

THE BRIDE OF SATAN

Chapter 2

By Neville V. Stevens

New International Version used throughout unless otherwise stated.

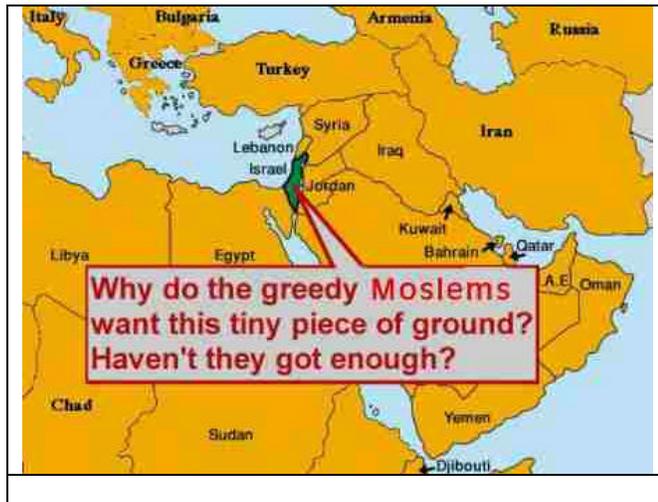
One of the earlier prophets was given a revelation (**Hab 2:2**) and told to write it down on **tablets** – to literally engrave it on stone so that a herald may run with it **at the appointed time**. He was told that it **speaks of the end** and that it would certainly come **at the appointed time**. These are the Words of God: **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 lingers, wait for it; **it will certainly come** and will not delay.”

This is an important **revelation** for **the endtime**, and it speaks of the ruthless Babylonians who sweep across the whole earth to seize dwelling places not their own (**Hab 1:6**). They are a dreaded people and totally **lawless** (**V7**) and have no regard for anything or anyone but themselves.

For 1400 years, Satan has been training them for their final endtime assault on the whole world. In the intervening centuries they have been repelled by other mighty forces and driven out of the lands of the House of Israel. But they regroup and come back again – and again and again. They are impetuous, unruly vermin and they have the minds of Satan the devil.

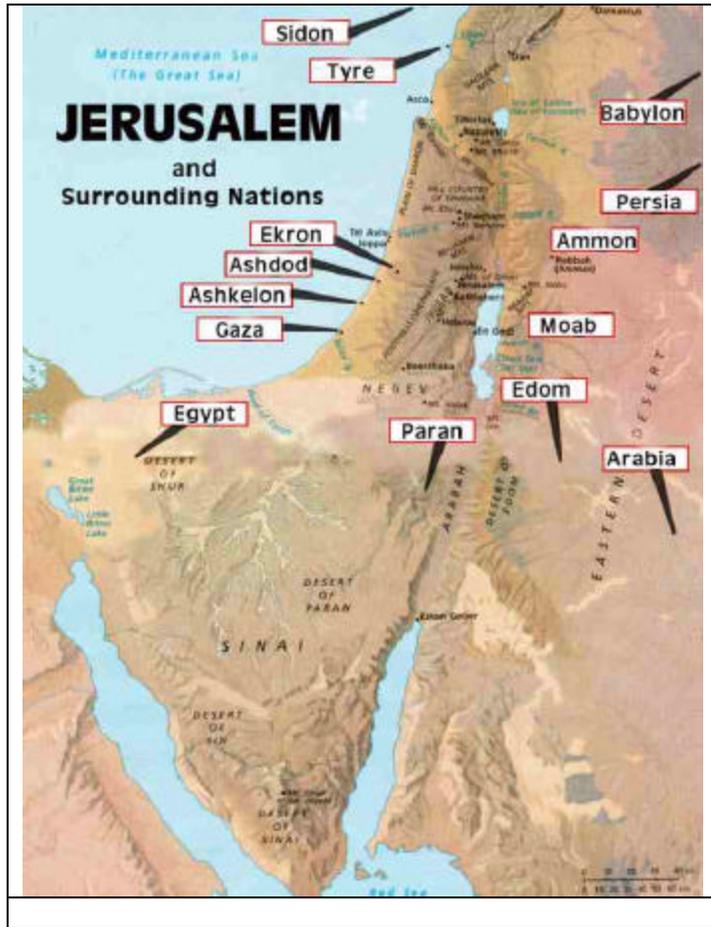
Almighty God has spoken of the cup of His wrath, and will force the recalcitrant nations of the earth to drink it. Of the Babylonians and its ruler, God says this: **Hab 2:16** “You will be filled with shame instead of glory. Now it is your turn! Drink and be exposed! **The cup from the LORD’S right hand is coming round to you.**” God foretold this long ago! This is what He said: **Jer 25:15** “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel said to me: “**Take from my hand this cup filled with the wine of my wrath** and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. When they drink it, they will stagger and go mad **because of the sword I will send among them.**” And didn’t Christ say that He had **not** come to bring peace **but a sword**? (**Matt 10:34**) So to whom was the Levite Jeremiah sent? **V17** “**So I took the cup from the LORD’S hand** and made all the nations to whom He sent me drink it: **Jerusalem and the towns of Judah**, its kings and officials, to make them a ruin and an object of horror and scorn and cursing, as they are today; **Pharoah king of Egypt**, his attendants, his officials and all his people, and all the foreign people there; all the **kings of Uz**; all the **kings of the Philistines** (those of **Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron**, and the people left at **Ashdod**); **Edom, Moab** and **Ammon**; all the **kings of Tyre** and **Sidon**; the kings of the coastlands across the sea; **Dedan, Tema, Buz** and all who are in distant places; all the **kings of Arabia** and all the kings of the foreign people who live in the desert; all the **kings of Zimri, Elam and Media**; and all the kings of the north, near and far, one after the other – **all the kingdoms on the face of the earth. And after all of them, the king of Sheshach (margin: Babylon) will drink it too.**”

The reason why Judah and Jerusalem are exposed to the cup of God’s wrath and the sword is because they have not recognized the disgusting Moslems as **the enemies of God** – but consider them to be partners in the **‘peace process’**! Judah is the sacrificial lamb for exposing the futility of trying to make



peace with these slaving animals. But Judah will be rescued when they learn a very severe lesson. Judah will be called to duty for service as the *'Armies of the Living God'*.

Then all the surrounding nations will be put to the sword, but the net will grow ever wider as nation by nation is crushed by the sword. And God makes it abundantly clear who will crush these vermin – and they will die without mercy. **Finally, the King of Babylon will drink it too!** The whole world will have drunk of the cup of the mad harlot Babylon and gone mad, then it will be *her turn* to **drink of the Cup of God's fury**. God has reserved very special retribution for the Babylonians and their city! The final act will be to roll the city of a great cliff – a massive fissure that will open up – and she will go down into the abyss. **Jer 51:24** “Before your eyes I will repay **Babylon and all who live in Babylonia** for all the wrong they have done in Zion,” declares the LORD. “I am against you, **O destroying mountain**, you **who destroy the whole earth**,” declares the LORD. “I will stretch out my hand against you, **roll you off the cliffs**, and make you like a burnt-out mountain. No rock will be taken from you as a cornerstone, nor any stone for a foundation, for **you will be desolate forever**,” declares the LORD.” Jeremiah spoke further of this great



disaster for this detestable city: **V60** “Jeremiah had written on a scroll about all the disasters that would come upon **Babylon** – all that had been recorded concerning **Babylon**. “He said to Seraiah, “When you get to **Babylon**, see that you read all these words aloud. Then say, ‘O LORD, you have said you will destroy this place, so that neither man nor animal will live in it; **it will be desolate forever**.’ When you finish reading this scroll, tie a stone to it and throw it into the **Euphrates**. Then say, ‘So will **Babylon sink to rise no more** because of the disaster I will bring upon her. **And her people will fall**.’”

