2Thess# 141

Awaken and turn back to GOD before the thorns of discipline entangle you.

We will do the Lord’s Supper at the end of the message today.

Open back up in the OT Isaiah 34 where we left off RF.

As I told you, this was Isaiah warning of the coming march of the Assyrian Empire, upon the Northern and then Southern tribe of Israel.

It holds several layers of prophecy within it – First the Assyrians would march upon both kingdoms and later the Babylonians would do the same thing.

The true and clearer picture here, points us right into the 7 years of Tribulation yet to come.

Isa 34:1 Come near, you nations, to hear; and listen, you peoples! Let the earth and all it contains hear, and the world and all that springs from it.

[Isa 34:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/2/s_713002) For the LORD’S anger is against all the nations, And *His*wrath against all their armies. He hasutterly destroyed them,He has turned them over to slaughter.

/[Isa 34:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/3/s_713003) So **their slain will be thrown out**,And **their corpses will give off their stench**, And the mountains **will be drenched** with their blood.

This is all written in a future tense – pointing us to a time at the end of the Tribulation; the Battle of Armageddon and the 2nd Advent of Christ.\

When Christ returns as the warrior-King it is not a time of peace, love and mercy.

The earth itself will shift on its axis once again as it did at the flood.

It will be a supernatural set of events leading up to the day TLJC steps down on the Mount of Olives.

/[Isa 34:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/4/s_713004) And all **the heavenly lights will wear away**,And **the sky will be rolled up like a scroll**;All its **lights will also wither** awayAs a leaf withers from the vine,Or as *one* withers from the fig tree.

The 2nd Advent of Christ is marked by a supernatural set of events, like never before which culminates at the battle of Armageddon. (Mat 24, Mark 13, Act 2) \

The 3 years leading up to this battle will be hell on earth!

/[Isa 34:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/5/s_713005) For My sword has drunk its fill in heaven; **Behold it shall descend for judgment upon Edom, And upon the people whom I have designated for destruction.**

My sword is full of the righteousness of heaven, it will be used to begin the judgment upon enemies of the CROSS, seeds of Satan and Unbelievers.\

Edom points to descendants of Esau, yet it was always used for the polar opposite of the people of GOD – the antithesis to Israel.

A common enemy living in the same land.

Tares among the Wheat.

Look at what Isaac told Esau after the birthright was given to Jacob;

/Gen 27:39 Then his father Isaac answered and said to him, **“Behold, away from the fertility of the earth shall be your dwelling, And away from the dew of heaven from above**. 40 “And **by your sword you shall live, And you shall serve your brother;** But it shall come about when you become restless, That you will break his yoke from your neck.”\

All of Esau’s blessings came by his own hand.

He became wealthy or prosperous, but it is very symbolic of GOD allowing Unbels to taste a blessing on earth, yet they never reach the eternal blessings of heaven.

Esau was an Unbel and the decadents of Edom from Esau’s bloodline, often represented the Unbels in theology. Unbels living side by side with Bels and in the end they will never receive an eternal blessing from God.

 REPEAT

God in HIS boundless mercy and grace, allows blessings in the temporal for those who follow simple doctrinal principles such as personal responsibility.

Such as hard work, or following laws of divine establishment.

Keep in mind, Satan also can bless people in the temporal.

Many Unbels have all their blessings in time, yet in the end – they will face an everlasting misery in the Lake of Fire.

 REPEAT

Unbelievers who often times attack and bring misery into the life of Believers, is referenced as EDOM in many scriptures.

/Esau took two wives (Canaanite), he was dependent upon his own power and could care less about blessings or a birthright. Jacob achieved the birthright by manipulation and trickery, yet he was the true Believer, Esau was not! God knew Isaac may had favored Esau, yet Esau would always be an Unbeliever. Therefore, the blessings and birthright had to go to the Believer.\

It is a great life lesson about people we think are good and going to heaven, when in the end we find out differently.

A lesson on never judging the book by its cover!

Esau did not care about blessings and birthrights until his younger brother Jacob received them.

Then his true nature of bitterness and jealousy erupted.

Now keep in mind, most of this in Isa 34 -is really pertinent about the 7 years of Tribulation.

Because the people of Edom never amounted to a larger culture and actually they vanished into the history books.

Edom then points to Unbels who have trusted in their own power and their religious system.

The dual meaning within this is that the Assyrians and then later, the Babylonians would either destroy or incorporate all these other tribes into their ranks.

