offspring of the Woman. Those who believe the Testimony of Jesus and recognize it as the Spirit of Prophecy (**Rev 19:10**) will be like the mightiest of God’s angelic servants

(same verse). And dare I confirm what Zechariah said in **Zech 12:8** – *they will be like God and like the angel of the LORD going before them.*

The difference between the Woman and *the rest* of her offspring is, that those who believe God and His former prophets are given **the Spirit of Jesus** – called the ‘**Counsellor**’, which will **reveal all things that must come to pass** (**John 14:15-18, 26**). The Woman is therefore the faithful ones, who believe God and **step out in faith** – *never doubting*. Like Abraham, they *believe* God and this is credited to them as righteousness. The timid and the doubters will be left behind, and it’s these whom the dragon will target. Under this merciless onslaught they will realize their mistake in not believing God at the outset. This is why God calls, through the earlier prophets, for them to be *strong*. They will still be required to be strong, in fact, God speaks of the **faithful endurance** of these saints, but their faith will be strengthened to know the **Kingdom of God** has been established, howbeit as a tiny mustard seed, and that the Woman has been called to duty. Amid the turmoil of war, and the destruction of those nations surrounding the Holy Land, they will know that their redemption is near.

It’s a good time to point out that the vast majority of Christianity is not the rest of the offspring of the woman, nor are the vast majority of the Churches of God. In fact, only a small fraction of the flock that God called through his appointed shepherd, are considered to be the faithful flock of God. By their faithful endurance, and the example they set, tens of thousands of Israelites will become the Bride of Christ. In fact, 12,000 from each Tribe (though Dan is excluded, and a double portion goes to Joseph) (**Rev 7:4-8**) will be sealed following the martyrdom of the saints (**Rev 6:9-11**).

Now many of these things are at variance to the script provided by the leaders of the Churches of God. Most of their followers relied on what they were taught by them. The same situation still stands today. If anyone questioned their teachings, they were immediately accused of having a bad attitude. Then would come the twaddle about Armstrong being God’s apostle, or as one ‘evangelist’ said to another ‘evangelist’ following a heated debate “*Do you believe that God is Mr. Armstrong’s apostle?*” To which the other replied, “*No, Raymond, I believe Mr. Armstrong is God’s apostle.*” The man with the foaming mouth and incoherent rhetoric was an ‘evangelist’ called Raymond. But they were both wrong! A true apostle doesn’t denigrate God’s Word and teach lies, and neither does he lord it over others as the Gentiles do.

And why would the dragon be outraged at the Woman? He hurls all his fury against this Woman in an attempt to destroy her, but he will be thwarted in his attempts. He is presently assembling thousands of Moslem terrorists and transporting them in ships to a rallying point. His target is a certain Levite who is ridiculing all his so-called deep secrets and exposing his plans. He’s presently busy accusing all the brothers before God (**Rev 12:10**), and secretly singling out at least one as a betrayer. Like Judas Iscariot, he will be a lover of money, and a power-mad egotist who lords it over his brothers and sisters.

As Christ said, offences will come, but woe betides the man by whom the offences come. The same holds true of all those who align themselves with Satan the devil and seek to destroy the Work of God. Those who do such things would be advised to follow the example of Gamaliel: **Acts 5:38** “*Therefore, in the present case, I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting God.*” And what schemers we have today! **They reason that if they make enough attacks and ask enough questions, they may never have to actually define their own position on any matter.** And it’s just as well for them, **because they have no rational position on any matter!** Their mindless accusations are not based on anything remotely similar to the teachings of God. They are the devil’s advocates – literally! And the enemies of God!

Could any of such people ever become a part of the Woman? Never! Because they have failed to heed what Christ said concerning those who persecute their own brothers and sisters, neither can they be Christians. Like Satan himself, they pursue the Woman, and soon every man’s hand will be against them. They have chosen to go the way of Balaam and to corrupt the people of God. And for their treachery, they will pay the ultimate penalty. But now in the face of overwhelming evidence that things are not as they always imagined, they too, have become the enemies of God. The overwhelming evidence is that which was recorded by the earlier prophets and confirmed by Jesus Himself.