Perhaps some may consider these to be harsh words. But how thankful you will be when your redemption draws near, and you are **redeemed from Death**. Habakkuk mentions this: **Hab 2:5** “...indeed, wine betrays him; he is arrogant and never at rest. Because he is greedy as **the grave** and like **death** is never satisfied, he gathers to himself all the nations and takes captive all the peoples.” Death and the Grave are mentioned in **Rev 6:7** “When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, “Come!” I looked, and there before me was a pale horse! It’s rider was **named Death**, and **Hades (the grave)** was following closely behind **him**. They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth.” As an interesting aside, Islam claims membership of one fourth of the earth. They are destined to do astounding damage and bring death and destruction to most of the earth. Then you will see the effects of **lawlessness** on a grand scale! Among the Churches of God, those **who teach lawlessness** will also be treated without mercy and will pay the ultimate penalty for their evil. And Almighty God has some special words for you!

But first notice what God has said as a prelude: **Jer 25:29** “See I am beginning to bring disaster on **the City that bears my Name**, and will you indeed go unpunished? You will not go unpunished, **for I am calling down a sword upon all who live on the earth**,” declares the LORD Almighty. Now prophesy all these words against them and say to them: ‘The LORD will **roar** from on high; He will lift His voice from His Holy Dwelling and **roar** mightily against His land. He will shout like those **who tread the**

grapes, shout against all those who live on the earth. The Tumult will sound to the ends of the earth, for the LORD will bring charges against all the nations; He will bring judgment on all mankind and put the wicked to the sword” declares the LORD Almighty.”

And now *you lawless creatures* who despise God’s Laws and demand privileges for your willful disobedience, God targets you directly. **V32** “This is what the LORD Almighty says: “Look! Disaster is spreading from nation to nation; a mighty storm is rising from the ends of the earth.” At that time, the slain of the LORD will be everywhere – from one end of the earth to the other. They will not be mourned or gathered up or buried, but will lie like refuse on the ground. Weep and wail, you shepherds; roll in the dust, you leaders of the flock. For your time to be slaughtered has come; you will fall and be SHATTERED like FINE POTTERY. The shepherds will have nowhere to flee, the leaders of the flock no place to escape. Hear the cry of the shepherds, the wailing of the leaders of the flock, for the LORD is destroying their pasture. The peaceful meadows will be laid waste because of the fierce anger of the LORD. Like A LION He will leave His lair, and their land will become desolate because of the sword of the oppressor and because of the LORD’S fierce anger.”

‘SHATTERED like FINE POTTERY!’ God makes it perfectly clear that He is the Master Potter. In speaking to those who *think* they have the right to prophesy in God’s Name, and who honour God with their lips but their hearts are far from Him, God says this: **Isa 29:14** “Therefore once more I will astound these people with wonder upon wonder; the wisdom of the wise will perish, the intelligence of the intelligent will vanish. Woe to those who go to great depths to hide their plans from the LORD, who do their work in darkness and think, “Who sees us? Who will know?” You turn things upside down, as if the Potter were thought to be the clay! Shall the formed say to Him who formed it, “He did not make me”? Can the *pot* say to the Potter, ‘He knows nothing’? The fact is, the *pot* is always implying that *the Potter* doesn’t know what He is talking about. Whenever God says ‘Babylon’ they think He should have said ‘Rome’. Well, their dying swan song will come to a quick end.

The Apostle Paul knew that God was the Master Potter who formed the clay to be whatever He wished. **Rom 9:20** “But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? Shall the formed say to Him who formed it, ‘Why did you make me like this?’ Does not the Potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some POTTERY for noble purposes and some for common use?” Let’s be very clear on what God has said concerning the clay! **Jer 18:5** “Then the word of the LORD came to me: ‘O House of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?’ declares the LORD. ‘Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, O House of Israel.’”

And Paul records this: **Rom 9:27** “Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: “Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand of the sea, only the remnant will be saved. For the Lord will carry out His sentence on earth with speed and finality. It is just as Isaiah said previously, “Unless the Lord Almighty had left us descendants, we would have become like Sodom and Gomorrah.” Paul makes the point that although God cast the House of Israel away at one stage, He left descendants to become like the sand of the sea once more. And he says this in **V26** “And, “It will happen that in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ they will be called sons of the Living God.” Not surprisingly, God intends to bring them back to this very place – the Holy Land that He promised to Abraham. And they will be brought back whimpering and crying and in deep repentance. But not as the sand of the sea in numbers but only as a remnant of the former. But all who are truly Israelites *in obedience* will be rescued.

No-one should imagine that they are such FINE POTTERY that God won’t destroy them. They will be shattered along with the refuse. What God has said is that the shepherds of the flock will be shattered like fine pottery, and He says their time to be slaughtered has come. Consider what the shepherds keep saying to you, and the contrast to what God says: ‘The shepherds will have nowhere to flee, the leaders of the flock no place to escape.’ So if you are following them, then neither will you escape. There is no place for you to escape to! These are God’s instructions to you: **Rom 8:36** “As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” God has granted you martyrdom if you do as He commands, and His firm promise to you is, that He will raise you from the dead – just as He raised His Son Jesus from the dead. If you refuse, then there is no eternal life for you. If you once had the Spirit of God you will be raised again, but to everlasting shame and death – the second death. If you love your life more than you Maker, then you are not worthy of Him. If you seek to save your life you will lose it – forever! (**Matt 16:25**).

Perhaps you have some misguided notion that Christ died and did it all for you, and you have no further obligations except to scoop up rewards for doing nothing. If you think this, then by the same token, everyone on earth would be entitled to the same privileges. How, then, are you any different from them?

The stark truth is, that the Book of Revelation details many prophecies that will be fulfilled in our time. Only the maddest of the worthless shepherds who are presently wringing out their **lying deceptions** would suggest that *these things have been fulfilled* – and believe it or not, there are some! This world now faces the end of a long dark night – and the dawning of a brand new day. The dawning of the seventh millennial day will usher in some great changes, but the transition will not be smooth. Throughout the earth’s history, God appointed various rulers and also destroyed them whenever He chose to do so. These are called the rulers of the heavenly realm. They are not flesh and blood! (**Eph 6:12**). But they have no intentions of relinquishing power and they will certainly not go quietly.

In their madness they struck a blow at God’s son Ephraim and expected to get away with it. And they certainly would have if Al Gore had become President of the U.S. When they struck it was a calculated risk! Perhaps they could still sway public opinion to blame some faceless terrorist and still give Islam a clean bill of health. But it was a bad mistake, a wrong omen – perhaps they read the liver incorrectly (**Eze 21:21**), instead they awoke the sleeping giant. They immediately went into damage control and called up their resources – their politically-correct stooges who came out in defense of Islam. The fact that virtually all the terrorists in the world are closely associated with Islam and come from all the Islamic countries should be sufficient evidence that Islam is responsible! But now they are speaking of Islam as a peaceful religion. Islam can’t live peacefully with anyone. And who, **in all the world**, rejoiced in the streets to see thousands of Americans killed in the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon? Only the Moslems! And who threatened to kill any reporters and cameramen who showed this footage? The Moslems!

The argument, of course is, that you can’t kill innocent people because of the acts of a few terrorists. Who killed innocent people – thousands of them? **It was the Moslems!** The whole of Islam calls America *the great Satan*. None of them are innocent – they are all guilty! But only those who **believe** God will agree! And God intends to wipe the bride of Satan from the face of the earth.

President Bush said, *“They stand against us because we stand in their way”*. Christ said, *“He who is not with me is against Me.”* Paul wrote of one **who holds back the secret power of lawlessness**, and says he will continue to do so **until he is taken out of the way** (**2Thess 2:4-8**). There is only one power on earth that can hold back **the secret power of lawlessness** – God’s mighty son Ephraim. And Almighty God has called His powerful son to deliver a deadly blow to **the secret power of lawlessness**. God expects him to give all of Islam a small taste of what He Himself will deliver in years to come – total destruction! And if they fail to deliver this deadly blow, it will be delivered just the same by an even Mightier Son of God.

