ESAU

Father of the Edomites Father of Rebels

God knows the end from the beginning. This supernatural ability gives Him the exactitude to plan and achieve precisely what He has set out to do without any hindrance or diversion. He knew that Adam and Eve would sin. He knew that He would take claim to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and reign over them. He knew they would reject Him and later search for Him. He knew that from the earliest beginning of His covenant with Abraham, within the family of Isaac, a people would choose to live driven to please self, to revel in self-glory, power and corruption without remorse. He knew one son from Isaac would overcome and his descendants would preserve God's law and word while they, too, struggled to obey Him. He knew the two families will wrestle until the return of Jesus Christ. Their story is more relevant today than it was those many years ago.

TWO PEOPLES WILL BE SEPARATED

God said to Rebekah, "two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger" (Genesis 25:23).



- **Separated:** These two opposing boys within the covenant family will be separated to live apart unable to unite because their life choices are very different. One will remain in the covenant family that God made with Abraham and Isaac and the other will be separated to live outside of the covenant.
- **Stronger:** The stronger will be the self-serving body of people who remain superior during this evil age. The stronger brother mirrors a rebel people who will take, steal,

- deceive, bully and intimidate their way into leadership positions that they feel they are entitled to.
- **Younger:** The younger will wrestle for power until Christ returns. When the global control is lifted off the nations by Jesus Christ, the younger will gain power and rule over the older forever.

The two boys wrestled for the firstborn inheritance—rulership and great blessings while in Rebekah's womb, Isaac's wife. God revealed the time it begins, the time before their birth, mirroring the time before the birthing into God's kingdom as spiritual children of God. Within Western Europe and the West, battles are taking place from within each country. Royal members, Prime Ministers and Presidents are working against the people, oppressing them and through irregular warfare, attacking them. These leaders are destroyers demonstrating a complete lack of patriotism. Who are these reigning rebel people—the older or the younger?

THE FIRSTBORN SON

God established the firstborn double blessing since ancient times because He is revealing the double blessing that He will give to those in the first resurrection. He also, linked the firstborn blessing to the firstborn chosen as His priesthood. It was an intentional mirror of the first men and women to be resurrected; they will be God's priesthood serving Him in His temple.

"Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Consecrate to Me every firstborn male. The firstborn from every womb among the Israelites belongs to Me, both of man and beast'" (Exodus 13:1-2).

Also, God does not want the father of sons from different wives, giving the favourite wife's son the firstborn inheritance if he is not the firstborn of all the sons. God does not want the mirroring of this practice to become muddied allowing favouritism or any son to receive the inheritance. Only the righteous God-fearing men and women who will be resurrected at the first resurrection are God's firstborn on earth in His kingdom; they will receive the double blessing. "When that man assigns his inheritance to his sons, he must not appoint the son of the beloved wife as the firstborn over the son of the unloved wife. Instead, he must acknowledge the firstborn, the son of his unloved wife, by giving him a double portion of all that he has. For that son is the firstfruits of his father's strength; the right of the firstborn belongs to him" (Deuteronomy 21:16-17).

The firstborn mirror the first to be resurrected into God's kingdom. An interesting discussion takes place between God and the king of Egypt.

THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL IS GOD'S FIRSTBORN SON

God told Moses to tell Pharaoh that His people will be the firstborn in His kingdom. "Then tell Pharaoh that this is what the LORD says: 'Israel is My firstborn son'" (Exodus 4:22). This scripture may sound odd for those who do not fully understand what God is telling Pharaoh. The heavenly ruler over Egypt was the one God was addressing when He declared His people to

be His firstborn son. Egypt's heavenly ruler was falling out of righteousness. He had taught the Egyptians that he was a Creator.

"Speak to him and tell him that this is what the Lord GOD says: Behold, I am against you, O Pharaoh king of Egypt, O great monster who lies among his rivers, who says, 'The Nile is mine; I made it myself'" (Ezekiel 29:3).

The Nile River was the life-source of Egypt. Egypt's king was declaring himself to be the creator of their life source. Almighty God was battling against this fallen, heavenly ruler. The staff is a symbol of authority. The magicians, using power from this fallen, heavenly king, turned their staffs into snakes. Aaron, through the power of Almighty God, turned his staff into a snake and it swallowed up all of the snakes of the magicians (Exodus 7:12). **The message: The God of Israel has supreme authority.**

The water of the Nile River and all water ways were turned to blood by God through Aaron's staff. Life in the water died and a stench came out. The Egyptian magicians could also curse the water, but they could not heal it. **The message: The Egyptian magicians can present a sacrifice of blood, but they cannot forgive sins.** God is referring to these heavenly rulers over the nations on earth.

