If GOD is for you, WHO can be against you?

The ancient Israelite battles, as they entered the Promised Land and for the time they lived there until they went into captivity, were more significantly spiritual battles than physical battles against giants and men. They were battles against God and the *rogue* sons of God, *the gods*. For every battle where the ancient Israelites relied on their God—the God of Israel, they won.



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THE EXODUS OF THE ISRAELITES FROM EGYPT BROUGHT A SERIES OF EVENTS THAT SHOWCASED THE GOD OF ISRAEL'S GREAT POWER OVER THE GODS AND MEN, CLIMAXED INTO THE PARTING OF THE RED SEA TO SAVE THE ISRAELITES [HIS PEOPLE] AND THE CLOSING OF THE RED SEA TO DESTROY THE EGYPTIAN ARMY [A PEOPLE RULED BY THE ROGUE GOD, RA].

"The Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land... The Egyptians pursued them, and all the Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea... In the morning the LORD looked down... at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. He made the wheels of their chariots come off so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, 'Let's get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.' Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their

chariots and horsemen.' Moses did... The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen—the entire army... **Not one of them survived**" (Exodus 14:21-28).



Jw.ore

WITH GOD'S POWER, MOSES RAISED HIS ARMS AND ISRAEL DEFEATED THE AMALEKITES.

"The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands.' So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword" (Exodus 17:8-13).

"Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Write this on a scroll as something to be remembered and make sure that Joshua hears it, because I will completely blot out the name of Amalek from under heaven.' Moses built an altar and called it **The Lord is my Banner**. He said, 'Because hands were lifted up against the throne of the Lord, the Lord will be at war against the Amalekites from generation to generation'" (Exodus 1714-16).



THE WALLS OF JERICHO CAME TUMBLING DOWN FROM THE POWER OF ISRAEL'S GOD.

"March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in" (Joshua 6:3-5).

THE SUN STOOD STILL, THE LORD THREW THE ENEMY INTO CONFUSION AND HURLED HAILSTONES—FIVE GIANT AMORITE KINGS WERE KILLED.

"'Come up and help me [Adoni-Zedek king of Jerusalem] attack Gibeon,' he said, 'because it has made peace with Joshua and the Israelites.' Then the five kings of the Amorites—the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish and Eglon—joined forces. They moved up with all their troops and took up positions against Gibeon and attacked it" (Joshua 10:4-5).

The Gibeonites then sent word to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal: 'Do not abandon your servants. Come up to us quickly and save us! Help us, because all the Amorite kings from the hill country have joined forces against us.' So Joshua marched up from Gilgal with his entire army, including all the best fighting men. The Lord said to Joshua, 'Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you.'

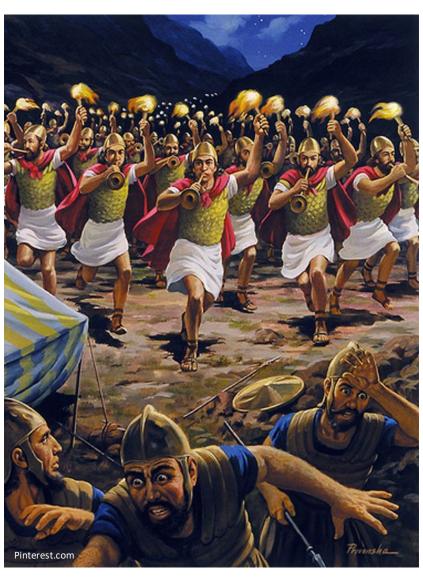
After an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua took them by surprise. **The Lord threw them into confusion before Israel**, so Joshua and the Israelites defeated them completely at Gibeon. Israel pursued them along the road going up to Beth Horon and cut them down all the way to Azekah and Makkedah. As they fled before Israel on the road down from Beth Horon to Azekah, the Lord hurled large hailstones down on them, and more of them died from the hail than were killed by the swords of the Israelites. On the day the Lord gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the Lord in the presence of Israel:

"Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and you, moon, over the Valley of Aijalon." So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on[b] its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar.