When Ephraim’s armies finally fall in the desert, in a great valley, all hope will be gone. Well, almost! Hope will re-emerge. The time will come when **the mighty one** who **holds back the secret power of lawlessness** will be **taken out of the way**. They, that is, the armies of Ephraim, will be lured to a great valley, and there they will come to an end. But as their bones bleach in the sun, hope will return. God has given very great detail of this event: **Eze 37:1** *“Then hand of the LORD was upon me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in **the middle of a valley**; it was full of bones. He led me to and fro among them, and I saw a **great many bones on the floor of the valley**, bones that were **very dry**. He said to me, ‘Son of man, can these bones live?’”* Many scenarios have been written concerning this very important endtime prophecy, and all of them have been written with no regard for the intended meaning, which is carefully explained by God Himself. The *son of man* (the prophet Ezekiel) replies to God: **V3** *“... O Sovereign LORD, you alone know.”* Then He said to me, *“Prophecy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the Word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you **and you will come to life**. I will **attach tendons to you** and **make flesh come upon you** and **cover you with skin**; I will **put breath in you**, and **you will come to life**. Then **you will KNOW that I am the LORD**.”* Is this speaking of everyone who has ever lived – as false prophets have taught? Or is it speaking of the bones of specific people who die in a great valley – and more specifically, people **who were SLAIN**? We will soon see **exactly** what is meant!

Ezekiel did as he was commanded: **V9** *“Then He said to me, ‘Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these **SLAIN**, that **they may live**.’”* *“So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone by bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them; they came to life and stood on their feet – **a vast army**.”* The Spirit of God had led Ezekiel to this great valley and he saw these bones come to life – as **a vast army**! And when they came to life, they **KNEW** that **‘I am the LORD’** – they came to life **knowing** that Almighty God is

indeed the Sovereign LORD. So here we have a vast army which lives again, and **they have the Spirit of God**, and they know who the Sovereign LORD is.

In the very next verse they are further described: **V11** “Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are **the whole House of Israel**.” Well this puts a different complexion on things. What is **the whole House of Israel** doing in this great valley? Is this really every member of the House of Israel? No, it’s not, and it’s certainly not the Tribe of Judah as we will soon see. And just a reminder of what God has said: **Rom 9:26** “And, “It will happen that in the **very place** where it was said to them, ‘You are *not* my people,’ they will be called **‘sons of the Living God.’**” In the very place where Almighty God once said, ‘You are *not* my people’ the House of Israel will once again be called God’s people, but more specifically **‘sons of the Living God’**. And now we will see what it takes to really be God’s people and the **‘sons of the Living God’**. Continuing in **V11** “...They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone: we are cut off.’ Therefore prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: **O MY PEOPLE**, I am going to open up your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you **back** to the **land of Israel**. Then you, **my people**, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. **I WILL PUT MY SPIRIT IN YOU** and **you will live**, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.”

So here we see an early resurrection from the dead – the firstborn from the dead. Others were taken in place of the firstborn, but now we see a ‘firstborn’ arising from the dead – **and with the Spirit of God**. Who are these people who are reborn from the dead? We know they are **a vast army**, and we also know that God calls them **‘my people’**, and also that **God will put His Spirit in them**. God gives further instructions to the son of man: **V15** “The Word of the LORD came to me: “Son of man, take a stick of wood and write on it, **‘Belonging to Judah and the Israelites associated with him.’** Then take another stick of wood, and write on it, **Ephraim’s stick, belonging to Joseph and all the House of Israel associated with him.’** Join them together into one stick so that **THEY WILL BECOME ONE STICK IN YOUR HAND**. When your countrymen ask you, ‘Won’t you tell us what you mean by this?’ say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: ‘I am going to take the **stick of Joseph – which is in Ephraim’s hand** – and all the Israelites associated with him, and **join** it to **Judah’s stick**, making them **a single stick of wood**, and **they will become one in my hand.**”

So here we see **the stick of Judah** and **the stick of Ephraim** joined together to become one stick in Ezekiel’s hand. After this, Ezekiel is standing before them and God gives further instruction: **V20** “Hold before **their eyes** the sticks you have written on and **say to them**. “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will **gather them from all around** and **bring them into their own land**. I will make them **one nation in the land**, on the mountains of Israel.” Ezekiel speaks to the resurrected people, which God refers to as ‘my people’, and who have God’s Holy Spirit, and Judah, who are already with the son of man. Then God speaks of the Israelites who are still in other lands, and of His plans to bring them back to their own land. And here we see a clear indication of why God raises this vast army from the dead and joins it to Judah to become one nation. They have a job to do! But let’s examine what God has said concerning **the Israelites** (and at this point they are *not* called God’s people): **V22** “I will make them one nation in the land, **on the mountains of Israel**. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms. They will no longer defile themselves with their idols or vile images or with any of their offences, for I will save them from all their sinful backsliding, and I will cleanse them. **They will be my people, and I will be their God.**” When they arrive in their own land **on the mountains of Israel**, they will be called **God’s people**. They will be just like those who are called **‘my people’ in the great valley** when they were raised from the dead.

So what is this **vast army of Ephraim** to be?

When they are joined to become one stick in Ezekiel’s hand, they will be what Judah is to become. When Judah realizes that the Sons of Jerusalem are strong, they too, will become strong! They will begin by consuming all the surrounding peoples in a massive bloodbath of Satan’s bride. God describes this: **Zech 12:5** “Then the **leaders of Judah** will say in their hearts, **The people of Jerusalem are STRONG, because the LORD Almighty is their God.**’ On that day I will make the **leaders of Judah** like **a fire-pot in a woodpile**, like **a flaming torch among sheaves**. **They will consume right and left ALL THE SURROUNDING PEOPLES**, but Jerusalem will remain intact in her place.”

And Judah will also fight at another glorious battle when a great deal of plunder will be collected and divided among the House of Israel (**Zech 14:1**). So this is a real battle, and plunder will be collected. But I expect many people imagine this to be Christ’s fight, and they will sit in the bleachers and watch.

Christ certainly *confirms* that **He will fight (V3)**, and who is it that fights with Him? ***It's Judah! (V14)*** And all those who have become ***one stick in the hands of Ezekiel!***

No doubt many people will consider this outrageous! In their minds it's unthinkable that the Mighty Christ would fight. Isn't He supposed to be 'saving' all those people who mumbled something about '*giving your heart to the Lord*'? What possible reason could there be for gathering all the nations on the face of the earth for a mighty showdown of destruction and slaughter? This will be at the time of the final outrage – when the nations of the earth are tempted to attack Jerusalem – and more particularly, they will be attacking the *very Kingdom of God!*

But let's put aside the leaven of deceit – the madness that has prevailed among so many who have taken the Name of Christ – *in vain, let it be stated*. They were not truly Christ's, because they never really believed Him. Christ is all the things the Scriptures have said He was. He was a humble, decent man who came to reveal the Father. He lived as a human being and finally gave up His life for His Heavenly Father. Did He come as a conquering hero astride a white stallion and in full battle dress? No, He came as a gentle man riding on the foal of a donkey! But the Bible gives a much later description of this Mighty Messiah: **Rev 19:11** "I saw heaven standing open and there before me was ***a white horse, whose Rider is called Faithful and True***. With justice He judges and ***MAKES WAR***."

So does this mean that when Christ next appears, He will be riding a white horse and in battle array – ready to make war? Not quite! This same humble and decent man is to appear again, and again He will be riding on the foal of a donkey. The sons of Jerusalem must receive their instructions directly from the Mighty Commander Himself – because ***all the sons are taught by God***. For the benefit of all those who have never believed God, He will again appear as the King, but riding on a donkey. Let's hope at that time some fish can be found – Christ loves grilled fish.

So what does God say concerning this appearance? **Zech 9:9** "Rejoice greatly; O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! ***Your King comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will take away the chariots from EPHRAIM and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle-bow will be broken***. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you, because of the ***Blood of my Covenant*** with you, I will ***free your prisoners*** from the waterless pit. Return to your fortress, ***O prisoners of hope***; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you. ***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***."

If all this seems a little unclear, God explains further in **Zech 10:3** "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 overcome ***the horsemen***." The '*horsemen*' is a reference to '*the 4 horsemen of the apocalypse*'.