The plague of frogs that likely mirror the evil spirits that are prophesied to come out of the dragon, the false prophet and the beast (Revelation 16:13) came out of the Nile. This very river, Pharaoh claimed to have created became the cesspool of wickedness. The message: Pharaoh's Nile River is full of evil spirits and the heavenly king of Egypt has no power to take them away (Exodus 8:8).

Pharaoh pleaded to have the frogs taken away. Moses replied, "It will be as you say, so that you may know there is no one like the LORD our God" (Exodus 8:10). And Moses added, "The frogs will leave you and your houses, your officials and your people; they will remain only in the Nile" (Exodus 8:11).

God's point to the Egypt's ruler in heaven was that he has failed to rule righteously and his people, the Egyptians on earth, will not be resurrected first into His kingdom. There was likely a chance for the Egyptian people and likely for any of the heavenly rulers over the nations to have their people on earth resurrected at the first resurrection, but all of these rulers turned against Almighty God and taught the people in all the nations on earth to worship them. Hence, the myriad list of gods—elohim worshipped all around the world.

EPHRAHIM, GOD'S FIRSTBORN

God has declared that His people will be the first to be resurrected into His kingdom. He has a salvation plan for all of mankind and it begins with the redemptive sacrifice of Jesus, born from the tribe of Judah in the kingdom of Israel. God is specific as to which house of the two, who will be first to be resurrected. Ephraim was given the leadership over the ten tribes of Israel. He was Joseph's youngest son. God had prophesied that Ephraim will be His firstborn. These

people from the ten tribes of Israel who accept Christ as their Saviour, the Christians will come out of the Great Tribulation weeping and begging for forgiveness and life eternal. They will be exactly like Jacob when he wrestled with the Jesus Christ, the Old Testament Angel of God. God will recognize their sincerity and they will be blessed.

"Behold, I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, including the blind and the lame, expectant mothers and women in labor. They will return as a great assembly! They will come with weeping, and by their supplication I will lead them; I will make them walk beside streams of waters, on a level path where they will not stumble. For I am Israel's Father, and Ephraim is My firstborn" (Jeremiah 31:8-9).

JESUS CHRIST, THE FIRST OF THE FIRSTBORN

Jesus was first born in his family on earth and consecrated to God according to God's Law given to Moses. "And when the time of purification according to the Law of Moses was complete, **His parents brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord: "Every firstborn male shall be consecrated to the Lord")** (Luke 2:22-23).

Jesus Christ was consecrated to Almighty God into His priesthood on earth. He died and was resurrected; he is the first of the first resurrection. "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so **in Christ all will be made alive**" (I Corinthians 15:20-22).

Also in Hebrews 1, "For to which of the angels did God ever say: "You are My Son; today I have become Your Father"? Or again: "I will be His Father, and He will be My Son"? And again, when God brings His firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all God's angels worship Him" (Hebrews 1:5-6). Jesus Christ is the first to be resurrected from mortals. He is King over all kings and Lord over all lords both in heaven and on earth.

GOD'S PRIESTHOOD: AN ADJUSTMENT FROM THE FIRSTBORN SON TO THE LEVITES

God made an adjustment in His selection of His priesthood when ancient Israel left Egypt. He selected the Levites to serve Him (Numbers 3). This change pointed to Moses given God's Law and His Holy Spirit both essential for service to God. This tribe would be blessed with the essential components to serve Him. They remained God's priesthood all through ancient Israel's journey in the wilderness, into the Promised Land until they entered into captivity. God is likely to uphold this change in the future.

"But the Levites who went far from me, going astray from me after their idols when Israel went astray, shall bear their punishment... Because they ministered before their idols and became a stumbling block of iniquity to the house of Israel, therefore I swore with an uplifted hand concerning them that they would bear the consequences of their iniquity, declares the Lord GOD. They shall not come near to me, to serve me as priest, nor come near any of my holy

things and the things that are most holy, but they shall bear their shame and the abominations that they have committed. Yet I will appoint them to keep charge of all the work for the temple and everything to be done in it" (Ezekiel 44:10, 12-14).