The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day. **There has** never been a day like it before or since, a day when the Lord listened to a human being. Surely the Lord was fighting for Israel!" (Joshua 10:1-14).

GOD THREW KING JABIN'S ARMY INTO CONFUSION.

"The LORD threw Sisera, all his charioteers, and all his army into confusion with the sword before Barak. Sisera left his chariot and fled on foot. But Barak pursued the chariots and the army as far as Harosheth-hagoyim, and all the army of Sisera fell by the edge of the sword; **not even one was left**" (Judges 4:15-16).



THROUGH THE POWER OF GOD AN ARMY OF ONLY 300 DESTROYED A SEA OF MIDIANITES.

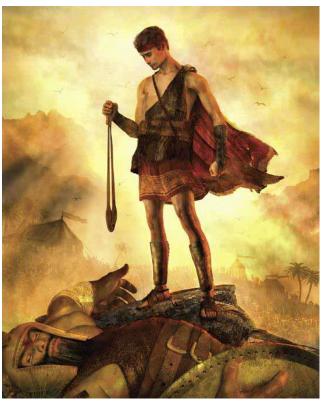
"Then the LORD turned to him and said, 'Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!" (Judges 6:14). "Gideon and the hundred men with him reached the edge of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just after they had changed the guard. They blew their trumpets and broke the jars that were in their hands. The three companies blew the trumpets and smashed the jars. Grasping the torches in their left hands and holding in their right hands the trumpets they were to blow, they shouted, 'A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!' While each man held his position around the camp, all the Midianites ran, crying out as they fled. When the three hundred trumpets sounded, the Lord caused the men throughout the camp to turn on each other with their swords" (Judges 7:19-22).

GOD THUNDERED AND THE PHILISTINES PANICKED.

The Israelites confessed their sins and returned to obeying God. Through Samuel, they assembled at Mizpah to call on God. The Philistines heard and planned an attack. "While Samuel was sacrificing the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to engage Israel in battle. But that day the LORD thundered with loud thunder against the Philistines and threw them into such a panic that they were routed before the Israelites. The men of Israel rushed out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, slaughtering them along the way to a point below Beth Car" (I Samuel 710-11).

GOD SHOOK THE GROUND AND THE PHILISTINES PANICKED.

"Then panic struck the whole [Philistine] army—those in the camp and field, and those in the outposts and raiding parties—and the ground shook. It was a panic sent by God. Saul's outposts at Gibeah of Benjamin saw the army melting away in all directions" (I Samuel 14:15-16). "Then Saul and all his men assembled and went to the battle. They found the Philistines in total confusion, striking each other with their swords... the LORD rescued Israel that day" (I Samuel 14:20, 23).



https://livinginfaithtogether.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/david_goliath

DAVID FOUGHT AGAINST GOLIATH IN THE NAME OF THE LORD ALMIGHTY, THE GOD OF THE ARMIES OF ISRAEL.

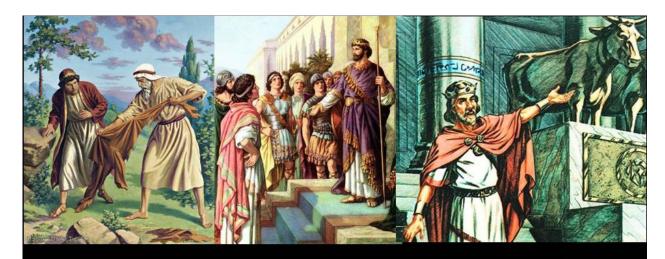
"David said to the Philistine, 'You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's and he will give all of you into our hand'"

(I Samuel 17:45-47).