While God is strengthening Judah, He will also save the ***House of JOSEPH***. **V6** "I will strengthen the House of Judah and save the ***House of Joseph***. I will restore them because I have compassion on them. They will be ***as though I had not rejected them***, for I am the LORD and I will answer them." Like the House of Judah, the ***Ephraimites*** will also ***become mighty men***. **V7** "***The Ephraimites will become like mighty men***, and their hearts will be glad as with wine. Their children will see it and rejoice in the LORD. ***I will signal for them and gather them in***. Surely I will *redeem* them; they will be as numerous as before. ***Though I scatter them among the peoples, yet in a distant land they will remember me***. They and their children will survive, and they will return." The wicked Moslems will be forced to give up their prisoners, and these captors will suffer horrific punishment for their evil. **V10** "I will bring them back from Egypt and gather them from Assyria. I will bring them to Gilead and Lebanon, and ***there will not be room enough for them***." So there is going to be a lot of them return. The problem of lack of room will be solved quite easily. The Jordan will be crossed and cities and territories plundered, and the vermin living there either driven out or slaughtered. And of course, Israel's borders will continue to expand forever. **V11** "They will pass through the sea of trouble; the surging sea will be subdued and all the depths of the Nile will dry up. ***Assyria's pride will be brought down and Egypt's scepter will pass away***. I will strengthen them in the LORD and in His Name will they walk," declares the LORD." God also says this: **Isa 31:8** "Assyria will fall by ***a sword*** that is not of man; ***a sword***, not of mortals, will devour them. They will flee before the sword and ***their young men*** will be put ***to forced labour***. Their stronghold will fall because of terror; at sight of ***the battle standard*** their commander will panic," declares

the LORD, whose **fire is in Zion**, whose **furnace is in Jerusalem**.” The **sword** – the weapon used – will be a little different to that of mortal man!

All this seems to alien to the sensitivities of so many who think they are more righteous than God. Perhaps you have already forgotten what happened just before Christ was murdered. He called for **some swords** in order to be **numbered with transgressors** (**Luke 22:37-38**). In the present political climate, anyone who establishes a Kingdom by force will certainly be considered transgressors. It was important to Christ to fulfill all that was spoken of Him, and He was quoting from **Isa 53:11** “After the suffering of His soul (death), He will see the light of life (resurrection) and be satisfied; **by His knowledge** my Righteous Servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities. Therefore I will give Him **a portion among the great**, and **He will divide the spoils with the strong**, because He poured out His life unto death, **and was numbered with the transgressors.**” Dividing the spoils with the strong is a reference to **Zech 14:1**, and it’s **strong Judah who will fight and collect the spoils of war** (**V14**).

Now it’s perfectly obvious that Christ was not a transgressor, nor were any of His followers, but He had to be seen to be. Moslems are the most disgusting terrorists in the world, but when retribution is taken against them, they howl and whine like dogs and feign innocence. When God’s retribution comes, the propaganda machine will swing into gear, and they will howl and whine that God’s army is killing innocent people. None of them are innocent, including the women and children, who, I mighty add, danced in the streets and rejoiced at the slaughter of thousands of Americans in the worst terrorist attack in history! If you think they are innocent, then you should start rethinking your position. Are you on the side of the **Bride of Christ** or the **bride of Satan**? If you are not with Christ then you are against Him!

God makes no secret of the utter hell that lies ahead. He also makes very clear the outcome. The prophet Isaiah gave a good description: **Isa 29:5** “But your many enemies will become like fine dust, the ruthless hordes like blown chaff. Suddenly, in an instant, the LORD Almighty will come with **thunder and earthquake** and **great noise**, with **windstorm and tempest** and **flames of a devouring fire.**” **V8** “...So will it be with **the hordes of all the nations that fight against Mount Zion.**” If you disagree with God’s Way then find a millstone real quick and put it to good use – you’ll need some rope.

It’s been said many times by this ministry that things are wholly different to all you could imagine. Satan has **not only deceived the whole world** he has **also deceived Christianity**. Satan has many agents – millions of them – and these do his bidding. They head up a vast propaganda machine, which twists and perverts everything, and generally **turns everything upside down** – specifically, the instructions of the Master Potter.

Satan was once a bright shining star filled with Wisdom but he became ambitious to seize power from his Father. For his insolence, he lost the greatest gift any being could ever possess – God took away His Holy Spirit. The brightness was gone and he became a slavering animal. He no longer has Wisdom, instead he has ruthless determination to continue his long campaign against his Father. Win or lose, he will endeavour to cause maximum damage and destroy everything God loves. He is ruthless, impetuous, and has no regard for anyone or anything. And he has chosen his bride well! They too, have all his characteristics, and they hate the only people on the face of the earth that God loves. And God loves these people – the Tribes of Israel – because they are the offspring of His friend Abraham.

God’s other son was an industrious craftsman who delighted in working beside His Father and stood in awe of His Father’s achievements (**Pro 8:30**). Not surprisingly, the Father has a great love for this Son. This Son developed all the characteristics of His Father. In complete contrast, Satan was obsessed with his own beauty and glory and was only interested in personal ambition. This pride and arrogance eventually manifested itself to the point that he felt that he was the perfect ruler. He managed to convince one third of all the angels of the worthiness of his ambitions – and they staged a coup. It was a typical **example of the clay thinking they know more than the Potter – the created believing they are more righteous than the Creator.**

If Almighty God is forced into battle by ambitious pretenders, why would anyone believe they can side with the enemy and get away with it? You need to ask yourself if you are an arrogant poser whose only objective is to exude righteousness to deceive others, or whether you are a craftsman working beside your Heavenly Father and delighting in everything He does. God is going to force you to make this decision! You will be given the choice of submitting to the arch-rebel of the universe or doing as God commands. If you haven’t been careful to do **ALL** that God commands up till now, then the chances are, you are about to make the mistake of your entire lifetime. When the crunch comes it will mean life or death to you. If you have not been a faithful craftsman delighting in doing God’s Will, and faithfully obeying His Laws, there is little hope that you will make the right decision.

Christ spoke of some who thought they had it made. In their eyes they had impressive credentials; they seemed to have earned great rewards – at least in their own minds. This is what He said: **Matt 7:21** “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but **ONLY** he who does the **Will of my Father** who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, **did we not prophesy in your Name**, and **in your Name drive out demons** and **perform many miracles?**’ Then I will tell them plainly, ***I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers.***” There are not many people today who could claim such impressive credentials yet Christ called them *evildoers* because they don’t do the **Will of the Father**. To do God’s Will you must be **AT ONE** with the Father. His Will should take overriding precedence over everything. If you even listen to those who denigrate the **Will of the Father** you are not a true craftsman. If you think your role is to gain ascendancy over others, and to promote admiration and respect from others you are wasting your time. All those who have *challenged* the **Will of the Father** and *taught others to do so*, **are flat-out doomed**. If you did it in ignorance, then there is a way back, but once you have heard the truth and you turn away and refuse it, then go to the left. God is not pleading with you – **HE IS COMMANDING YOU!**

And the words, **Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your Name**’ will have devastating effects on those who have done this without authority. A true prophet has the characteristics and the Spirit of God’s Craftsman Son – Jesus Christ! This Spirit is **the Counsellor**, which reveals all things. It’s a clear addition to the down-payment or earnest of the Spirit of God. The addition of this Spirit gives the recipient **a double-portion of God’s Spirit**. If you don’t have it, then you are prophesying lies! What characterizes these crazy false prophets *is the silly way they speak and write*. They try to emulate the quatrains of Nostradamus with vague references to things they don’t understand. To those who have the double-portion of God’s Holy Spirit, these crazy people are totally transparent in their lies. Their own egotism betrays them.

It’s true that God has hidden His Truth so that none could understand – except those to whom He has given a double-portion of His Spirit. This is the Spirit of Prophecy; also called the Counsellor which is the Spirit of Christ (**John 14:16-27**). Through this Spirit of Prophecy, Christ’s Testimony is made clear (same verses) and the Testimony of Jesus IS the Spirit of Prophecy (**Rev 19:10**). It’s not surprising that so many hate Bible Prophecy – the reason is they don’t understand it! **But how they love MAN’S prophecy!** They love to titillate each other with silly manifestations of their own minds. But God promised to establish a ministry of repentance just before the Great and Dreadful Day of the LORD. A ministry that would send out the last call for people to come to their senses and start believing and honouring God rather than themselves.