"But the Levitical priests, who are descended from Zadok and who kept charge of My sanctuary when the Israelites went astray from Me, are to approach Me to minister before Me. They will stand before Me to offer Me fat and blood, declares the Lord GOD" (Ezekiel 44:15).

THE FIRSTBORN WHO LOST THEIR BIRTHRIGHT BLESSING

Not all of the firstborn sons received the firstborn, double blessing inheritance. Esau lost the firstborn double blessing and well as Reuben, Jacob's firstborn son.

REUBEN

Jacob's firstborn son was Reuben born from his mother, Leah. She was not Jacob's beloved wife, but keeping with God's Law, Reuben was destined to receive the double portion, firstborn blessing. He was aware of the firstborn birthright; but he wanted more. He attempted to establish his own ruling family line coming directly from him and exclude his brothers by taking one of his father's concubines and impregnating her. Jacob understood the presumptuous attempt and took the firstborn birthright from him. He gave Judah the ruling sceptre passing over Simeon and Levi because of their war-like retaliation towards the people of Shechem in responding to the rape of their sister, Dinah. Judah proved his service to his father by putting his life on the line to protect Benjamin during his journey to Joseph in Egypt. The riches of the birthright blessings went to Joseph who proved to be a righteous God-fearing and God-serving son. This change in the giving of the firstborn inheritance was a God sanctioned decision because only the righteous, God-fearing and God-serving people will be in the first resurrection and receive rulership and great blessings.

ESAU

The loss of Esau's firstborn birthright is a relevant study into the 21st century. Esau came to Jacob starving after coming in from the field. He approached Jacob and asked for a bowl of soup. Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright" (Genesis 25:31). Esau agreed saying, "Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me?" (Genesis 25:32) But Jacob said, "Swear to me first."

So, he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. "Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So, Esau despised his birthright" (Genesis 25:34).

Esau did not understand the value of the birthright. While he believed that he would die imminently, the selling of the birthright was an easy payment for life. He relies on the food given to him by Jacob to revive him. **That would become a prophetic act when the "older" is revived by the "younger," still a future event.**

Here, Esau mirrors the ungrateful ancient Israelites who had God Almighty—the Creator as their king, but they rejected Him. The nation of Israel was God's inheritance; Israel became subjects to Almighty God. They took for granted the priceless gift of His perfect leadership, perpetual forgiveness and enduring love.

The resurrection described in Ezekiel 37 of the very dry, ancient bones of the whole house of Israel in the valley could take place just prior to the re-unification of the two houses of Israel after Christ's return. Then, we will see the older serve the younger.

The "younger" are the repentant and humble, obedient and loving Israelites of the latter days who come out of the Great Tribulation who have been refined and tested by God. They will be stronger spiritually than the "older" who when



resurrected say, "Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off" (Ezekiel 37:11b).

ESAU, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNGODLY AND UNREPENTANT MEMBERS OF GOD'S COVENANT FAMILY

Isaac sent Esau to hunt venison and make him his favourite meal, anticipating his death and planning to give Esau the firstborn inheritance. Esau arrived back from hunting and said, "My father, sit up and eat some of my game, so that you may give me your blessing" (Genesis 27:31).

Esau was not a polite and caring individual. He was gruff and commanding. "Sit up," he said to father when he entered his room. Isaac was confused because moments earlier he thought he had blessed Esau.

When Isaac realized that he had not blessed Esau, he trembled violently. **Esau burst out with a loud and bitter cry** and said, "Bless me—me too, my father!" (Genesis 27:34)

The Apostle Paul understood the importance of BEING RIGHT WITH GOD, when he wrote, "See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no 'root of bitterness' springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that no one is sexually immoral or UNHOLY LIKE ESAU, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, HE WAS REJECTED, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears" (Hebrews 12:15-17).

It was God who rejected Esau, not Isaac. Esau did not value the birthright nor did he respect God. His marriage choices were a source of grief to both Isaac and Rebekah (Genesis 26:35). Looking through the reflection into the parallel story, it is evident that Esau's religious preferences, like many of the covenant people then and today, were not the ways of God. The

people who reflect Esau will not inherit the blessings from God just because they are DNA Israelites of the covenant family.