David habitually asked God for advice:

- "David inquired of the LORD, 'Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I over take them?' "Pursue them,' he answered. 'You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue'" (I Samuel 30:8).
- "Now when the Philistines heard that David was anointed king over Israel, they went up in full force to search for him... David inquired of the LORD, 'Shall I go and attack the Philistines? Will you hand them over to me?' The LORD answered him, 'Go, for I will surely hand the Philistines over to you'" (II Samuel 18-19).

Again the Philistines came to the Valley of Rephaim, so David inquired of the LORD, and
God said, 'Do not go straight up, but circle around behind them and attack them in front of
the balsam trees. As soon as you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam
trees, move quickly, because that will mean the LORD has gone out in front of you to
strike the Philistine army.' So David did as the LORD commanded him, and he struck down
the Philistines all the way from Gibeon to Gezer" (II Samuel 22-25).



Civil War in Israel

King Rehoboam takes over for Solomon. Yahweh smashes Israel into two warring kingdoms. Jeroboam creates two golden cow gods to replace Yahweh in the north.

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CIVIL WAR BROKE OUT IN THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL LEADING TO A DIVISION OF TWO HOUSES (JUDAH AND ISRAEL). DURING THE REIGN OF KING ABIJAH, HE CRIED OUT TO GOD FOR HELP AND GOD HEARD AND LEFT THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL WHO RELIED ON PAGAN GODS WITH 500,000 CASUALTIES.

"King Abijah stood on Mount Zemaraim, in the hill country of Ephraim, and said, 'Jeroboam and all Israel, listen to me! Don't you know that the LORD, the God of Israel, has given the kingship of Israel to David and his descendants forever by a covenant of salt?"" (II Chronicles 13:4-5).

Jeroboam rebelled along with some scoundrels. "And now you plan to resist the kingdom of the LORD, which is in the hands of David's descendants. You are indeed a vast army and have **the golden calves that Jeroboam made to be your gods**. But didn't you drive out the priests of the LORD, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and make priests of your own as the peoples of other lands do... **As for us, the LORD is our God, and we have not forsaken him...God is with us; he is our leader**... Jeroboam had sent troops around to the rear, so that while he was in front of Judah the ambush was behind them. Judah turned and saw that they were being attacked at both front and rear. Then they cried out to the LORD. The priests blew their trumpets and the men of Judah raised the battle cry. At the sound of their battle cry, God routed Jeroboam and all Israel before

Abijah and Judah. The Israelites fled before Judah, and God delivered them into their hands. Abijah and his men inflicted heavy losses on them, so that there were 500,000 casualties among Israel's able men. The men of Israel were subdued on that occasion, and the men of Judah were victorious BECAUSE THEY RELIED ON THE LORD, the God of their fathers" (II Chronicles 13:13-18).

GOD CRUSHED THE VAST ARMY OF THE CUSHITES.

"King Asa called to the LORD his God and said, 'LORD, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, O LORD our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. O LORD, you are our God; do not let man prevail against you.' The LORD struck down the Cushites before Asa and Judah. The Cushites fled and Asa and his army pursued them as far as Gerar. Such a great number of Cushites fell that they could not recover; they were crushed before the LORD and his forces" (II Chronicles 14:11-13).

THE WAYWARD HOUSE OF ISRAEL WITH THE HELP FROM GOD DEFEATED THE VAST NUMBER OF ARAMEANS.

"The next spring Ben-Hadad mustered the Arameans and went up to Aphek to fight against Israel. When the Israelites were also mustered and given provisions, they marched out to meet them. The Israelites camped opposite them like two small flocks of goats, while the Arameans covered the countryside. The man of God came up and told the king of Israel, 'This is what the Lord says: 'Because the Arameans think the Lord is a god of the hills and not a god of the valleys, I will deliver this vast army into your hands, and you will know that I am the Lord.'

For seven days they camped opposite each other, and on the seventh day the battle was joined. The Israelites inflicted a **100,000** casualties on the Aramean foot soldiers in one day" (I Kings 20:26-29).