There was a time when there were two candidates for a great inheritance – their names were Esau and Jacob. Esau had the right by birth, being the firstborn, but Jacob desired this great gift above all else. But godless Esau considered it nothing and sold it for a single meal. Later when he realized what he had done, he sought it again with great lament and tears but could not bring about a change of mind (**Heb 12:16-17**). Not surprisingly, God hates Esau (**Mal 1:2**). There comes a time when there is no way back.

Most people know when they have reached this stage; they *know* that they are fighting against the very Word of God. They contemptuously refute any Scriptures that don't comply with their fanciful notions. In the finish, they have rejected so much of the Word of God that their doctrine is reduced to about half a dozen verses that they trumpet endlessly by rote. And their selected verses are characterized by total rejection of God's instructions and utter contempt for His Laws, which He gave to His servant Moses. How like Esau are these people! Like God, this Brotherhood hates all those who emulate Esau and who sacrifice God's Truth for fame and glory and personal recognition.

The Great Counsellor Himself gives counsel to these people. These are the spiritually blind and the rebellious! Those who have rebelled are considered worse than witchcraft – and you are going to see plenty of this, with images that speak and people who worship such images. This is what the Counsellor says: **Rev 3:18** “I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so that you may become rich, and white clothes to wear, so that you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so that you can see.” There is plenty of gold around that has been tried in the fire for you to purchase, but is this the gold God is speaking about? No, He counsels to buy gold from Him – the gold that He, Himself has refined. God makes it very clear what He is speaking of! He speaks of white clothes that have been thoroughly cleaned with launderer's soap, and gold that has been tested in the refiner's fire: **Mal 3:2** “But who can endure the day of His coming? Who can stand when He appears? For He will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. He will sit as a refiner of silver; He will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.” And isn't this speaking about the appearance of Christ – the Messenger of the Covenant? And doesn't He question who can endure the day of His coming?

And doesn't God say that it's the teachers of the Law that bring treasures out of the storehouse, both old and new? To whom did God entrust his Laws? It was Moses and the Levites who are the ultimate teachers of the Law and the final authority in matters of Law. It's the Levites that uphold the Laws given to God's servant Moses. And God even calls them His ‘treasured possession’: **V9** “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 again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not.” It's clear that God's ‘treasured possession’ is closely associated with the 12 Tribes of Israel: **Ex 19:5** “You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles wings and brought you to myself. Now if you will obey me fully and keep my Covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.” This is further confirmed in **Deut 7:6** “For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be His people, his treasured possession.” God has made it clear that those who are purified are Levites – they are God's gold which He has purified.

Today, there is no fear of God among Christianity. They demand ‘salvation’ based upon their very weak approach to the meaning of the word. They believe God is obligated to reward them for some form of service, which is ill-defined in their doctrine, and that God's reputation is at stake if He fails to comply with their demands. What sort of madness is this that anyone should imagine that God is obligated to them in any way? He gave life, and He can take it away. If He chooses to, He can strike the earth with utter destruction. And He even confirms that under certain circumstances He just might (**Mal 4:6** – ‘*strike the land with a curse*’ should be translated ‘*strike the earth with utter destruction*’). God is not running out of time – humanity is! God is eternal; it makes little difference to Him if He wipes the slate clean and starts all over again, because He is not bound by time constraints, but He will never compromise His objectives.

Having understood these things correctly, the Levites stand in awe of Almighty God and greatly fear Him. They don't argue with one another or try to promote their ‘spiritual ascendancy’, but rather they talk to one another, and listen to one another, and the LORD also listens and hears. **Mal 3:16** “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.”