Jesus said, "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; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness'" (Matthew 7:22-23).

Many Judo-Christians are not living righteously. They are living according to their own interpretations of God's word.

THE OUTCOME CHANGED

Jacob believed that the birthright was his; he had purchased it for a single meal. Isaac may have known about that. If so, he did not validate the purchase. Rebekah was told by God, that the older [Esau] would serve the younger [Jacob]. This meant that the younger would receive the family birthright inheritance—rulership and blessings. It is highly likely that Rebekah shared that with Isaac when she was in turmoil and worried about losing her life due to the intense wrestling of the twins in her womb. Still, Isaac ignored her testimony. It is the work of God that Isaac had suffered blindness; it mirrored his spiritual condition being unable to see what lies ahead of him. He failed to ask God for guidance, knowing Esau's behaviour and marriage choices.

When Sarah told Abraham to send Hagar and Ishmael away, it distressed him greatly. He went to God on the matter and God said, "Do not be so distressed about the boy and your maidservant. **Listen to whatever Sarah tells you**, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned" (Genesis 21:11-12).

Rebekah worked to correct a direction that would bring chaos and destruction into God's covenant family. She gave specific instructions to Jacob to dress and cover himself to deceive Isaac into believing that Jacob was Esau. This action pricked Jacob's conscience and he said, "But my brother Esau is a hairy man, and I'm a man with smooth skin. What if my father touches me? I would APPEAR to be tricking him and would bring down a curse on myself rather than a blessing" (Genesis 27:11-12).

Jacob understood what the action **APPEARED** to look like if their true intentions was not known. In addition, Jacob feared being cursed because he knew his father had a relationship with Almighty God and power to bless or curse. Jacob was a God-fearing man who knew God.

When Esau learned that the birthright inheritance was given to Jacob, he went into a rage and planned to kill his brother. He did not acknowledge the vow he made upon selling his birthright for a single meal, instead his hatred for his brother spilled over onto his children and descendants for many years to come. This is a prophecy of family members hating and spreading hatred towards the God-fearing and God-serving people. Jesus prophesied, "They will put you out of the synagogues. In fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he

is offering a service to God. They will do these things because they have not known the Father or Me" (John 16:2-3).

It is no surprise that descendants of Esau have taken leadership offices throughout Judea during Jesus' life on earth and likely continue to hold, key leadership positions today in Western Europe, the West and Israel. Herod the Great, client-king over Judea ordered the death of Jesus after he was born. He was an Edomite. His son, Herod Antipas ruler of Galilee ordered the beheading of John the Baptist. They are willing to kill to protect their rulership.

ESAU AND GOD

Esau may feel sorry for himself and continue to behave badly, but God did not abandon him. Before Isaac died, Esau packed up his family and everything he owned and moved away. God took care of him and gave Esau his own land, the area around Mount Seir where once the Horites lived. The Horites were a similar race of people like the Anakites who were very large and tall.

As God battled the giants for Israel, He first battled the giants for Esau and his children. "They were a people strong and numerous, and as tall as the Anakites. The LORD destroyed them from before the Ammonites, who drove them out and settled in their place. **The LORD had done the same for the descendants of Esau**, who lived in Seir, when **he destroyed the Horites from before them**" (Deuteronomy 2:21-22).

Though God gave him land, he was not satisfied. His story is about a people within the covenant family who refuse to repent, so God will not confirm the covenant with them. Their hatred for their own brother continues to burn into an unquenchable fire.

THE EDOMITES CONTINUE IN ANGER AND RAGE AGAINST THE DESCENDANTS OF JACOB:

God has prophesied His judgement on the Edomites for their uncontrolled rage. "For three sins of Edom, even for four, I will not turn back my wrath. Because he pursued his brother with a sword, stifling all compassion, because his anger raged continually and his fury flamed unchecked, I will send fire upon Teman that will consume the fortresses of Bozrah" (Amos 1:11-12).

THE EDOMITES WERE WILLING TO ENSLAVE THEIR OWN COUSINS: "This is what the LORD says: 'The people of Tyre have sinned again and again, and I will not let them go unpunished! They broke their treaty of brotherhood with Israel, selling whole villages as slaves to Edom'" (Amos 1:9).

"For three sins of Gaza, even for four I will not turn back my wrath, because she took captive whole communities and **sold them to Edom**" (Amos 1:6).