GOD PROVIDED A VALLEY OF POOLS OF WATER, WHICH APPEARED LIKE POOLS OF BLOOD TO THE MOABITES CAUSING THEM TO COME INTO THE CAMP OF THE ISRAELITES ONLY TO BE ATTACKED AND SUFFER IMMENSE LOSS.

"This is what the Lord says: 'I will fill this valley with pools of water... You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink. This is an easy thing in the eyes of the Lord; he will also deliver Moab into your hands. You will overthrow every fortified city and every major town. You will cut down every good tree, stop up all the springs, and ruin every good field with stones.' Now all the Moabites had heard that the kings had come to fight against them; so every man, young and old, who could bear arms was called up and stationed on the border. When they got up early in the morning, the sun was shining on the water. To the Moabites across the way, the water looked red—like blood. 'That's blood!' they said. 'Those kings must have fought and slaughtered each other. Now to the plunder, Moab!' But when the Moabites came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and fought them until they fled. And the Israelites invaded the land and slaughtered the Moabites" (II Kings 3:16-24).

"After this, the Moabites and Ammonites with some of the Meunites came to wage war against Jehoshaphat... Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the Lord, and he proclaimed a fast

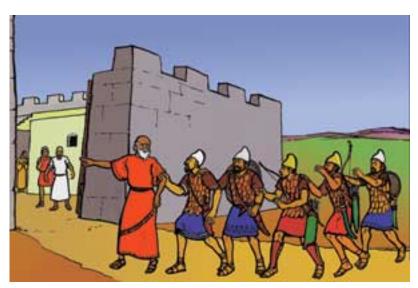
for all Judah. The people of Judah came together to seek help from the Lord; indeed, they came from every town in Judah to seek him... God said, 'Listen, King Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and Jerusalem! This is what the Lord says to you: 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. FOR THE BATTLE IS NOT YOURS, BUT GOD'S. Tomorrow march down against them... You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you.' As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, 'Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful.'

After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the Lord and to praise him for the splendor of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying:

"Give thanks to the Lord,

for his love endures forever."

When the men of Judah came to the place that overlooks the desert and looked toward the vast army, they saw only dead bodies lying on the ground; no one had escaped" (II Chronicles 20:1,3-5,15,17, 20-24).



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GOD BLINDS THE ARAMEANS AND ELISHA TAKES THEM INTO THE CITY OF SAMARIA TO BE CAPTURED BY THE ISRAELITES.

"As the enemy [Arameans] came down toward him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, 'Strike these people with blindness.' So he struck them with blindness, as Elisha had asked. Elisha told them, 'This is not the road and this is not the city. Follow me, and I will lead you to the man you are looking for.' And he led them to Samaria. After they entered the city, Elisha said, 'LORD, open the eyes of these men so they

can see.' Then the LORD opened their eyes and they looked, and there they were, inside Samaria. When the king of Israel saw them, he asked Elisa, 'Shall I kill them, my father? Shall I kill them?' 'Do not kill them,' he answered. 'Would you kill men you have captured with your own sword or bow? Set food and water before them so that they may eat and drink and then go back to their master.' So he prepared a great feast for them, and after they had finished eating and drinking he sent them away, and they returned to their master. So the bands from Aram stopped raiding Israel's territory" (II Kings 6:18-23).

ARAMEANS BESIEGE SAMARIA BUT FLEE FROM THE SOUND OF CHARIOTS AND HORSES.

The people in Samaria surrounded by the Arameans and are starving. Four men with leprosy decide to surrender, but when they reach the edge of the Aramean camp they were surprised. "When they reached the edge of the camp, not a man was there, for **the LORD had caused the Arameans to hear the sound of chariots and horses and a great army**, so that they said to one another, 'Look, the king of Israel has hired the Hittite and Egyptian kings to attack us!' So they got up and fled in the dusk and abandoned their tents and their horses and donkeys. They left the camp as it was and ran for their lives" (II Kings 7:3-7).



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GOD DEFENDED JUDAH AND STRUCK DOWN 185,000 ASSYRIANS.

