

# HE will ROAR like a LION



## And THEY will come TREMBLING from the WEST.

They say that the descendants of ancient Israel are scattered, inter-married with the Gentiles, lost to God, only the Jews remain—the house of Judah. The ten tribes from the house of Israel, they say that they are no more. Ephraim, their leading tribe is no more, as Joseph was said to be no more. “We were twelve brothers, sons of one father. One is no more...” (Genesis 42:32).

Many say, “There is no 21<sup>st</sup> century house of Israel, only a few Jews. If there was, they would know who they are. Anyway, no matter—God no longer works with the descendants of Israel, his people of the Old Testament. He has a new group of people—his church!”

**The Psalmist wrote,** “For the LORD will not reject his people; he will never forsake his inheritance” (Psalm 94:14).

**Moses said,** “For the LORD's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted inheritance” (Deuteronomy 32:9).

The same many respond, “Well, that was a long time ago and things have changed. Since then, they were cast out and scattered, still lost to themselves, if they even exist today.”

**Paul warned believers,** “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings...” (Hebrews 13:8-9).

**The Psalmist quoted God,** “I will not violate my covenant or alter what my lips have uttered” (Psalm 89:34).

**Amos, the prophet quoted God,** “For I will give the command, and I will shake the people of Israel among all the nations as grain is shaken in a sieve, and not a pebble will reach the ground” (Amos 9:9).

Again, the many say, “Nonsense! How can God keep track of those people? They inter-married with the Gentiles. They are kneaded like dough into the nations of the world.”

**Luke, one of the apostles said,** “The very hairs on your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows” (Luke 12:7).

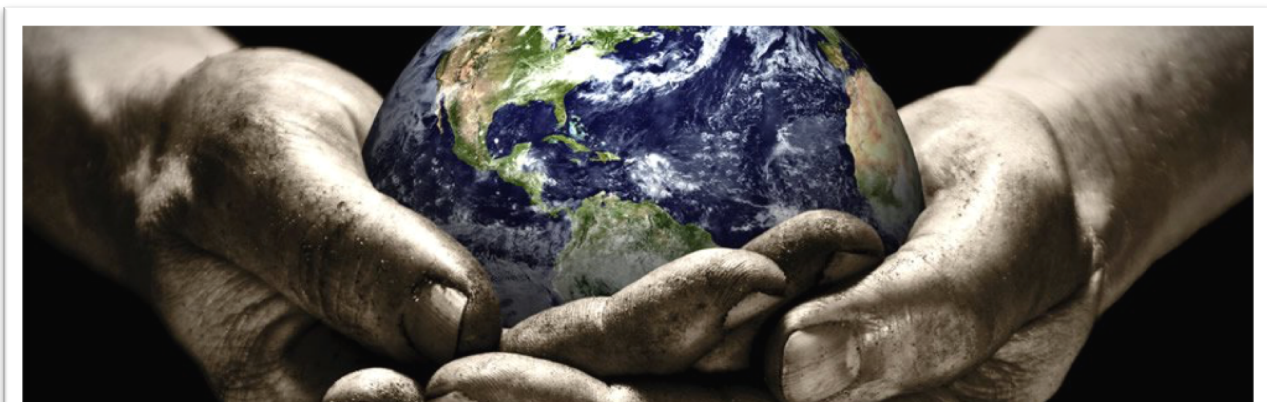
**Matthew, one of the apostles said,** “Look at the birds of the air: They do not sow or reap or gather into barns—and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?” (Matthew 6:6).

**The Psalmist said,** “He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them” (Psalm 147:4).

**Isaiah, a prophet said,** “Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing” (Isaiah 40:26).

Finally, the many admit, “Well, I wasn't diminishing the power of God. I was just saying that how can He keep track of people who he has scattered and left to wander through the nations. Like—where are they today? You would think that they would remember their roots.”

**Job said to God,** “I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted” (Job 42:1-2).



**Isaiah quoted the Almighty God,** "Declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, 'My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure'" (Isaiah 46:10).

The many re-think their position. "Okay, it sounds like God has a plan and nothing can thwart that plan, even mixing his chosen people into the world, somehow, his sieve is high-tech and those people don't fall through the cracks. That sounds pretty amazing!"

**God responds,** "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways. **As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts**" (Isaiah 55:8-9).

**Isaiah adds,** "Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. **No one can measure the depths of his understanding**" (Isaiah 40:28).

The many admit their ignorance of the scriptures. "I live in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We don't do the Bible. Well, I mean we do, but not really."

**Job stands up and shouts,** "These are just the beginning of all that he does, merely a whisper of his power. **WHO, THEN, CAN COMPREHEND THE THUNDER OF HIS POWER?**" (Job 26:14)

Fear grips the many and they cry, "Oh My God! I mean—oh my... How great is this God?"