THE EDOMITES WERE VIOLENT AGAINST THEIR COUSINS: "Because of the violence against your brother Jacob, you will be covered with shame; you will be cut off forever" (Obadiah 1:10).

"Thus says the Lord GOD: Because **Edom acted revengefully against the house of Judah and has grievously offended in taking vengeance on them,** therefore thus says the Lord GOD, 'I will also stretch out My hand against Edom and cut off man and beast from it. And I will lay it waste; from Teman even to Dedan they will fall by the sword'" (Ezekiel 25:12).

THE EDOMITES BECOME A TOTALLY CORRUPT PEOPLE:

"Concerning Edom Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Is there no longer any wisdom in Teman? Has good counsel been lost to the prudent? Has their wisdom decayed? Flee away, turn back, dwell in the depths, O inhabitants of Dedan, for I will bring the disaster of Esau upon him at the time I punish him. If grape gatherers came to you, would they not leave gleanings? If thieves came by night, they would destroy only until they had enough'" (Jeremiah 49:7-9).

EDOMITES TURN A BLIND EYE:

The Antichrist will "enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but **these shall escape out of his hand, EVEN EDOM**, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon" (Daniel 11:41). These Edomites go untouched by the Antichrist. What type of alliance will they have with this beast power at that time?

But they will not go unpunished by God.

"In that day... Your warriors, O Teman, will be terrified, and everyone in Esau's mountains will be cut down in the slaughter. **Because of the violence against your brother Jacob**, you will be covered with shame; you will be cut off forever... **you should not look down on your brother in the day of his misfortune**, nor rejoice over the **people of Judah** in the day of their destruction, nor boast so much **in the day of their trouble**" (Obadiah verse 10).

THE EDOMITES TRANSFORM INTO THE IMAGE OF WICKEDNESS AND UNREPENTANT ISRAEL:

"The LORD is angry with all nations... My sword has drunk its fill in the heavens; see, it descends in judgment on Edom, the people I have devoted to destruction. The sword of the LORD is bathed in blood, it is covered with fat—the blood of lambs and goats, fat from the kidney of rams. For the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah [the redeemed—accepted sacrifice] and a great slaughter in Edom [the unredeemed]... For the LORD has a day of vengeance, a year of retribution, to uphold Zion's cause. Edom's streams will be turned into pitch, her dust into burning sulfur; her land will become blazing pitch! It will not be quenched night and day; its smoke will rise forever [until its God-determined end]... No nobles will be left to proclaim a king, and all her princes will come to nothing" (Isaiah 34:1-12).

God is angry with all of the nations because they surrender to Satan and the beast. When they are thrown out of heaven and arrive on earth their display of power will be overwhelming. "One of the heads of the beast appeared to be mortally wounded. But the mortal wound was healed, and the whole world marveled and followed the beast. They worshiped the dragon who had given authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who can wage war against it?" (Revelation 13:3-4)

So, they surrender.

God's day of vengeance will protect the redeemed [in Bozrah] and destroy the unredeemed in Edom [the place of rebels]. A concentration camp of types will appear and be referred to as Bozrah. There, the repentant and God-fearing people will be imprisoned. The reference of Bozrah may not necessarily be the physical Bozrah on earth rather an emblematic place where the God-fearing covenant people are held hostage.

The King James version states in Micah 2:12, "I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of people."

Bozrah is mentioned only in the King James version. Other translations simply refer to a "pen," which infers an enclosure for sheep—an image of a large apprehended number of righteous people imprisoned by ungodly family members. They are making lots of noise knowing their rescuer is on his way and they are mere moments away from their release and the ushering in of the millennial reign of Jesus Christ.

"One who breaks open the way will go up before them; they will break through the gate, and go out by it. Their King will pass through before them, the LORD as their leader" (Micah 2:13).

God's use of King and Lord in the same sentence identifies Jesus Christ [King over all kings and Lord over all lords] is both their sovereign and religious leader. He is head of the state and the church.

Isaiah provides even greater details of this event. "Who is this coming from Edom, from Bozrah with crimson-stained garments? Who is this robed in splendor, marching in the greatness of His strength? "It is I, proclaiming vindication, mighty to save. Why are Your clothes red, and Your garments like one who treads the winepress? "I have trodden the winepress alone, and no one from the nations was with Me. I trampled them in My anger and trod them down in My fury; their blood spattered My garments, and all My clothes were stained. For the day of vengeance was in My heart, and the year of My redemption had come... And I trod down nations in my wrath, and made them drunk in my fury, and made their life-blood run down to the earth." (Isaiah 63:1-4, 6).