"Isaiah son of Amoz sent a message to Hezekiah: 'This is what the LORD, the God of Israel says: I have heard your prayer concerning Sennacherib king of Assyria. This is the word that the LORD has spoken against him... 'He will not enter this city or shoot an arrow here. He will not come before it with shield or build a siege ramp against it. By the way that he came he will return; he will

not enter this city, declares the LORD. I will defend this city and save it, for my sake and for the sake of David my servant.' **That night the angel of the LORD went out and put to death a 185,000 men in the Assyrian army**" (II Kings 19:32-35).

God's plan for His creation—mankind, has been under attack since Adam and Eve sinned. Little is recorded about how things were before the flood except for what is told in a few scriptures. "The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain" (Genesis 6: 5-6). God started again after the great flood with eight.

At the time of Babel, God looked down and saw the city and tower that men were building. "The LORD said, 'Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other'" (Genesis 11:7). The people were scattered over the earth and each nation was assigned a son of God to help them learn and live the Way of God. "When the Most High assigned lands to the nations, when he divided up the human race, he established the boundaries of the peoples according to the number in his heavenly court" (New Living Translation Deuteronomy 32:8).

But these members of His heavenly court, sons of God decided to go against the Most High. They went rogue and God vowed to destroy them. "I said, 'You are gods; you are all sons of the Most High. But you will die like mere men; you will fall like every other ruler" (Psalm 82:6). On their judgment day, these gods will be made mortal and die like mere men.

Prior to the heavenly members of God's court going rogue, God chose to divide the people into nations and assign them a heavenly ruler. He chose one family for himself. He too, decided to

participate in this plan of direct communication with the nations to teach His way. "For the LORD's portion is his people, **Jacob his allotted inheritance**" (Deuteronomy 32:9).

These gods had a plan too. They want to keep their rulership over man on this planet. They failed to teach their nations God's way of love, peace and righteousness. Instead, they showed them how to make weapons of war, as each god battled against each other to rise to the top—to hold the ring that rules them all. Their ultimate plan was and remains to completely destroy the people that God calls His own—the people who stand loyally by His side—all people who worship the Creator God. "O God, do not keep silent; be not quiet, O God, be not still. See how your enemies are astir, how your foes rear their heads. With cunning they conspire against your people; they plot against those you cherish. 'Come,' they say, 'let us destroy them as a nation, that the name of Israel be remembered no more.' With one mind they plot together; they form an alliance against you...'" (Psalm 83:1-5).

King David urged God to remind these gods that the God of Israel is the Most High. "Cover their faces with shame so that men will seek your name, O LORD. May they ever be ashamed and dismayed; may they perish in disgrace. Let them know that you, whose name is the LORD—that you alone are the Most High over all the earth" (Psalm 8316-18).

King David urged God to take back the nations from the rulership of these rogue gods. "Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for **all the nations are your inheritance**" (Psalm 82:8). King David understood that the nation of Israel was not the only nation that truly belongs to God, but all nations belong to Him. He is after all, the Creator of mankind.

Together with Jesus/Yashuah, God developed a secret plan to regain the authority over the nations. God lives by laws and regulations. The taking back of the nations necessitated a battle; the winner takes it all.

Jesus Christ/Yashuah Hamashiach went to war against these gods who were once perfect and part of God's council. This spiritual battle unseen by human eyes, required Jesus to live a perfect, sinless life and by the outpouring of **his** innocent blood, rulership over the earth could be regained. The gods did not see it coming. "None of the **rulers of this age** [the principalities and power in high places] understood it, for if they had, **they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory**" (I Corinthians 2:8).

They saw Jesus on earth doing miracles, healing the sick, and teaching the people God's way. They wanted to put an end to him. When he was sentenced to the cross, they were ecstatic and they mocked him, delighting in his suffering. "Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me. Roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me. My strength is dried up like a potsherd and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death. Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced my hands and my feet. I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me... But you, O LORD, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me. Deliver my life from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs. Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen" (Psalm 22:12-22).