**Moses holds the tablets of stone above his head and trumpets out,** "For the LORD your God is **GOD OF GODS AND LORD OF LORDS, the GREAT GOD, MIGHTY AND AWESOME,** who **shows no partiality and accepts no bribes**" (Deuteronomy 10:17).

Finally, on bent knee they ask, "Okay, I get it now. He can do all things. Then, why have some of his people, the ten tribes, forgotten their roots?"

**Paul knows the story so very well. He said,** "For he himself is our peace, who has made us **both [the house of Judah and the house of Israel] one [no longer a divided kingdom]** and has **broken down in his flesh [by Christ's death and resurrection the payment of our sins was made] the DIVIDING WALL OF HOSTILITY [the animosity between the two houses: Judah and Israel],** by **abolishing the law of commandments EXPRESSED IN ORDINANCES [abolishing all of the traditions of men added by the religious leaders],** that he might create in himself **one new man [ONE reunited God-fearing kingdom who are obeying God's laws only,**



**not the added traditions of men] in place of the two [rebellious houses: Judah and Israel], so making peace [between the two houses—a reunited kingdom of Israel]" (Ephesians 2:14-15).**

The many start to learn. "What? They were a fractured kingdom with, it seems like, a lot of hostility between them. Christ, you say, is making peace by getting them—both of them, to obey only the commandments of God—not the celebrations added by their religious leaders."

**Jesus said, "And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?"** (Matthew 15:3) and "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. **They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men"** (Matthew 5:8-9, Isaiah 29:13).

Understanding comes to the many and they say, "Yeah, all those traditions. That's why most of us don't bother with religion—you know, well—hey, we celebrate Christmas and Easter... go to church on Sunday, sometimes... that is somewhere in the Bible, I think, but hey—continue with your story."

**The disciples asked Christ, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"** (Acts 1:6)

**Christ said, "I was sent ONLY to the lost sheep of Israel"** (Matthew 15:24).

The many begin to accept the truth and their understanding grows. "This must be all part of the big plan—the one that cannot be thwarted. So, at that time, they were anticipating a restoration of the ancient kingdom of Israel. But, there was so much hostility between them that it just couldn't happen then. I noted what Paul said that Christ came to break down the dividing wall of hostility and abolish all of the additional traditions that kept the houses from obeying God. I guess they needed to forget who they were to forgive the offenses against each other. They must have known that their lost brothers existed—somewhere."

**Josephus, the Jewish historian (Ant., 11:133) recorded, "The ten tribes are beyond the Euphrates till now, and are an immense multitude and not to be estimated in numbers."**

Aghast, the many sputter, "An immense multitude? Not to be estimated in numbers! Oh my God! Well, if God's plan cannot be thwarted, then these people must be alive and well today—somewhere. But, where?"

**Moses said, "When you are in distress and all these things have come upon you, in the latter days you will return to the Lord your God and listen to His voice"** (Deuteronomy 4:30).

The many respond in amazement, "Oh My God! They are around in the latter days—and, they return to their God."

**Jeremiah said, "In those days, at that time, the people of Israel and the people of Judah TOGETHER will go in tears to seek Yahuah, their God. They will ask the way of Zion and turn their faces toward it. They will come and bind themselves to the Lord in an everlasting covenant that**



**will not be forgotten”** (Jeremiah 50:4-5).

The many put the pieces of the puzzle together. “It seems like God, into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, prophesied the return of the descendants of Israel in the two houses, to return **together**. They seem to be friends—no hostility. Forgotten roots and the acknowledgment of their sins, it seems, will bring the houses together. Sometime in the future, God must help them remember. How will that happen?”

**Hosea prophesied**, “They will follow the LORD; **he will roar like a lion**. When he roars, **his children will come trembling from the west”** (Hosea 11:10).

The many shout, “Good! Roar like a lion—what will he say?”

**Christ, the mighty angel in Revelation will roar**, “He cried out in a loud voice like the roar of a lion. And when he cried out, the **seven thunders sounded their voices”** (Revelation 10:3).

The many ask, “Well! What was said?”

**John heard what was said and he wrote**, “When the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven say, ‘Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down’” (Revelation 10:4).

The many plead, “What? I want to know what was said!”

**The 21st century houses of Israel and Judah will hear the roar and understand; they will tremble. Hosea prophesied**, “Afterward the sons of Israel will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king; and **they will come trembling to the LORD and to His goodness in the last days”** (Hosea 3:5).

**The 21st century houses of Israel and Judah, in their time of distress, will remember their God—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and they will repent—sincerely and forever. Hosea tells of their repentance, as if it were just yesterday**, “Come, let us return to the LORD. For **He has torn us, but HE WILL HEAL US; He has wounded us, but HE WILL BANDAGE US”** (Hosea 6:1).

“**God did not reject His people**, whom He foreknew” (Romans 11:2).

“**All of Israel will be saved”** (Romans 11:26).

When he roars, **THEY WILL REMEMBER**.

*Compiled by Janette Andrejowich*