Keil and Delitzsch provide a well-researched interpretation, "The meaning is, that no one joined Him with conscious free-will, to render help to the God of judgment and salvation in His purposes. The church that was devoted to Him was itself the object of the redemption, and the great mass of those who were estranged from Him the object of the judgment. Thus, He found Himself alone, neither human co-operation nor the natural course of events helping the accomplishment of His purposes. And consequently, He renounced all human help, and broke through the steady course of development by a marvellous act of His own. He trod down nations in His wrath, and intoxicated them in His fury, and caused their life-blood to flow down to the ground... all that is intended is, that Jehovah caused the nations to feel the full force of

this His fury, by trampling them down in His fury... Not only is the name of Edom made covertly into an emblem of its future fate, שדם becoming שדם upon the apparel of Jehovah the avenger, when the blood of the people, stained with blood-guiltiness towards the people of God, is spirted out, but the name of Bozrah also; for bâtsar means to cut off bunches of grapes (vindemiare), and botsrâh becomes bâtsīr, i.e., a vintage, which Jehovah treads in His wrath, when He punishes the Edomitish nation as well as all the rest of the nations, which in their hostility towards Him and His people have taken pleasure in the carrying away of Israel and the destruction of Jerusalem, and have lent their assistance in accomplishing them." (https://biblehub.com/commentaries/isaiah/63-3.htm)

The insight of Keil and Delitzsch

- None of the nations of the world, of their own free will, will be willing to stand up and support Christ's vengeance against Satan and the beastly coalition and the redemption of God's newly repentant people. [This group of people among the twelve nations of Israel into the 21st century is the last to repent. Their repentance involves a painful correction.] Christ then, will renounce all human help. We can understand now, why he will rule the nations with a rod of iron.
- In Christ's great fury, he alone will take down the evil monster that grips the whole world.
- The reference to Ancient Bozrah is a picture of the ancient stronghold, a fort of the Edomites.
- It is the Edomite enclosure of God's newly repentant people. Bozrah will become an emblematic reminder on Christ's cloak of the crushing defeat of the ungodly.
- Christ will fulfill the last harvest in "Bozrah" [which will be the logo, the icon declaring the family who hate family members who serve Almighty God]. The final great harvest will bring destruction to the unrighteous people [the clusters of grapes] bent on serving Wickedness. They will be crushed by foot in the winepress outside of the city.

Revelation 14: "Take your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the earth's vine, because its grapes are ripe. So, the angel swung his sickle over the earth and gathered the grapes of the earth, and he threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath. And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and the blood that flowed from it rose as high as the bridles of the horses for a distance of 1,600 stadia." (Revelation 14:18-20).

 The Edomites and the nations against Jesus Christ will take pleasure in harming and oppressing the newly repentant people of God. This is especially cruel because these people are young in their spiritual growth and need nurturing.

God's repenting people will have the whole world against them. This has, I think, already begun internally. It poses the question, could most of the leaders and unelected officials in Western Europe, the West and Israel in the 21st century-today, be Edomites? Because the actions of our politicians are destroying our countries from within.

Klaus Schwab has publicly stated, "You'll own nothing and you'll be happy."

Jesus Christ will come to the rescue God's humbled people at the end of the Great Tribulation. No nation on earth will support him, but in his great fury, he will take them all down by himself.

Scriptures in Revelation confirm this great end-time battle., "And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and the blood that flowed from it rose as high as the bridles of the horses for a distance of 1,600 stadia" (Revelation 14:20).

Again, "He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and His name is The Word of God" (Revelation 19:13).

And again, "And from His mouth proceeds a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and He will rule them with an iron scepter. He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty" (Revelation 19:15).

The story of Jacob and Esau is about the national government leadership of two nations that came from Isaac. From this one story, two important decisions of God were revealed:

- 1. Determine the right nation for His headquarters.
- 2. Subdue the **stronger**: the "older" or the "younger."

God is working to subdue the rebel human spirit to bring all of mankind to their knees.