King David continued, "You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honor him! Revere him, all you descendants of Israel! For he [God] has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one [Christ]; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help" (Psalm 22:23-24).

There was a lot at stake for Jesus/Yashuah by willingly accepting to pay the price for our sins and going to war against the gods. Should he fail, he would lose both his physical and spiritual life. Could he fail? He was God himself—Son of the Almighty God. If he had failed, what would remain for him? Fortunately, Jesus is well tested. He has fought many of these spiritual battles before and succeeded every time. The God of Israel says, "See, I lay a stone in Zion a **tested stone**, a precious cornerstone for a **sure foundation**; **the one who trusts will never be dismayed**" (Isaiah 28:16). We can trust in Christ and never be disappointed. Thank goodness!

Christ won the battle over the gods. After his resurrection, he gathered them and took them to the lower parts of the earth, where they were paraded before other rogue entities who await judgment. "This is why it says: 'When He ascended on high, **He led captives** [those rogue sons of God] **away**, and **gave gifts to men** [authority to teach the Word of God].' What does 'He ascended' mean, except that **He also descended to the lower parts of the earth**? He who descended is the very one who ascended above all the heavens, in order to fill all things" (Ephesians 4:8-10).

"He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that war against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, **nailing it to the cross**. And having **DISARMED THE POWERS AND AUTHORITIES**, **he made a PUBLIC SPECTACLE OF THEM** [the rogue sons of God], **TRIUMPHING OVER THEM BY THE CROSS**" (Colossians 2:13-15).

Christ then took the authority that was given to the gods to teach the nations the way of God and gave that authority to his saints. "He gave some to be **apostles**, some to be **prophets**, some to be **evangelists**, and some to be **pastors and teachers**, **to prepare God's people for works of services**, so that the **body of Christ may be built up until we ALL reach unity in the father** and **in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature**, attaining to the **whole measure of the fullness of Christ**" (Ephesians 4:11-13).

The gods were silenced nearly 2,000 years ago. "For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or idol" (Hosea 3:4):

- Their **KING of kings [Christ]** has not yet returned and the **princes** who once ruled the nations have been imprisoned.
- The **SACRIFICES** came to an end with the destruction of the last temple in 70 AD. The **sacred stones** taught by the mystic priests as objects of power, charms of protection from the wrath of the gods and an object used to plead for blessings and healings is no longer a practice.
- The **EPHOD** is part of the official dress of the High Priest in Israel. It is symbolic of true religious practice while the household **idols** are symbolic of false practice. (Hosea 3:4). These people will neither worship God fully or the pagan practices of the gods. They practice as empty religion.

21st century Christians and the world in general have mythicized the gods and put them in the movies to be glorified. Since Christ took the gods captive and imprisoned them in the earth below, they have been silenced and their power over the people removed. Yet, a time will come when the archangel Michael is ordered to stand down and the gates of hell are opened. Maybe the movies are preparing the deceived to worship them again.

The gods will return. "The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place. He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all. Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his fathers he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will great honor those who acknowledge him" (Daniel 11:36-39).

"Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth. He had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon. He exercised all the authority of the first beast on his behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. And he performed great and miraculous signs even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men. Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth. He ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived. He was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that it could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed" (Revelation 13:11-15).

God's inheritance began with one nation—Israel, but through the conquest of Christ over the rogue self-glorifying gods, now all nations belong to God. All nations have been saved by the blood of Christ and all who accept Christ are heirs according to the promise. "If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29).

A time of great trouble is coming, like no other time in history. "We are not fighting against fleshand-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12).

To all the people in the world, you have the Almighty God, the Creator God on your side. YOU ARE NO LONGER THE PAWNS OF ROGUE GODS. Call out to the Almighty God and He will hear you. He will fight for you, as He fought for ancient Israel when they obeyed and worshiped Him. Look, "if God is for you, who can be against you?" (Romans 8:31)

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich