

October 29, 2023

All verses are copied from <https://biblehub.com/> in King James

Just a point on the Ezekiel 38/39 war. The five main participants are **Russia**, **Iran (Shia Muslims)**, **Turkey (Sunni Muslims)** **Libya Sunni Muslim**. Ethiopia is identified as a participant but in the time of Ezekiel, the nation back the that was called Ethiopia today is called Sudan. **Sudan** is predominately **Sunni Muslim**.

Russia Non-Muslim their motivation is likely money/oil/petroleum which is Russia's source of power. They won't want to come but God says He will put a hook in their jowls (jaw) and draw them to Israel.

Iran Shia Motivation hatred of Jews

Turkey Sunni Motivation hatred of Jews

Sudan Sunni Motivation hatred of Jews

Libya Sunni Motivation hatred of Jews

From ThoughtCo.com

"At least 87% of Muslims are Sunnis. They are the majority in Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Yemen, Pakistan, Indonesia, Turkey, Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia. Shiites are the majority in Iran, Bahrain, and Iraq. They also have large minority communities in Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, and Azerbaijan."

“ALBAWABA - In an official statement, the Libyan House of Representatives condemned the latest Israeli aggression on Gaza. The statement also demanded the departure of all ambassadors of the countries supporting Israel.” <https://www.albawaba.com/news/libya-calls-all-israel-supporting-ambassadors-leave-1539116>

Perhaps we can get together on Wednesday and go over preparedness for Christians?

Acts 3

Healing the Lame Beggar

1Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being* the ninth *hour*.

Peter and John were friends and fellow fishermen long before meeting Christ. Their relationship served them throughout their ministry for Christ. Both were part of the inner circle that Christ had adopted.

Judaism had fixed three hours in the day for private prayer; 3rd 6th and 9th hour. So, in our time it would have been the 3rd hour would be 9AM, 6th would be 12Noon and the 9th would be 3PM.

The source of this scheduled prayer was Daniel and David.

Psalms 55:17 16As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me. 17Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

Daniel 6:10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

2And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

This was a common practice among those physically afflicted to earn money to live, by asking others for help. This man is the same man referenced in Acts 4 that was over 40 years of age.

Acts 4:22 For the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed.

As to the Gate called Beautiful, there is no Biblical identity to which gate this was. There is no shortage of speculation as to which gate, but the Bible neither names any gate this nor is any gate called this currently from a Biblical perspective. Some point to Josephus as identifying this gate but he himself has confused the issue by identifying various numbers of gates around the city. Bottom line, we don't know which gate this was.

What we do know is that a man probably over 40 was assisted there daily to ask for alms.

From Strong's Concordance: Alms

“Transliteration: eleémosuné

Phonetic Spelling: (el-eh-ay-mos-oo'-nay)

Definition: mercy, pity, alms

3Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. 4And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, **Look on us.**

The man saw Peter and John were going into the Temple. Peter specifically makes their presence known to him by saying; **“Look on us.”**

5And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

The gentleman who is lame is undoubtedly trying to catch the eye of passersby and is called out by the Apostle Peter. Naturally when someone spoke to him directly rather than ignoring him, he would think they want to give me something, which is the whole purpose of his being there some part of 40 years. No small amount of time.

6Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

The very thing this man thought he wanted he did not get which was money. Do you ever want something from God and He does

not give it to you but gives you something better, maybe something that had not even crossed your mind? A man crippled from birth could receive either a few cents or the ability to walk. Which would you take?

I have seen some who call themselves healers command people to rise up and not use the name of Jesus. That strikes me as self-serving. It is all dependent on Jesus as to who is healed and why. It is simply not for us to say, we do not have the knowledge or the power to heal. What we have is the ability to do what Jesus asks us to do in His Strength and in His Wisdom. We also have the permission from God to ask, and we are allowed to be persistent according to God's Word.

Luke 18: [1](#)And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; [2](#)Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: [3](#)And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. [4](#)And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; [5](#)Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. [6](#)And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. [7](#)And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? [8](#)I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

So, ask and then leave it in God's hands. It is apparently ok to be persistent in your prayers. Just realize it is up to God how He answers.

A concerning note by Christ is vs 8 of Luke 18. ***“When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?”***

So, Peter tells this man in the name of Jesus and not just any Jesus as that was a common name, but ***“in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk”***. Peter identifies Jesus in 3 ways. Jesus or Joshua His proper name; Christ, the Messiah His title and where he was from Nazareth. There are a number of root words associated with Nazareth, I think one of the most interesting is Nasar meaning “branch or shoot”. We have often read where Jesus the Messiah would be the branch or shoot (offspring of Jesse, father of King David).