THE RIGHT NATION

1. God sought to choose the nation that would be used to establish His kingdom on earth and from within that nation, His Son would be born. Of the two sons, Jacob was chosen who had twelve sons. God chose the nation that would overcome the desires of the flesh and choose to obey God willingly and eternally. From that repentant and humble nation, God would establish the rulership of His Son in the highest level of their government, Christ will rule as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Ezekiel 17 records God's plan for Christ. "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: 'I myself will take a shoot from the very top of a cedar and plant it; I will break off a tender sprig from its topmost shoots and plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain heights of Israel, I will plant it; it will produce branches and bear fruit and become a splendid cedar" (Ezekiel 17:22-23).

The imagery of "cedar" represents the strong, tall, and evergreen—eternal leadership in God's heavenly government.

Jesus, the Son of God is the "shoot" God chose from His heavenly government and He will reign at the highest level of government, the mountain heights, in the kingdom of Israel. This will be fully evidenced at the return of Christ when he rules as King of kings and Lord of lords.

WHO IS THE STRONGER?

2. The stronger during this evil age, has always been the bullies, the liars, thieves, those ignoring the law of the land and projecting their evil deeds onto others. These lawless people are prepared to take a life to secure their objective. The stronger was Esau and his descendants as well as the Esau-types within the family of Jacob, which became the kingdom of Israel.

Focusing on the Esau-types from within the kingdom of Israel, a review of their history reveals the "older" is the ancient Israelites who behaved like Esau, while the "younger"—modern Israelites who have access to God's Holy Spirit behave like Jacob. The chosen nation has now become twelve nations of people into the 21st century, but they are not yet all refined like silver or tested like gold. Their time of trouble rests on the near horizon.

It will be a time of great trouble for Jacob, but scripture confirms that they will be saved out of it. Two-thirds may die, but a remaining one-third will be refined, tested and they will call out to Him acknowledging their sins. God will hear them (Zechariah 13:8-9) and He will save them.

Over 3,500 years journeying through time, finally in the latter days the descendants of Jacob will truly repent and enter into an everlasting covenant that will not be broken. The Ezekiel 37 resurrection of ancient Israel will likely occur in the 21st century, sometime after Christ's return. The "older" and the "younger" together will come in an emotional heart-felt embrace like Jacob returning home embracing Esau. Esau at that time did not enter into any conflict with Jacob; his 400 men accompanying him remained still. This prophecy will be fulfilled. Jacob will take his inheritance of rulership and the remnant of Esau will submit in peace.

God will rebuild the kingdom of Israel and they rule over the small remnant of Esau and the nations on earth under Christ. "In that day I will **restore the fallen tent of David**. I will repair its gaps, restore its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old, that **they may possess the remnant of Edom** and **all the nations that bear My name**," declares the LORD, who will do this. "Behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "when the plowman will overtake the reaper and the treader of grapes, the sower of seed. The mountains will drip with sweet wine, with which all the hills will flow" (Amos 9:11-13).

God has revealed the future thousands of years ago. "Edom will become a possession, as will Seir, his enemy; but Israel will perform with valor" (Numbers 24:18).

"Those from the Negev will possess the mountains of Esau; those from the foothills will possess the land of the Philistines. They will occupy the fields of Ephraim and Samaria, and Benjamin will possess Gilead" (Obadiah 1:19).

God's repentant and humbled people, all twelve nations of the 21st century will receive an inheritance of rulership. The ancient fracture between the two houses of Israel will be healed.

"Then the jealousy of Ephraim [the house of Israel] will depart, and the adversaries of Judah will be cut off. Ephraim will no longer envy Judah, nor will Judah harass Ephraim. They will swoop down on the slopes of the Philistines to the west; together they will plunder the sons of the east. They will lay their hands on Edom and Moab, and the Ammonites will be subject to them. The LORD will devote to destruction the gulf of the Sea of Egypt; with a scorching wind He will sweep His hand over the Euphrates. He will split it into seven streams for men to cross with dry sandals. There will be a highway for the remnant of His people who remain from Assyria, as there was for Israel when they came up from the land of Egypt" (Isaiah 11:13-16).

The firstborn blessing will be awarded to a humble, repentant, God-fearing and God-serving people—God's early fruit. Only they will be part of the first resurrection and receive the firstborn inheritance of rulership with Christ and abundant blessings.

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