Long ago, God appointed a shepherd (howbeit a foolish one) to restore much truth and called him *by name in a parable*. It’s an indictment against those who cannot understand a simple parable, and who think a parable should be easily understood. Christ spoke in parables so no-one would understand (**Matt 13:34-35, Luke 8:9-10**). Christ had no intention of forewarning those evil rulers of the heavenly realms. Those who think a parable is a clear message are deluding themselves. It takes the Wisdom of God to understand the meaning, and of course, Christ is that **Wisdom of God** (**1Cor 1:24** and **Luke 11:49 - NKJV**). Nevertheless, God chose a shepherd to gather a flock together. What typified this flock from all others is that they were given the down-payment or earnest of the Spirit of God. And you can howl and rage all you like, but no others were! All others are merely emotionally driven – they are not led by the Spirit of God. But you don’t have to believe me! You would do well to believe God however! God has this to say concerning His **Law and Testimony**, and bear in mind that the Testimony referred to here is the **Testimony of Jesus** – the only Testimony that has any importance in this endtime: **Isa 8:20** “**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 towards the earth and **see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom**, and **they will be thrust into utter darkness.**”

You’ve made a horrible mistake if you *don’t believe* that **the Testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy** (**Rev 19:10**). If you think the **Testimony of Jesus** is some silly, emotional rhetoric about being saved for doing nothing, then you too, will be looking upward and cursing God when you see the horror all around you!

Those who don’t have the Spirit of God will try to convince you that Jesus Christ fulfilled all prophecy, and you are now on the gravy train to glory. What they fail to tell you is, that Jesus Christ brought a message from the Father some sixty years later detailing *what was yet to come*. If you think the

Book of Revelation is fulfilled, then perhaps they can explain when this occurred. It certainly wasn't fulfilled at Christ's death.

But the day of reckoning has come!

God has said that He will send a teacher for righteousness: **Joel 2:23** "Be glad, O **people of Zion**, rejoice in the LORD your God, for He has given you **a teacher for righteousness**." God confirmed who this would be in **Mal 2:4** "And you will know that I have sent you this admonition so that **my Covenant with Levi may continue**," says the LORD Almighty. "**My Covenant was with him, a covenant of life and peace**, and I gave them to him; **this called for reverence and HE REVERED ME and STOOD IN AWE OF MY NAME. TRUE INSTRUCTION WAS IN HIS MOUTH and nothing false was found in his lips**. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, **and turned many from sin**. For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, **and from his mouth men should SEEK INSTRUCTION – because he is the messenger of the LORD Almighty**. But you have turned from **the Way** and by your teaching have caused many to stumble; **you have violated the Covenant with Levi**," says the LORD Almighty. "**So I have caused you to be despised and humiliated before all the people**, because you have not followed my Ways but have shown partiality in matters of Law."

Reverencing God and **standing in awe of His Name** is a central feature of being **able to stand** in the face of some devastating events. God gives a message to the **House of Israel** in this regard: **Eze 36:22** "Therefore say to the **House of Israel**, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: It is not for your sake, O **House of Israel**, that **I am going to do these things**, but for the **sake of my Holy Name**, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. I will show **the Holiness of my Great Name**, which has been profaned among the nations, **the Name** you have profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Sovereign LORD, **when I show myself Holy through you before their eyes**.'"

And where will the House of Israel be at this time? God tells us: **V24** "For I will take you out of the nations; I will **GATHER YOU FROM ALL THE COUNTRIES** and **bring you back into your own land**. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put **a new Spirit in you**. I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And **I will put MY SPIRIT in you** and move you to **FOLLOW MY DECREES and be careful TO KEEP MY LAWS**. You will live in **the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people**, and **I will be your God**."

Once again, God reiterates that He is not doing all these things for the sake of the House of Israel, but in spite of all they have done: **V32** "I want you to know that I am not doing this for your sake," declares the Sovereign LORD. Be ashamed and disgraced for your conduct, O **House of Israel**." Through the disgrace and humiliation of the House of Israel in captivity, God will make His Glorious Name renowned throughout the whole earth. I think it's patently obvious that **the House of Israel no longer stands in awe of God's Name!** They certainly don't '**FOLLOW MY DECREES and be careful TO KEEP MY LAWS!**' God goes on to speak of reestablishing the Holy Land and rebuilding the ruins and says this: **V36** "Then **the nations around you that remain** will know that I the LORD have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. **I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it**."

After all this, God confirms that His appointed Feasts will be kept: **V37** "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: "Once again I will yield to the plea of the **House of Israel** and do this for them: I will make their people as numerous as sheep, as numerous as the flocks for **offerings at Jerusalem** during her **appointed Feasts**. So will the ruined cities be filled with flocks of people. Then they will know that I am the LORD." This is all prophecy for the future because none of it has yet been fulfilled. You don't see any flocks of sheep being offered today in Jerusalem, do you? Yet God has spoken of these **appointed Feasts** – not just for the **House of Israel**, but for all **survivors of the nations** which **will yet attack Jerusalem in the Great Day of Battle**. When God has made His Great Name known throughout the whole world, many peoples of the earth will come to worship the LORD in Jerusalem. The great rebellion will be over (at least for a thousand years – **Rev 20:7-9**) and people will seek the God of Israel, and they too, will reverence His Holy Name. **Zech 14:16** "Then the **survivors from all the nations** that have **attacked Jerusalem** will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and **to celebrate the FEAST OF TABERNACLES**." **V20** "On that day **HOLY TO THE LORD** will be inscribed on the bells of the horses, and the cooking pots in the LORD'S House will be like the sacred bowls in front of the altar. Every pot in Jerusalem will be Holy to the LORD Almighty, and all those **who come to sacrifice** will take some of the pots and cook in them. And on that day there will no longer be a Canaanite in the House of the LORD Almighty."

If God punishes the House of Israel for their detestable practices in the lead-up to all these things, the nations of the world should not imagine that they will go unpunished. In the great battle described in **Zech 14:2** God will gather all nations against Jerusalem for the great showdown. God particularly mentions the dragon-worshippers in this regard. A thousand years later, these same dragon-worshippers will herald the arrival of their favourite son – the arch-rebel of the universe – when he is released from prison. But then he will be a man (just as Christ was when He was on earth) but Satan will not be a god, even though his dragon-worshiping brood will honour him as such.

You might wonder why God would lure all these nations into a trap to destroy them. This is precisely what they are doing to God's mighty son, Ephraim. When the nations of the earth are called against Jerusalem by the Mighty Commander of Armies – the Christ – they will have limited success (**Zech 14:2**) but the retribution for this act will be overwhelming. They will be crushed in the great winepress, and their blood will flow to the depths of a horse's bridle (**Rev 14:20**).

God speaks of these things soon after He raises a vast army to life in the great valley.

But we've gone way ahead of ourselves here. All this started from a simple reference to the Most Righteous of all men riding upon the foal of an ass. And I'll give young John Mark credit for getting it right in the so-called 'gospel' that he wrote (**Mark 11:4**). He was only a child at the time of these events, the son of one of the Marys, and the nephew of Barnabas. Some years later, he decided to make a few shekels for himself by writing this account. A fierce argument blew up between Paul and Barnabas over this, and the two separated. But that's another story.

Importantly, when the King came into Jerusalem *riding on the foal of an ass*, the *very next day He went to the Temple*, and after plaiting a whip out of cords drove all the men out of the Temple who were guilty of dishonesty and profaning the Temple. This is Mark's account: **Mark 11:15** "On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the Temple area and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the Temple courts." He was targeting the money changers and the merchandisers – not the animals.

I might add that the translators of some versions of the Bible lacked the courage to declare the truth of this matter (including the NIV, though they did get it right in **Matt 21:12**). The translators of the NKJV and the NAB did however render it accurately. Some of the versions wanted to convey the message that Christ only drove out sheep and cattle – as if these were the guilty ones. **He drove out the men!!** Perhaps these men should have been thankful that it was only a whip in Jesus' hand and not a sword. The Christ said this in **V17** "Is it not written, 'My house will be called a House of Prayer for all nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers." Immediately afterwards, they wanted to kill Him.

All this may seem to be the end of the matter – but it's only the beginning! Where then were these words written as Christ stated? Isaiah recorded them: **Isa 56:6** "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 will I bring to my Holy Mountain and give them joy in the 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." I would encourage all to read the rest of this chapter, and also **chapter 57**, and note the last sentence of **V13** "But the man who makes Me (God) his refuge will inherit the Land and possess My Holy Mountain."