Isaiah 11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

Matthew 1:6 And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias;

Recall from earlier studies that Nazareth was at the bottom of the towns of importance. It was located about 30 miles north of Jerusalem in Galilee. It was of such little consequence and not well thought of.

John 1:46 And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

Prophecy pointed to Jesus and Bethlehem, but nothing is said in prophecy about Nazareth. Jesus Himself would say that He was from Nazareth.

7And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him* up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

When does Faith become reality? In this case, there was no doubt in Peter's mind that healing would take place. He took the man's hand to help him stand up. Boldness in Faith seems to have waned over the centuries. Is it due to our lack of Faith, our lack of boldness or is there something else out there that God is doing? Were so many miracles intended by God to aid the early Church in its growth. Is God holding back major miracles for the end times? As we search prophecy there are miracles that are coming that are immense in proportion. These early miracles seemed to be personal, from one Believe to another person. What is coming is worldwide. That does not mean that personal miracles are not still happening. We all know they are, but the world writes them off as "coincidence". The miracles that God is

bringing in the end times will be overwhelming in evidence of God, and immense in how broad they are.

Back to personal healings, is timing an issue with God? Does God use healings to move a person or people's hearts? What is behind healing?

In this case, God used this healing to move not only the person that was healed but to move those in the early Church. But move them how?

This man most likely was born in this condition for this moment. We have seen that in other scripture. It seems quite harsh that God would intentionally put someone in this condition for 40+ years to bring about a change. When we consider the length of time that 40 years is compared to eternity, how big is 40 years. When you consider what this man endured for 40 years considering what he would receive in eternity, how big is 40 years? Remember Ester and the words; "For such a time as this!"

I do not pretend to understand God and healing. What I do know that it is totally in HIS providence. He knows the beginning from the end. He knows what each person must endure, and He knows the limits of each of us and tells us He will not test us beyond our limits. I have often wondered if that means when God sees us

reach our limit in illness or whatever that He simply takes the Believer home; it is done.

8And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

It is apparent that when something changes in our bodies that we recognize it quickly. When Peter offered to help this man stand it was abundantly clear to him that something was different, after 40 years something was different. His response? “**leaping up**”.

He knew where the power came from because we are told that as he “**walked and leaping and praising God**”.

9And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

Praising God is tantamount to praising Jesus, but it is not clear that those who saw this man clearly understood the words Peter used. The point is that Peter specifically identified the very one that had been crucified by the Jews as Jesus Christ from Nazareth.

November 5, 2023

10And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

True healing is an amazing thing to behold. Most of you remember Charlie and what happened to him. Going from being confined in a wheelchair to walking and driving still being paralyzed from the neck down. From listening to Charlie, it was without a doubt God that intervened. Why God healed his ability to walk and drive but did not heal his neck injury I have no clue. But to see him walk from being in a wheelchair was amazing.

That same amazement that the people at the temple experienced in seeing a man they had known for over 40 years in a condition that was now gone.

Peter Speaks in Solomon's Colonnade

11And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

The wording here is clear to a point. The lame man, which was healed, the verses before specified by God. Peter used the name of Jesus of Nazareth, calling again the singularity of the God Head. The Three are One. I do not think that was being broadly understood by those around when the healing took place.

The lame man holds onto the delivery team, Peter and John. But they will be the first to disavow any power in themselves only conduits from the real power of Jesus Christ. Peter will get down

to it immediately as to Who and Where the Power lies, and it is not he or John.

12And when Peter saw *it*, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

It is understandable that people would look to Peter and John as healers, but Peter wants to set that idea to rest. Evil men will take credit for what is God's authority only. Those who serve the Living God, the Son the Holy Spirit will reject any personal power and point only to the God Head.

13The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *him* go.

Peter is not going to let this go as to who was responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus. He also wants to make clear how the Power of God was manifested in Jesus the one, they crucified. As a little more meat on the bone Peter points out that Pilate wanted to let Jesus go but the Jewry said no.

On that issue of Jesus Crucifixion, it is such a double-edged sword. As Believers we hate the idea that our Lord died at all but under such horrible circumstances is almost unbearable. As

Believers removed by some 2000 years since the Crucifixion we can easily get into the mode of pointing fingers at the Jews for their actions or inactions. They either took part in or refused to intervene in the death of the Messiah.

The other side of that sword is that if Jesus had not done what He did where would we be in our sin? He did it for each of us and for the millions of people around the world. He did it for “all”. How can that not wring one’s heart out to fall to their knees and with tears thank Jesus for His Sacrifice? We hate to think of His death but without His death we have no hope!

14But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;

In case anyone had forgotten Pilate offered to let Jesus go but those present preferred a murderer Barabbas to be freed. Another finger poked into the eye of God.

15And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

Peter used a very specific word for “life” when he called Jesus the “Prince of life”. The Greek word from Strong’s Concordance:

Transliteration: zóé

Phonetic Spelling: (dzo-ay')

Definition: life

Usage: life, both of physical (present) and of spiritual (particularly future) existence.

Peter then doubles down on intense deep meaning by using the word “Prince”. According to Strong’s Concordance this word

Prince:

Transliteration: archégos

Phonetic Spelling: (ar-khay-gos')

Definition: founder, leader

Usage: originator, author, founder, prince, leader.

This word Archegos is more than the Son of a King. This Prince is the founder, the leader and author of something very specific.

Hebrews 12: [2](#)Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

[16](#)And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

Peter pulls the idea of Faith, coupled with a certain Name; Jesus Christ, made this man whole. Peter goes on to try to make them understand that it will be through their personal “faith”, just like this personal faith by this man in the name of Jesus Christ gave him this healing that they could all see.

17And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did *it*, as *did* also your rulers.

Peter is extending Grace to them in the form of their personal ignorance that they were partakers in the Crucifixion of the Messiah. It is even extended to their leaders. The Grace is based on a fact that God told them that the Messiah had to suffer and that by this Crucifixion, that prophesy of the Son of God was fulfilled.

Jesus through the Power of God knew the hearts of those who tortured Him and asked God to forgive them based on one thing.

Luke 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

18But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

It is finished, the prophecy is fulfilled; is Peter's focus here. Now Peter wants to move to phase 2 of this amazing prophecy carried out by Jesus the Messiah. That is to bring people to a redeeming knowledge of Him. To show them the forgiveness of their sins.

19Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

The message of Salvation; REPENT! Allow the conversion from sinner to saved take place. In that instant that you Repent and Believe that Jesus died for you, your sins are forgiven. All this is done for you by Jesus on the Cross. The result does not stop at Salvation it opens eternity for you to be with the ONE who died for you for eternity. To be with all the Saved because of the simple act of Belief and Faith in Jesus.

20And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:

And HE speaks of God the Father who sent His only Son for us. The knowledge of the Messiah and His coming is spread all throughout the Old Covenant.

21Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

Matthew 17:11 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things.

Malaki 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

Acts 1:6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

Some commentaries I believe look at this correctly as not only a statement of the fact that Jesus ascended for a specific reason as stated in Ephesians 1:20.

Ephesians 1:20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

But that it is speaking of a yet future return of Jesus, preceded by Elijah who either in person or the spirit “like” Elijah I think will be one of the two witnesses in Jerusalem during the Tribulation.

Revelation 11: 3And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. 4These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. 5And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. 6These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.

Again vs 21.

21Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

Whether it is through the ministry of the 2 witnesses or the realization of the presence of the Anti-Christ, Israel will be saved. That is those Jew’s who are still alive during this period of

Tribulation. The saying is that Tribulation is for the Salvation of the Jewish Nation.

Romans 11: [25](#)For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

[26](#)And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

[27](#)For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

[28](#)As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. [29](#)For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. [30](#)For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: [31](#)Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. [32](#)For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.

Onto vs 22.

[22](#)For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

Another promise from God that One would come that all Israel would hear. Paul was quoting from Deuteronomy 18.

Deuteronomy 18: [18](#)I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words

*in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. **19**And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.*

So, do we know which prophet is spoken of in Deuteronomy?

John 6:14 Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.

23And it shall come to pass, *that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.*

Again from Deuteronomy 18.

*Deuteronomy 18: **19**And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.*

24Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.

The Jews knew that there was One coming that would be unlike no other prophet. The elite religious cancel culture of the day when Jesus spoke, could not stand the thought of their power being appropriated by this peasant from Nazareth.

25Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

God promised Abraham that through his seed the world would be blessed. We are blessed as gentiles through the Jewish blood line of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

26Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

Jesus came to the Jews first as God's chosen people. When they rejected Him, the door was opened to the gentiles. We did not replace Israel; we were just offered Salvation. God said He would cause a blindness to fall on the Jewish nation until the fulness of the gentiles is completed.

There are many Jews today called "completed Jews" or simply "Believing Jews" or "Christian Jews". To the normal Jew that sounds like an oxymoron, to them you can't be a Jew and believe in Jesus, that is heresy. They will come to find out the truth in time. We need to pray for their salvation in the meantime.

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