It's really is amazing how many so-called ‘Christians’ state emphatically that they don't fear God. They believe they have God so well manipulated that they can force His hand to comply with anything they wish. So they state, ‘Why should I fear God?’ Well, the answer is, because of the example set by those

**who surround His throne: Ps 89:6** “For who in the skies above can compare with the LORD? Who is like the LORD *among the heavenly beings?* **In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared; He is more awesome than all who surround Him.**” In the council of the holy ones who surround God’s throne, He is not only feared, but also greatly feared!

The Jewish people are soon to be called to duty by Almighty God. The very ones who have been universally despised are to become the saviors of the 12 Tribes of Israel. It’s they who will form the fighting force to rescue Ephraim as the firstborn son. Then Ephraim will join them and become one army under Almighty God. Not surprisingly, God counsels them to be strong – just as the Sons of Jerusalem are strong!

When the Jewish people are called to service, they will be faithful people and will serve God faithfully. God tells us how it will be: **Zech 8:20** “This is what the LORD Almighty says: “Many peoples and the inhabitants of many cities will yet come, and the inhabitants of one city will go to another and say, ‘Let us go at once to entreat the LORD Almighty. I myself am going.’ And many peoples and powerful nations will come to Jerusalem to seek the LORD Almighty and to entreat Him. This is what the LORD Almighty says: “*In those days ten men from all languages and nations will take firm hold of one Jew by the edge of his robe and say, ‘Let us go with you, because we have heard that God is with you.’*”

It has always been God’s intention to establish a Kingdom, which will begin almost imperceptively, like a tiny mustard seed. This Kingdom will not be established in some far-off place like a mystical Shangri-La, but it will begin among the people of Judah – in their very territory. To achieve this, God has called to duty His very own Tribe – the Levites. A throne will be established and a caretaker king appointed to await the King who will rightly preside over the whole House of Israel – just as David did anciently. As the Kingdom of God expands to fill the entire earth, kings and priests will be appointed over cities and territories, and there will be no end of the Kingdom.

God advises us that there are currently many rulers ruling over this earth. These are called the ‘*rulers of the heavenly realms*’. Paul makes it clear that **these are NOT flesh and blood: Eph 6:10** “Finally, *be strong* in the Lord and in His Mighty Power. Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand *against the devil’s schemes*. For **our struggle is NOT against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of the heavenly realms**. Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that *when the day of evil comes*, you may be able **to stand your ground**, and after you have done everything, **to stand**.” You will need to be **strong** in order **to stand your ground** when **the day of evil comes**. We don’t need to be ignorant of the fact that the real power of evil is in the hands of the rulers of the heavenly realms – not human beings. Human beings are merely the hosts of these evil creatures.

#### The Phenomena of ‘Alien Hand’

For those who don’t believe these things, a study of the phenomena known as ‘Alien Hand’ may prove enlightening. Experimental brain surgery, where cutting through millions of neurons separating the left and right lobes of the Cerebral Cortex, has shown that the patient loses certain undesirable aberrations, and has better control of his or her thinking processes, but loses control of certain motor functions. For instance, the patient might have complete control over one hand, but the other hand will be destructive and offensive, and attempt to thwart the activities of the other. Hence the term ‘Alien Hand’. It’s as if an alien were controlling the hand. It’s generally explained as the ‘other’ personality of the patient, for which science is unable to comprehend or offer any other explanation. They don’t comprehend it because they don’t understand that there are mysterious powers embodied in spirit beings that can’t be seen, and which control many human beings. Challenge the authority of one of these spirit beings, and it’s human host will often turn into a foaming madman demanding proper respect for their ‘authority’. With such people, there is a thin veneer between appearing like an angel of light and becoming a mindless tyrant. Such people are thin skinned and easily provoked to hostile outbursts, particularly under personal attacks. Everyone would do well to mark such people as ‘aliens’, though not in the perceived sense of the word, but beings that are vastly different to human beings.

During the course of His life on earth, Jesus cast out many demons. It’s amazing how many so called Christians refuse to believe this. They apparently believe He was lying. Demons generally target those who have personality disorders. Those who are mentally stable are hard to manipulate and are not an easy target. But those who are puffed up with their own importance are prime candidates and are very easily manipulated. It’s worth bearing these things in mind.