[/Isa 34:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/6/s_713006) **The sword of the LORD is filled with blood**,It drips with fat, with the blood of lambs and goats,With the fat of the kidneys of rams. **For the LORD has a sacrifice** in **Bozrah**,And a great slaughter in the land of **Edom**.

All sin must be atoned for with sacrificial blood (Gen 3, Exo 12:1-13, Lev. 4:1-12, Isa 53). Those who reject the sacrifice of Christ, will forfeit their own lives as sacrifices to God’s justice system.\

God cannot go back on HIS own righteousness and justice. Several things GOD cannot do – one is to lie, another is to remove a promise or a legal standard HE already established.

Another is, HE can never recreate HIMSELF, there is only one unique TRIUNE GOD!

Born again Bels, never come under JUDGEMENT at the final Great White Throne Judgement – we will witness it not participate in it!

/The sword in the hand of GOD (Christ), is reference to HIS Divine Justice System. The WORD of God (Jesus Christ) is a sword of justice as well. Edomites and Moabites had a stronghold or capital city known as Bozrah (eastern border of Israel). This speaks to any military or fleshly strongholds, they will not withstand the justice of GOD in the end, certainly at the end of the TRIBULATION.\

The Moabites came from the wicked copulation of LOT and his daughter.

The Ammonites came from LOT copulating with the youngest daughter and Moab came from the oldest daughter.

Interestingly enough, there is some historic evidence that Moabites and Edomites did have ample opportunities to believe upon Christ.

Ruth was originally a Moabite.

In fact, I have taught you this past year, that tribes of truly wicked people who are probably in the line of Nimrod and Cain (seeds of Satan), were offered salvation.

Some may disagree with this but I find it is backed up by a handful of scriptures.

/Col 3:10 and have **put on the new *self,* which is being renewed** to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created it— 11 *a renewal* in which **there is no *distinction*** *between* **Greek and Jew**, circumcised and uncircumcised, **barbarian, Scythian**, **slave, *and* free**, but Christ is all, and in all.\

This is my personal belief but I believe… No one is beyond the saving reach of The Lord Jesus Christ!

I think those who take the mark of the beast in the 7 years of Tribulation will be beyond reach. But no one after the flood and before the Rapture, is beyond salvation, if they truly believe upon Christ.

[/Isa 34:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/7/s_713007) **Wild oxen** (*rᵊ'ēm*) will **also fall with them And young bulls with strong ones**;So their land will be soaked with blood,And their dust become greasy with fat.

Animal sacrifice would never involve a tainted animal, or a wild ox. This is pointing to something beyond a Levitical sacrifice. \

RAH-AIM, is from an Aramaic root word, usually meaning a type of extinct buffalo or an aggressive, large and wild ox.

Sometimes called a UNICORN.

This is a very graphic and violent description of whole cultures of people being wiped out. This meaning of blood- soaked mountains, blood-soaked land and the reference to the dust becoming greasy fat, speaks to prosperity turned into ashes.

This means that at that historic point in the future no amount of wealth, human power or strength, will be left standing once the justice of GOD wipes the world clean at the 2nd Advent.

It is very clear when TLJC returns at the battle of Armageddon, it is first and foremost, as the most fierce warrior known to mankind!

/Rev 19:13 *He is* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, **and His name is called The Word of God**. 14 And the **armies which are in heaven**, clothed in fine linen, white *and* clean, were **following Him on white horses**. 15 From **His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations,** and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of **the fierce wrath of God**, the Almighty.\

[Isa 34:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/8/s_713008) For the LORD has a day of vengeance,A year of retribution for the cause of Zion.

The last year of the seven years of tribulation will see horrific destruction.

/There will be ecological disaster before Jesus Christ returns at the end of the great tribulation, one-third of the earth’s vegetation, one-third of the oceans, and one-third of fresh waters will be destroyed and unusable – Revelation chapters 8 – 16 cover this in great detail.\

The ignition point of real chaos and destruction will happen at the 3 ½ year mark – when Satan appears in physical form and the Abomination of Desolation stands in the temple.

This is an accumulation of events and supernatural disasters that will be very unmistakable.

No one will be guessing if they are in the tribulation or not…it will be evil and misery personified.

Just as the Original Garden, was a reflection of heaven – the Tribulation will be a reflection of the Lake of Fire.

[Isa 34:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/9/s_713009) Its streams will be turned into pitch,And its loose earth into brimstone,And its land will become burning pitch.

[Isa 34:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/10/s_713010) It will not be extinguished night or day;Its smoke will go up forever.From generation to generation it will be desolate;None will pass through it forever and ever.