Christ's actions in driving out the thieves from God's House brought to the Apostles' minds another Scripture: **John 2:17** "His disciples remembered that it is written, 'Zeal for your House will consume me.'" And where is this written? In the Psalms! **Ps 69:8** "I am a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my mother's sons; for zeal for your house consumes me, and the insults of those who insult you fall on me. When I weep and fast, I must endure scorn; when I put on sackcloth, people make sport of me." I won't even pretend that this refers to Christ! But it came into the minds of the disciples *at that time*. I wonder why? Perhaps the Scriptures will enlighten us. Let's follow it up!

Isaiah also speaks of the arrival of the Saviour: **Isa 62:11** "The LORD has made a proclamation to the ends of the earth: "Say to the Daughter of Zion, SEE, YOUR SAVIOUR COMES! See, His reward is with Him, and His recompense accompanies Him." They will be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you will be called Sought After, The City No Longer Deserted."

So how does this all come about? In the very next verse we find out: **Isa 63:1** "Who is this coming from Edom, from Bozrah, with His garments stained crimson? Who is this, robed in splendour,

striding forward in the Greatness of His Strength?” “It is I, speaking in righteousness, mighty to save.” Why are your garments red, like those of one treading the winepress? “I have trodden the winepress alone; from the nations no-one was with me. I trampled them in anger and trod them down in my wrath; their blood spattered my garments, and I stained all my clothing. For the Day of Vengeance was in my heart, and the Year of my Redemption has come.”

Indeed, who is this? Who could this possibly be with His clothes drenched in blood? And who could this be that comes from Edom and Bozrah in the western fringe of Arabia? Habakkuk says the same thing: **Hab 3:3** “God came from Teman, the Holy One from Mount Paran. His glory covered the heavens and His praise filled the earth. 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, and shook the earth; he looked, and made the nations tremble. The ancient mountains crumbled and the age-old hills collapsed. His Ways are eternal. I saw the tents of Cushan in distress, the dwellings of Midian in anguish.” Both prophets are speaking of the area of Arabia – just beyond the borders of Israel. As a point of interest, Ishmael – the father of the Arabs – lived in Paran (**Gen 21:21**). And Edom? God speaks of His hatred for Esau (and Edom is Esau – **Gen 36:1**), and has said He will crush them: **Mal 1:2** “I have loved you,” says the LORD. “But you ask, ‘How have you loved us?’ “Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?” the LORD says. “Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his mountains into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals.” Edom may say, “Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins.” But this is what the LORD Almighty says: “They may build, but I will demolish. They will be called The Wicked Land, a people always under the wrath of the LORD. You will see with your own eyes and say, ‘Great is the LORD – even beyond the borders of Israel.’” Esau lived with the Arabs, and his grandson was Teman. It was in The Wicked Land of Arabia, just beyond the borders of Israel that the final incarnation of Satan’s wicked bride (Babylon and its people) that the most evil religion on the face of the earth was born – Islam! And it’s to this land that Islamic pilgrims come to visit the birthplace – Mecca. So, if indeed, the Arabs decide to build a great city in this area – and they very well might – God says He will destroy it. But God will allow them to finish the city of Babylon – and this will be their city – that is, the holy city of all Islam – for a short while.

And if this indictment is not enough against The Wicked Land, consider what Isaiah has said: **Isa 34:8** “For the LORD has a day of vengeance, a year of retribution, to uphold Zion’s cause. Edom’s streams will be turned to pitch, her dust into burning sulphur, her land will become blazing pitch! It will not be quenched night or day; its smoke will rise forever. From generation to generation it will lie desolate; no-one will ever pass through it again. The desert own and the screech owl will possess it; the great owl and the raven will nest there. God will stretch out over Edom the measuring-line of chaos and the plumb-line of desolation. Her nobles will have nothing there to be called a kingdom, all her princes will vanish away. Thorns will overrun her citadels, nettles and thorns her strongholds.” And good riddance to the treacherous scum!

Perhaps we should clear up a few ‘little white lies’ your ministers have been telling you! Let’s start with the present *‘bride’* and *‘bridegroom’* – whose voices and music will never be heard again! **Rev 18:21** “Then a mighty angel picked up a boulder the size of a large millstone and threw it in the sea, and said, “With such violence the great city of Babylon will be thrown down, never to be found again. The music of harpists and musicians, flute players and trumpeters, will never be heard in you again. No workman of any trade will ever be found in you again. The sound of the millstone will never be heard in you again. The light of the lamp will never shine in you again. THE VOICE OF THE BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE WILL NEVER BE HEARD IN YOU AGAIN. Your merchants were the world’s great men. By your magic spell ALL THE NATIONS WERE LED ASTRAY. In her was found the blood of ALL the prophets and of the saints, and ALL who have been killed on the earth.” Yes, this includes ALL – from righteous Abel to the present day (**Matt 23:35**). Jerusalem is the City that represents God’s faithful Son and Heir, and Babylon is the city that represents His unfaithful and worthless harlot of a son.

So out with the old ‘bride’ and ‘bridegroom’ and in with the new – with much rejoicing: **Rev 19:4** “The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the Throne. And they cried: “Amen, Hallelujah!” Then a voice came from the Throne, saying: “Praise our God, all you His servants, you who fear Him, both small and great!” Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like the loud peals of thunder, shouting: “Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and His Bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.” (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints). Then the angel said to me, “Write, ‘Blessed

are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!” And he added these words, “These are the true words of God.”

At this point, the Apostle John was overwhelmed by the glory of all he had been told about these things that were yet future. The old ‘bride’ was out, and the new Bride was in, and she had made herself ready! **V10** “At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, **“Do not do it! I am a fellow-servant with you and your brothers who hold to the Testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the Testimony of Jesus IS the Spirit of Prophecy.”**

So when does this wonderful event take place? It takes place after the present mad ‘bridegroom’ launches an attack on the very Throne of God – and is unceremoniously hurled to earth! Then Christ arises to take over the reigns of world government through the establishment of the **Kingdom of God: Rev 12:7** “And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down – that ancient serpent called the devil and Satan, **WHO LEADS THE WHOLE WORLD ASTRAY. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.** Then I heard a loud voice in Heaven say: “Now have come the **Salvation and Power** and the **Kingdom of God**, and the **Authority of His Christ**. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their Testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. Therefore, **REJOICE YOU HEAVENS** and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows his time is short.” And the **heavens will rejoice (Rev 19:6)** because the Lord God Almighty reigns.

At that time, he will know his time is short! He’ll be barred from heaven, he’ll be unable to accuse the brothers anymore before God, and he will go after them to destroy them (**V13**). But alas, they will be out of his reach, and then he will turn his flood against **the offspring (V17)**.

Following the time when the prophet (John at the time of the vision) and his brothers are empowered to be like the mightiest of God’s angels (**Rev 19:10, Zech 12:8**), a Mighty Being will arise on a white horse: **Rev 19:11** “I saw Heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice He judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on His head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no-one but He knows. He is dressed in **a robe dipped in blood**, and His name is the **Word of God**. The armies of Heaven were following Him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of His mouth comes a sharp sword with which **to strike down the nations**. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” **He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty**. On His robe and on His thigh He has the Name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**”

God is deliberately provocative towards the nations of the earth. He plans to provoke them into a fight. What they have done against defenceless people will bring swift retribution in the **Day of Vengeance**. And when God speaks of Judah and Ephraim being **mighty men** – He really does mean **MIGHTY MEN!** He speaks of His **MIGHTY ARMY** with whom He will strike the nations to the ends of the earth. The prophet Joel spoke of it: **Joel 2:1** “**Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my Holy Hill**. Let all who live in the **earth (Str. 0776)** tremble, for the **Day of the LORD** is coming. It is close at hand – a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like **DAWN** spreading across the mountains a **large and mighty army** comes, such as never was of old nor ever will be in ages to come. Before them fire devours, behind them a flame blazes. Before them the land is like the garden of Eden, behind them a desert waste – nothing escapes them. They have the appearance of horses; they gallop along like cavalry. With the noise like that of **CHARIOTS** they **leap over the mountaintops**, like a crackling **fire consuming stubble (see Zech 12:6)**, like a **mighty army** drawn up for battle. At the sight of them, the nations are in anguish, every face turns pale. They charge like warriors; they scale walls like soldiers. They march in line not swerving from their course. They do not jostle each other; each marches straight ahead. They plunge through defences without breaking ranks. They rush upon the city; they run along the wall. They climb into the houses; like thieves they enter through the windows. Before them the earth shakes, the sky trembles, the sun and moon are darkened, and the stars no longer shine. **THE LORD THUNDERS AT THE HEAD OF HIS ARMY; His forces are beyond number**, and **MIGHTY are those who OBEY His command**. The **DAY OF THE LORD** is **GREAT**; it is **DREADFUL (see Mal 4:5). WHO CAN ENDURE IT?**”

Well might we ask **‘Who can endure it?’** Recall what Malachi says: **Mal 3:1** “See, I will send **my messenger**, who will **prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will**

come to His Temple; the Messenger of the Covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty. BUT WHO CAN ENDURE THE DAY OF HIS COMING? Who can stand when He appears?” After the death of John the Baptist, Christ confirmed that John was the messenger who prepared the way (Matt 11:10) – for His *first* appearance. Later the disciples asked him: Matt 17:10 “Why do the teachers of the Law say that Elijah must come first?” Jesus replied, “To be sure, Elijah comes first...” yet when John appeared, there was *no mighty army*, and neither did the LORD CHRIST THUNDER AT THE HEAD OF HIS ARMY! Nevertheless, Christ confirmed that the Kingdom of God would be taken by force, and forceful men lay hold of it (Matt 11:12). As far as enduring the Day of His coming, God has prepared the Levites for this job, and plainly says so (Mal 3:3).

Once the messenger has prepared the way for the Messenger of the Covenant, and has established the armies of the Living God through Judah, and later Ephraim, THE MIGHTY CHRIST WILL THUNDER AT THE HEAD OF HIS ARMY. The Levite Brotherhood will do all that God has refined them to do. The Way will be prepared – just as God has said!

Lamentably, the voice of the bride and bridegroom are being heard today more than ever. Islamic terrorists have arisen from every Islamic nation on earth, and all Islamic nations constantly speak of jihads – the holy war against all non-Moslems. Blind Freddy could see this even without his seeing-eye dog. But the poisonous venom has started even now, and so soon after the outrageous terrorist attacks on the U.S. Gradually and inexorably, the siren song is being voiced by all those who are falling under the Satanic magic spell. In the face of overwhelming evidence to the contrary, voices are being raised and saying Islam is a peaceful religion, and this is not a war against Islam – but terrorists.

ALL ISLAM ARE TERRORISTS!!!

What is wrong with everyone? Are they all totally blind and stupid? Little wonder that God is outraged at the shepherds of Israel – and crazy so-called Christian leaders should take particular notice! And when the blood begins to flow whose side will they be on? You can be sure it will be on the side that offers the best hope of saving their butts!

You’ve been deceived! But you are not alone – Satan has led the whole world astray, just as God has said! You’ve probably hoped for good outcomes and a speedy transition to eternal rewards. Satan wanted you to believe this – and all the while he has been planning your destruction. But now THE LIE is being thrown right in your face – and it’s Satan’s LIE! Are you going to believe it – or will you start believing God?

Now the House of Israel is gathering lovers and allies among the very brood of Satan – the slimy lawless vipers – guilty men who god is their strength (Hab 1:11). And *that god is not* the Almighty God of ISRAEL!

These vipers feign outrage at terrorists, and claim to have nothing to do with them, yet they rejoice and dance in the streets to see thousands of Americans die. One by one they will find fault with the U.S. and will wage a major propaganda campaign to antagonize and demoralize the forces. All this time they will be planning a sneaky attack using unconventional means. The Moslem nations will lure Ephraim into the area to entrap them. The rulers of the heavenly realms would willingly sacrifice half their people to destroy *the one who holds them back*. They don’t care about killing their own people (Isa 14:20-23).

God has issued *many warnings* of impending destruction. If you had taken the time to seek them out then you would have found them – but you chose to believe your lying prophets and seers! God indicts the obstinate children of Israel with these words: Isa 30:1 “Woe to the obstinate children,” declares the LORD, “to those who carry out plans that are not mine, forming an ALLIANCE, but not by my Spirit, heaping sin upon sin; who go down to Egypt without consulting me; who look for Pharaoh’s protection, to Egypt’s shade for refuge.” And isn’t this exactly what the ‘obstinate children’ are doing? God calls Egypt *Rahab the Do-Nothing’ (V7)*. You’ll recall that Rahab was a harlot. Fancy asking treacherous Egypt for anything!

Well they choose *not* to *consult* God. Then God instructs the prophet to engrave a message on stone – so that it will last a long time, and also on a scroll, because the message was for the distant future. This is what God says: V8 “Go now, write it on a tablet for them, inscribe it on a scroll, that for the days to come it may be an everlasting witness. These are a rebellious people, deceitful children, children unwilling to listen to the LORD’S instruction. They say to the seers, “See no more visions!” and to the prophets, “Give us no more visions of what is right! Tell us pleasant things, prophesy illusions. Leave this way, get off the path, and stop confronting us with the Holy One of ISRAEL.” Indeed they say ‘*stop confronting us with the Holy One of ISRAEL!*’ Many of those who once had God’s Holy Spirit don’t want to hear anything about ISRAEL! They are frantically teaching that House of Israel no longer exists.

Yet almost everything the Holy One of ISRAEL has said concerns the *children* of ISRAEL. And in this very verse He speaks of the *children* – and says they have rebelled against Him. He also calls them *deceitful* – and how true this is in the light of the big LIE they are presently promoting – and believing!

So God goes on to condemn the FINE POTTERY and the lying deceit they are teaching: **V12** “Therefore, this is what the Holy One of Israel says: “Because you have rejected this message, relied on oppression and depended on deceit, this sin will become for you like a high wall, cracked and bulging, that collapses suddenly, in an instant. It will break in pieces like pottery, shattered so mercilessly that among its pieces not a fragment will be found for taking coals from the hearth or scooping water out of a cistern.” Once again God invokes His role as the Master Potter, and again speaks of the clay rejecting His message. He never asked much of them but to simply believe Him and to do as they were created to do as fine pottery. And this is what He says to them: **V15** “This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel says: “In repentance and REST is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, BUT YOU WOULD HAVE NONE OF IT.” Yes, God gave you A REST, a Sabbath rest, but many refused to rest – as God instructed! They would have none of it! They refused to listen but still made contingency plans in case disaster overtook them. They planned to escape to a place of safety. Did they imagine that God didn’t anticipate this? He knows what is in their deceitful minds and plainly says so: **V16** “You said, *No, we will flee on horses.*’ Therefore you will flee! You said, *We will ride off on swift horses.*’ Therefore your PURSUERS will be swift! A thousand will flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you will all flee away, till you are left like a flagstaff on a mountaintop, like a banner on a hill.” Then your PURSUERS will know exactly where you are!

Again God likens the deceitful lies, which they have made your refuge, to a wall: **Eze 13:1** “The Word of the LORD came to me: “Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who are now prophesying. Say to those who prophesy out of their own imagination: ‘Hear the Word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing! Your prophets, O Israel, are like jackals among the ruins. You have not gone up to the breaks in the wall to repair it for the House of Israel so that it will stand firm in the battle on the Day of the LORD. Their visions are false and their divinations a LIE.” And what do you suppose was the purpose of having ‘prophets’ in Israel? All prophets have the same function – to repair the breaks in the wall FOR THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL! And what do these fools do? They add to the destruction with prophecies, which they conjure up from their own imaginations. These filthy dreamers care nothing for the *people* of the Holy One of Israel! What is more, many of them won’t acknowledge the existence of the House of Israel. Yet Satan knows who the House of Israel is, and he continues his jihad against them. Now he wants to wipe them off the face of the earth. And as an example of the mindless morons that are Satan’s bride, he has convinced them that he is god, and the House of Israel is the ‘*great Satan*’. They think if they kill some of the ‘*great Satan*’ they will have seventy wives in heaven. Satan certainly knows how to appeal to his mindless, degenerate rabble. Satan has been a liar and a murderer from the beginning.