## All hell has just broken loose!!!

As of this moment, the news wires are aflame with horrific carnage in the United States of America. Two hi-jacked aircraft have just plunged into the World Trade Center.

**Much later:** Well, it’s very clear that Islam has brought their terrorism to the United States of America in a big way. It remains to be seen if the U.S. will now lower the boom on Moslem terrorists worldwide. They need to go out now with all guns blazing and take no prisoners. Total all-out war against the rulers of the heavenly realms. If the U.S does their job properly, Satan will have no recourse except to stage a coup against the very Throne of God – **and God is expecting him! (Rev 12:7)**. And don’t think for



one moment that this will occur out of sight of humanity. It will be done in full array and in full sight of everyone. Satan will be earthbound and furious. He will gather his ground forces to infiltrate every Israelite nation with burning and looting and mayhem on an unprecedented scale. Eleven-twelfths of all humanity on earth are Satan's people (**Deut 32:8**) so he has plenty of ground forces. When God speaks of the fullness of the Gentiles, give Him credit for knowing what He is talking about!

Why should anyone be surprised over what has happened in America? For years there have been Moslem Jihads proclaimed against the 'great satan' – their reference to America. The Moslem Jihad is a call to all Moslems to indiscriminately kill all enemies of Islam with no regard whatsoever as to guilt or innocence. Blowing up airliners, detonating car bombs, have only one function – to kill Americans and Israelis! Man, woman or child – it makes no difference to them. They don't even care if they kill their own people because they have plenty more where they came from. Islam is the most sadistic and brutal global regime that ever existed. This is Babylon – the city and the people that bear this name. These are the Babylonians that God warned of thousands of years ago by the earlier prophets.

This is what God says: **Hab 1:5** "Look at the nations and watch – and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told. I am raising up the Babylonians, that ruthless and impetuous people, who sweep across the whole earth to seize dwelling-places not their own. They are a feared and dreaded people; they are a law to themselves and promote their own honour. Their horses are swifter than leopards, fiercer than wolves at dusk. Their cavalry gallops headlong; their horsemen come from afar. They fly like a vulture swooping to devour; they all come bent on violence. Their hordes advance like a desert wind and gather prisoners like sand. They deride kings, and scoff at rulers. They laugh at all the fortified cities; they build earthen ramps and capture them. Then they sweep past like the wind and go on – guilty men, whose own strength is their god."

For those who think this earlier prophet was merely writing history, you couldn't be more mistaken! He was prophesying of a future time when the Holy One Himself – the Mighty Christ – will personally intervene to bring an end to this wicked regime. Habakkuk describes the Mighty Christ in impressive terms: **Hab 3:4** "His splendor was like the sunrise; rays flashed from His hand, where His power was hidden. Plague went before Him; pestilence followed His steps. He stood, He shook the earth; He looked and made the nations tremble. They ancient mountains crumbled and the age-old hills collapsed; His ways are eternal." **V11** "Sun and moon stood still in the heavens at the glint of your flying arrows, at the lightning of your flashing spear. In wrath you strode through the earth and in anger you threshed the nations. You came to deliver your people, to save your anointed one. You crushed the leader of the LAND OF WICKEDNESS, you stripped him from head to foot." Habakkuk was under no illusions about when all this would occur, because God told him: **Hab 2:2** "Then the LORD replied, "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits the appointed time; IT SPEAKS OF THE END and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and not delay." Did Habakkuk realize he would have to wait for it? He tells us: **Hab 3:16** "I heard and my heart pounded, my lips quivered at the sound; decay crept into my bones, and my legs trembled. Yet I will wait patiently for the Day of Calamity to come on the nation invading us."

If there is any history involved in what this earlier prophet tells us, it's that the same Babylonians who were at the gates of the City in his day that will sweep across the earth once more. And it's these same Babylonians whom Christ will personally destroy – together with their leader.