The earth as we know it will change drastically – when TLJC finally does step down on the Mount of Olives, it will feel like a nuclear bomb went off world-wide.

There will be a period desolation like never seen before.

Notice, then Isaiah has the vision that only animals with no great power or majesty will rule over this type of terrain.

[Isa 34:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/11/s_713011) But pelican and hedgehog will possess it,And owl and raven will dwell in it;And He will stretch over it the line of desolationAnd the plumb line of emptiness.

It is as if the Divine Artist we know as GOD is wiping the canvas clean and getting ready for a re-boot!

[Isa 34:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/12/s_713012) Its nobles—there is no one there*Whom* they may proclaim king—And all its officials will be nothing.

Those demonic forces in control are about to be exposed.

Now it is going to get very interesting – just as we are getting ready to close.

[/Isa 34:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/13/s_713013) **Thorns will come up in its fortified towers, Weeds and thistles in its fortified cities;** It will also be a haunt of **jackals** (*tanni’n)**And* a habitat of **ostriches** (*baṯ)*.

It is now a dead zone, only the demonic presence can consider it to be home. At this point of the finishing of discipline there are no human (Unbels) left standing, only demonic beings and fallen angels will be present.\

This is describing a period just after TLJC wipes the battle of Armageddon clean and a baptism of fire occurs.

The thorns of full discipline are coming to a close.

Jackals and ostriches are an extremely weak translation, the Hebrew word which is derived from Aramaic is –

TAN-EEN – speaking to a large serpent or what we may even call a dinosaur.

BA-ATH is the other word – not used for an ostrich – it is a feminine noun, used more often than not to describe a young daughter.

These two scriptures are very difficult to decipher, unless you really dig into the original context.

What I can tell you, is it all points to demonic creatures and fallen angels, disembodied spirits of Nephilim as well.

The serpent or large dragon creatures speak to Satan and possibly a few high ranking fallen angels.

The female creature is more than likely a demonic presence in the feminine realm.

This is the preparation time for the lock down, of one thousand years during the reign of Christ on earth.

When Christ returns for the 2nd Advent and HE wipes out the armies and finishes with the baptism of fire.

There is a period time, perhaps only a few hours or a few days where all the demonic beings and fallen angels who can not die are in HIS presence.

[/Isa 34:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/14/s_713014) The desert creatures will meet with the wolves,The goat also will cry to its kind.Yes, the night-bird will settle thereAnd will find herself a resting place.

*Isa 34:14 There shall meet also Ziim and Iim, and the Satyr shall cry to his fellow, and the screechowl shall rest there, and shall find for herself a quiet dwelling.*\

Basically, from verse 13 into the end of the chapter speaks to TLJC preparing and sending all fallen angels and demonic forces into the abyss for holding.

[Isa 34:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/15/s_713015) The tree snake will make its nest and lay *eggs* there,And it will hatch and gather *them* under its protection.Yes, the hawks will be gathered there,Every one with its kind.

[Isa 34:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/16/s_713016) Seek from the book of the LORD, and read:Not one of these will be missing;None will lack its mate.For His mouth has commanded,And His Spirit has gathered them.

[Isa 34:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/17/s_713017) He has cast the lot for them,And His hand has divided it to them by the measuring line. They shall possess it forever; From generation to generation they will dwell in it.

LORD’S SUPPER

As we have been studying this doctrine of thorns we must never forget it is our Lord Jesus Christ who received our thorns and thistles…our sins, mistakes and failures fell upon HIM.

Thorns points us to the struggle of the cosmic system which is opposed against the things of GOD.

Thorns point to our sins and decisions from the flesh, that kick against the truth of GOD.

Thorns point to misery and discipline.

Thorns speak to negative decisions toward GOD.

Thorns are related to a curse and pain.

Yet our Lord Jesus Christ received the crown of thorns pressed into HIS scalp.

He received the punches, slaps and humiliation for us.

It was HIS backside that received the skin-ripping lashes directed toward us.

Jesus received the curse; HE received the pain and discipline we should have received.

Our sins and curse fell upon HIM.

On the night our LORD was betrayed, HE took the bread, broke it and raised it up giving thanks.

Saying- This is my body I give to you, take and eat.

In remembrance of our Lord Jesus Christ let us eat the bread.

In the same manner HE lifted the cup and gave thanks.

Saying- This is the cup of a new covenant in MY blood. Each time you eat the bread and drink the cup you bring ME into remembrance until I return.

Let us drink the cup.

Let us pray…amen.