God goes even further: **Eze 13:14** “I will tear down the wall you have covered with whitewash and will level it to the ground so that its foundation will be laid bare.” The false prophets have begun building something they are not entitled to do. The foundation that will be laid bare is the foundation of the 12 Apostles (**Rev 21:14**). When the wall of delusion falls, then only the foundation will be left. “When it falls you will be destroyed in it; and you will know that I am the LORD. So I will spend my wrath against the wall and against those who covered it with whitewash. I will say to you, “The wall is gone and so are they who whitewashed it, those prophets of Israel who prophesied to Jerusalem and saw visions of peace for her when there is no peace,” declares the LORD.” **V19** “.... 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.”

The ‘*peace process*’ sounds so catchy to those evil prophets of Israel. They totally ignore the murderous bombings by the Islamic scum around Jerusalem, and expect God’s people Judah to continue to talk peace. All those who saw visions of peace for her will pay dearly for not listening to God. God advocates WAR not peace with His enemies! God is now tearing down that whitewashed wall. The vast majority of Americans do not want peace with the treacherous Moslems that swept across the earth and struck them at their heart – they want WAR! This is in total contrast to the ‘*peace process*’ they have been advocating for years for God’s people Judah. Now you see where the reference to white-washed walls comes in! Recall how Christ (**Matt 23:27**), and later Paul (**Acts 23:3**), spoke of whitewashed tombs and whitewashed walls – arrogant, self-righteous hypocrites who have built their own whitewashed walls and their own whitewashed tombs.

As an example of the madness of some in the Churches of God, some of these people (*who once had the down-payment of the Holy Spirit – let it be stated*) now believe God's son Ephraim (Jer 31:20) is the beast power – the power of Satan the devil! Into whose spirit are these people attuned? Certainly not God's! These people hurl out their garbage in the hope of catching the unwary and gathering them into Satan's synagogue – a veritable world of madness! They've become Satan's pawns.

America is made up of all the 13 Tribes of Israel – God added a double portion to Joseph. It's well known that the U.S. is made up, predominantly, of Europeans. By calling the U.S. the beast power, they must be suggesting that the Tribes of Israel are located elsewhere. Since the Lord God – the Holy One of ISRAEL speaks again and again of Israel as the only nation He ever chose as his own (**Amos 3:1, Deut 7:6, 2Sam 7:25, Deut 14:2**), where would these false prophets suggest the House of Israel is? Obviously, if, as they suggest, the descendants of the Europeans are not the Tribes of Israel, then who is? And since treacherous, deceitful, mainstream Christianity is coming out so strongly with peace overtures to the Moslems, might it be suggested that they are thinking that Ishmael – and not Jacob – is the father of the 12 Tribes of Israel? Perhaps not in so many words, but they are certainly moving in that direction. And this is exactly what Islam is teaching! They have already substituted Ishmael for Isaac in the Koran. The conditioning process has begun and madness will prevail!

The long dark night has begun, and wars will continue to the end, and desolations have been decreed. Whatever perceptions of prophecy you may have had in the past, now is the time to start rethinking your position. God has not spoken through *the lying prophets who have spoken through their own imaginations*. Nothing they have said even remotely resembles what God has proclaimed, and which He has said is certain! The plethora of lies they have flanged together is based on wishful thinking – not on God's sure Word of prophecy. Whether you now believe God or not is entirely up to you, but unless you do you cannot be a part of those described in **Mal 3:16-18**.

This Levite Brotherhood has never appealed for anyone to join us. Those who join us are deeply repentant people who despise the way they formerly treated God's Word and requirements. This is a ministry of repentance, and those who are added are deeply repentant of the shabby way in which they were beguiled to believe so many lies. To be admitted to this Brotherhood, you must believe what the objectives of the Mighty Christ were! It's plainly written for all to see: **1Cor 15:24** “Then the end will come, when He hands over the Kingdom to God the Father after He has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. He must reign until He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy destroyed is death. For He *“has put everything under His feet”*. Now when it says *‘everything’* has been put under Him, it is clear that this doesn't include God Himself, who put everything under Christ. When He has done this, then the Son will be made subject to Him who put everything under Him.”

I want to pay tribute to the faithful brothers and sisters in Zion Ministry whose unswerving devotion to, and belief in Almighty God has been recorded (**Mal 3:16**). Consider yourselves to be like a tiny mustard seed that will grow into a mighty tree, whose branches will spread out to cover the whole earth. All the sons who have been taught by God (John 6:44-45, Isa 54:13) will soon be called to duty.

A special mention should be made of our own ‘El Cid’ – our Spanish-American brother who has stood in the line of fire and taken enormous heat just as our beloved Christ did when He was constantly confronted by satanic creatures of the enemy camp. His devotion to God's Truth and his willingness to offer explanations or rebukes in an appropriate manner has given him great favour in God's eyes, and in the eyes of the Levite Brotherhood. The Brotherhood knows to whom I refer and of his many posts. He is of the Seed, and another Seed – the Holy Spirit – is working powerfully within him. Our beloved Oscar would be the first to admit that he is not perfect, but his devotion to Almighty God and his ferocious defense of God's Holy Name and reputation will be greatly rewarded.

Hopefully, his devotion to God's Word will be an inspiration to the thousands outside of this ministry who also have a very important job to do. Presently, most of them are fence-sitters who can't quite work out whether to believe God or their own shepherds. They look at their shepherds, who appear so noble and virtuous, and filled with a form of godliness that sits well with them, and can't imagine that they would lead them to destruction. Perhaps some of these fence-sitters would like to consider their own beliefs, and try to work out how they differ from the beliefs of mainstream Christianity. To be sure, there might be some minor differences, and perhaps even some major ones. But overall, none of the teachings of the Churches would even come close to understanding the Plan of God, and this He reveals only to His servants the prophets (**Amos 3:7**). It was thought that the final article to go out before the Lion roars would be a complete explanation of the Great Plan of God. While this article is in preparation, it will be deferred for a little while.

When an army goes into battle, does the Commander tell **the enemy** what he plans to do? And who are the **enemies of God**? Surely we know these are **not flesh and blood** (**Eph 6:12**), but nevertheless, these rulers of the heavenly realm control most of humanity. Would God advise them on what He plans to do? They don't have the faintest idea – they can only guess. It's been said that Satan is super-intelligent and can quote Scripture, etc. Satan can only *misquote* Scripture because **he doesn't understand it**. God has concealed the meaning of it all so he can't understand it. Without the Spirit of God's Glorious Son – **called the Counsellor – no-one can understand Scripture** except in the most fundamental way, **and they certainly can't understand prophecy!** And there is uniqueness about prophecy. **Prophecy is for believers not unbelievers.** (**1Cor 14:22**) **Unbelievers** ignore prophecy except for prophecy that has no substantive, Biblical basis. **Unbelievers** concentrate on picky little issues to do with social welfare, and feel-good remedies. Their minds are not attuned to prophecy or the things that are important to God. They don't long for the establishment of the Kingdom of God when Christ crushes all His enemies under His feet. They don't long for the day when He will hand the Kingdom over to the Father, and when the Father will dwell with men.

None of these things are important to **unbelievers**. They care only for the emotional trip they get from parroting foolish clichés and plumbing the depths of self-gratification. They want to be admired and held in great esteem. To teach what Christ taught would quickly get them hated by all **unbelievers**. They don't like to refer to Jesus as the Mighty Christ – the Invincible Commander of Armies who will put down all rebellion – they like to refer to Him as just 'Jesus', as if He were just another man!

Some might wonder why God doesn't just destroy His enemies as He destroyed the human population in the days of Noah. While He destroyed all humans except Noah and his family, the real rulers – the spirit beings of the heavenly realm remained. All that happened was they were deprived of their progeny.

Almighty God has very good reasons for doing all that He plans to do. And while the human mind may recoil from the horror of the reality of all prophecy, the first duty of all believers is to believe that God is fully justified in His actions and that what He plans to do is not only logical, but also absolutely righteous. Unbelievers will go to their graves cursing God – true believers will acknowledge Him as the Great and Righteous Creator and never question His motives. But true believers will have one important advantage – they will understand why things must be this way! They will understand this because they alone will have a double-portion of God's Holy Spirit.

Pray that you are one of them!

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