

MSB261

MORE Seed and Bread

BRIEF BIBLICAL MESSAGES FROM

THE WORD OF TRUTH MINISTRY

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JERUSALEM, THE FINAL SOLUTION

By David R. Hettema

This article is being written in a time when the nations of the earth are in turmoil. Our own country has been attacked by an enemy that threatens our peace, our homes, and the lives of our families. The United States is at war with these terrorists, and rightly so, but by doing so we are adding our nation to the growing number of nations on this earth currently involved in over 120 active wars all over the globe. The same fears that grab us are being felt in many places on this globe. As human beings we are greatly concerned for the lives and safety of those we love, and our hearts would melt within us for fear except the Lord has given the believer encouraging assurance from His Word that He is fully aware of what is happening and that our future is under His control. God has spoken about the many things we should be concentrating upon as these perilous time re-occur. We have the privilege of prayer and we are instructed to pray for the coming of God's kingdom, to anticipate the coming glorious manifestation of Jesus Christ. It will come, but when we do not know. We do know that our God has be the time for the glory of the Lord to break forth upon the earth? The Psalmist David gave us this inspired prayer indicated within His Word, that certain conditions will come together in the earth when He will break His silence and go into action. The present violent world situation seems to follow that pattern, making our hearts wonder: could this that pleads for God to intervene from his throne in the heavens: **Arise, O LORD, Do not let man prevail; Let the nations be judged in Your sight. Put them in fear, O LORD, that the nations may know themselves to be but men** (Ps 9:19-20).

The ongoing bloodshed and commotion among the nations of the world seem to fit the divine description in Psalms 46:6: **The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved; He uttered His voice, the earth melted.** For God to

do this would be divine intervention, just exactly what men pray for when they ask that "God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Think about what it would be like if Heaven's government suddenly took over all the kingdoms and peoples of this earth. At His word all wars would instantly be halted. The awe-inspired and enlightened people of all the nations will say: **Come, behold the works of the LORD, Who has made desolations in the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire. Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!** (Ps 46:8-10).

If we look closely for the causes behind "our war" with the terrorists and those who would destroy us, you will see that in their zeal to kill Americans and Jews there is a direct connection to the long on-going conflict in Palestine. The big question to be answered is: "Who, or which faction, the Jews or the Palestinians (Islam), will finally control Jerusalem and the Temple Mount?" Several years ago when President Carter of our country attempted to broker a peace accord between Israel and the Palestinians, both sides indicated their willingness to be part of the agreement. It consisted of both sides in accord taking several planned steps toward settling their differences. The last and final step was to set a time when they would meet to negotiate a binding agreement as to which of the opposing parties would have sole control over Jerusalem and the Temple Mount, the title selected for the meeting was **"The Final Solution."** The old acrimony erupted; the meeting has never been called.

God's attention has long been upon the City of Jerusalem. He often speaks to Jerusalem through the Prophet Isaiah (49:16): Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. This is just one of many passages where Isaiah was inspired to write Jehovah's messages to Israel as though He was speaking prophetically to the City of Jerusalem (Zion). It is in these passages we learn of God's great love for the city where He again will place His name. God, not men, will have full possession and control of the city of Jerusalem when He takes to Himself His rightful authority over the nations of the earth. For the LORD has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation. (Ps 132:13). Right up to the present time, Jerusalem has probably seen more wars than any other city on the earth, but it will finally enjoy its desired peace.

Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she has received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins (Isa.40:2).

The Temple mount in old Jerusalem is that walled-in elevated platform which at one time held Solomon's Temple. Much later it was the site of the beautiful Temple built by Herod where Jesus often taught. The Temple erected by Solomon was destroyed by Babylon when Judah went into captivity. Herod's Temple was totally destroyed in 70 AD by Titus and his Roman armies.

The present day orthodox Jews will not set foot on the sacred Temple mount because they believe that somewhere under the rubble of the past destructions rests the holy ark of the covenant and other items not to be trampled upon, holy relics from the destroyed Temples of Solomon and Herod.

Based upon some of the old Testament prophets and the teachings of their Rabbis, many religious Jews are waiting in the land for their messiah. They describe him as being a man, probably a learned Rabbi, who will come to Jerusalem to fulfill the Old Testament promises for Israel's glory. He will oversee the construction of the new Temple as described in Ezekiel, chapter 40. At this time in Jerusalem (The Temple Institute in Jerusalem), a group of religious Jews are making the articles of worship for the new Temple, such as silver trumpets and garments for the Priests, a gold crown for the high priest and numerous other items they anticipate will be a part of the future Temple worship. They believe that when their messiah comes, his very presence in Jerusalem will settle the issue of the rights to the Temple mount and the City of Jerusalem, often called Zion in the scriptures.

What these earnest people of Israel do not have is the knowledge that Jesus Christ is their Messiah. The Lord Jesus Christ is Jehovah. He is the one to whom every knee shall bow, as God has spoken in Isaiah 45:23 and Philippians 2:10. He is the one who will reclaim Jerusalem when His government is in the earth: **You will arise and have mercy on Zion; for the time to favor her, yes, the set time, has come. For Your servants take pleasure in her stones, and show favor to her dust. So the nations shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth Your glory. For the LORD shall build up Zion; He shall appear in His glory.** (Ps 102:13-16).

The appearing in His glory is the manifestation of Jesus Christ. Paul told Timothy in 2 Tim 4:1, **I charge you therefore before God even the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing even His kingdom:**

His Kingdom, God's government in this earth, is the next move in God's program for this troubled earth. Not Armageddon as some are teaching, not a secret pre-

tribulation rapture that many Bible teachers are proclaiming (a mythical event that has no basis in scripture). What is next is Divine intervention by means of God's Spirit (Joel 2:28), a silent invasion into the minds and hearts of all living. He will enlighten the world as to the glory of Jesus Christ. That is the beginning of God's government and earth's salvation. **All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before You. For the kingdom is the LORD'S, and He rules over the nations.** (Ps 22:27-28).

A great number of the Palestinians who so bitterly oppose Israel are also descendants of Abraham who have God's promises of blessing for their nations and peoples, sure promises that will be realized when God governs the earth. Compare Genesis 25 with Isaiah 60 and you will see that all of Abraham's descendents are marked out for blessing, but not in the land that God promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The promised land of Israel will have its center of activities in Jerusalem. I bring near my righteousness, it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry; and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory. (Isa 46:13). For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. The Nations shall see your righteousness, and all kings your glory... (Isa 62:1-2).

The question that might be asked here is: "If God should determine to intervene and stop this war, what would happen to thousands of Palestinians who will not have their portion in the land promised to Israel?" The question seems to be anticipated in the scriptures where the Psalmist writes of Jehovah as King, ever flowing in His Government: The LORD is King forever and ever; the nations have perished (come to naught) out of His land. In Isaiah 49:16-17 God speaks again of His love for Jerusalem which He has chosen for Himself and His people: Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. Thy children shall make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee.

Editors note: Also see More Seed & Bread number **MSB215** , *The Jerusalem Factor*. This subject is brought up again because of current events. It is at a dark and perilous time such as this that God rescues the world. There may be additional periods of peril to go through, but when He does move to save this earth, it will bring the greatest possible glory to Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world.

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