Why then, do the leaders of the Churches of God disagree with God? Why do they assume that God doesn't know to whom He's referring when He says **Babylonians**? Is the Catholic Church mentioned here? Or Germany? Or the Pope? Great prophets aren't they! How could a prophet of God *disagree* with God?

Satan does have a bride who are only too willing to obey him. They will muster their forces all over the world (and they have infiltrated virtually every nation on earth) and cause devastating damage and destruction. Has God ever suggested that worthless platitudes would discourage their activity? Learn a lesson from the earlier prophets who describe Christ's appearance and the fury with which He will exact vengeance on these worthless scum. And as another of the earlier prophets put it: 'Who can stand when He appears?' (**Mal 3:2**). Perhaps you think you can! Perhaps you think that you have earned some brownie points for the worthless dribble you have been sprouting all these years. If you continue to corrupt the Truth and tell lies in God's Name, then be assured that even if you once had the Spirit of God, you will still face the ultimate shame – death forever! And all those who once had the Spirit of God will be raised for a judgment – some to everlasting glory, and some to everlasting shame and death! **Dan 12:1** "At that time

Michael, the great prince who protects your people will arise. There will be A TIME OF DISTRESS such as not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people – everyone whose name is found written in the Book – will be delivered. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. But you, Daniel, close up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end. Many will go here and there to increase knowledge.”

And please don't be silly enough to believe that God is going to raise everyone who has ever lived for judgment. Do you really believe that He would raise the bride of Satan for judgment? God intends to make fertilizer out of them. He is only concerned with those whose names are written in the Book or those who once had their names written in the Book and have now had their names blotted out. There are many Scriptures that show that the vast majority of all who have ever lived have their reward in this life only (**Ps 17:14**). One of the earlier prophets said this: **Isa 26:13** “O LORD, our God, other lords besides you have ruled over us, but your Name alone do we honour. They are dead now, they live no more; those departed spirits do not rise. You punished them and brought them to ruin; you wiped out all memory of them.” Attila the Hun, Hitler, Ivan the Terrible, Ayatollah Homeini and all the evil swine who have ever lived are dead forever! They won't rise – they have been punished and will remain dead forever.

As God instructed Daniel, “There will be A TIME OF DISTRESS such as not happened from the beginning of nations until then.” This TIME OF DISTRESS has come. We are seeing the very start of monstrous actions that will bring death and destruction to all the earth – and there will be few men left: **Isa 24:4** “The earth dries up and withers, the world languishes and withers, the exalted of the earth languish. The earth is defiled by its people; they have disobeyed the Laws, violated the statutes and broken the Everlasting Covenant. Therefore a curse consumes the earth; its people must bear their guilt. Therefore earth's inhabitants are burned up, and very few are left.”

We all know that this has not yet occurred. These are momentous events that have no equal in the annals of history. Christ confirmed what Daniel recorded: **Matt 24:21** “For then there will be GREAT DISTRESS, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now – and never to be equaled again.” Isaiah spoke of the Everlasting Covenant and disobedience to God's Laws. Satan's minions also speak of them and say they are done away. They foam at the mouth whenever anyone suggests that the Everlasting Covenant is everlasting. They hurl abuse at anyone who suggests that God's Laws should be obeyed. They twist the Scriptures to deceive everyone, and warn that no-one should listen to the earlier prophets.

Well God has given ample warning to start listening to Him! He rose up early to send prophets to warn you, but you keep listening to men who are not even servants of God – let alone prophets! They understand nothing and they cannot explain anything. They have no understanding whatsoever of God's intentions, nor do they understand the Master Plan of Almighty God. But they will deceive you and make you feel good, and give you false hope, but learn the meaning of God's statement: “This calls for faithful endurance and faithfulness on the part of the saints” (**Rev 13:10**) and “This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God's Commandments and remain faithful to Jesus.” (**Rev 14:12**).

Now it's up to you!

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