THE 21ST CENTURY

A TIME OF: explosive politics, wars—good against evil, and revelations of the heavens



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ONE: It is just the beginning

While life goes on around us, few have noticed the beginning of the final chapter. There is anger and hatred coming out of the United States of America; some are unhappy with their President, everything he does and says and everyone he appoints. It is just the beginning of the coming battles destined for the latter days.

All of the countries of the West will play a critical role, when the time comes. The story is ancient and every word is carefully preserved for that moment, when the enemy comes out of the shadows and nothing is hidden.

Like lightning flashing across the sky, the world will all see the fall from out of heaven. There is war and the Archangel Michael and his angels will capture the great serpent and hurl him down. Disorientated, his arms and legs will fly around trying to grasp the forces that oppose his fall into a lower place among common humans. He will be humiliated and angry. He and his angels will have lost their glorious positions and they will be furious, raging and hysterical.

Mankind is unaware of this type of enemy. This mad rebel is their accuser who "prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (I Peter 5:8). For centuries, mankind mythicized their most dangerous enemy, but soon, their world of pretense will be shattered and reality will confront them like a bull in a china shop. Victory shouts will be heard from heaven, while horror and gnashing of teeth will be seen all over the earth. "Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short" (Revelation 12:12b).

The nations won't be ready. They do not watch; they are all too self-confident in their own military strength, tactics and strategies. Satan's goal is two-fold: kill every man, woman and child who are descendants of God's people, Israel from all twelve tribes and everyone who holds to the testimony of Jesus Christ then, cripple and subjugate the remaining nations on earth. He will be forced to use earth as his new headquarters, a humiliating and limiting location thrust upon him.

He will waste no time. "When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child" (Revelation 12:13). God uses imagery to paint the spiritual picture. This woman is the faithful church of God and the male child is Jesus Christ. Satan and his rebellious angels oppose their Creator and the beloved Son of God is their arch-enemy. Jesus is God the Father's right-hand Son winning battles against them. Now, he is King of kings and Lord of lords and they are feverish over his victories. Christ wears many crowns; they are soon to be stripped of their only crown.

This will be the time to battle to the death. It is the final chapter of this evil age and the explosive politics of Satan against God Almighty and Jesus Christ—the war of good against evil,

will burst onto the international stage on earth for all to see and they will be terrified. The mythical will come to life and mankind will question every teaching, every belief and every story ever told.

It is just the beginning. Now, is the time to watch and question your beliefs, test your knowledge and expand your learning. The ticking of the clock will begin the moment that flash of lightning pierces the skies of earth... seven years... 1,260 days or 42 months plus a time, times and half a time. No one will escape; everyone will serve one of two masters. Make the educated choice.

TWO: Trees in the garden of Eden

The greater story is only visible through the imagery used by God. Trees are used to describe leaders who hold a valued position. The use of the word "garden" illustrates God's royal, ruling family. He has many princes in a variety of different roles who have developed skills and are gifted with talents; they all live in love and peace—a true paradise.

All Christians know the story. "The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will sure die" (Genesis 2:15-16).

The tree [leader] who specializes in the knowledge of good and evil is Satan. He knows God's word, but he chooses to love evil; he is the father of murder and lies. "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44).

The "beginning" referred to in John 8:44 is the beginning of iniquity found in heaven. Lucifer was created perfect and beautiful, but through his personal choices, he became vain and proud, and deteriorated into a selfish and cruel entity.

"You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for I had ordained you. You were on the holy mountain of God; you walked among the fiery stones. From the day you were created you were blameless in your ways until wickedness was found in you. By the vastness of your trade, you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So, I drove you in disgrace from the mountain of God, and I banished you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones" (Ezekiel 28:14-16).

The "mountain of God" is the imagery for God's government at the federal level all the way down to the civic level. Satan was once seated in a very high position in God's federal government. But, because he chose to live in opposition to God and spread his views, imaged as the wares he traded to many of the other angels, God drove him out of His government and disgraced him. He had formed an opposition party that spread madness wrapped in dark ideals and violence.

When Adam and Eve ate the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, their eyes were open to see the face of Wickedness. Eating from a tree is imagery for acting on what you have heard from a specific leader imaged as a specific tree. Listening to Satan and acting on what he has said is eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Satan knows what is good, but often, he will mix truth with falsehood to lead his victims onto a foggy path.

Unfortunately, without God's Holy Spirit and without growing into a disciplined and mature Christian who is eating regularly from the tree of life, mankind cannot distinguish between good and evil (Hebrews 5:14). Satan knew that when he tempted Eve. Without any resistance, Satan had mankind standing on death row and he was delighted.

God foreknew the fall of man and transformed this loss into an opportunity to test and strengthen this new creation on earth. So, under lock and key, He devised their plan of salvation.

The tree [leader] who specializes in the knowledge that brings eternal life is **Jesus Christ**; he is the Word—the tree of life. Jesus Christ is well tested. He has never failed—never sinned. What he says is the pure word of God. **Listening** and acting on what Jesus Christ has said is eating from the tree of life. This is nothing new to Christians. They all quote the same New Testament scriptures.

"While they were eating, He took some bread, and after a blessing He broke it, and gave it to them, and said, 'Take it; this is My body'" (Mark 14:22) and "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:54).

"I give them **eternal life**, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand" (John 10:28) and "This is how God showed his love among us: **He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him**" (I John 4:9).

When Adam and Eve sinned, they were cast out of the royal, ruling family—Eden [paradise]. God banished them. "He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever" (Genesis 3:22b). God was preventing mankind from accessing eternal life without the payment of sins. The gates of Eden are open again for mankind to eat of the tree of life, that is, to listen to the Word of God and live God's way, after Christ paid that penalty. Hence, through Jesus Christ—the tree of life, mankind can re-enter into Eden.

God loves using imagery, as it paints a vivid picture that crosses multiple dimensions and raises a depth of understanding that brings His picture to life. God has many trees [leaders] in His garden—His royal, ruling family: olive trees, fig trees, pine trees, plane trees, myrtle trees, cypress trees, and the great cedar trees.

Imagery of the great cedars bring an immediate rich visual of the most spectacular trees on earth. They have the unique qualities that mirror the great leaders in God's headquarters. These tall and grand trees are dimensionally stable with a built-in thermal insulator. With oils that act as natural preservatives, these trees are resistant to bacteria and fungus. To top it off, they release a fresh aroma that deters pests. God created sons in heaven with all of these eternal qualities and superior strength to lead His kingdom in truth, understanding and wisdom of His law and His way. God gave the name of His headquarters in heaven, 'Lebanon' to mirror on earth His stately and regal leaders—His pride and joy. The plan appears to be flawless.

Until, that time of testing, God took a painful blow. The greatest leader within His headquarters chose to turn against Him—His Creator. He was proud of the height he had reached. "The cedars in the garden of God could not rival it, nor could the pine trees equal its boughs, nor could the plane trees compare with its branches—no tree in the garden of God could match its beauty. I [God] made it beautiful with abundant branches, the envy of all the trees of Eden in the garden of God" (Ezekiel 31:8-9).

This great leader, a general, a leading commander within God's headquarters sinned and fell into iniquity. God was forced to withhold His Holy Spirit from him and watch him wither into foolishness. "On the day it was brought down to the grave, I [God] covered the deep springs with mourning for it; I held back its streams" (Ezekiel 31:15). God loved him. The fall of God's greatest general led to the fall of every leader in God's government in heaven who was highly trained and expert in God's law and ways, His strategies and methods.

"Then all the trees of Eden, the choicest and best of Lebanon, all the trees that were well-watered, were consoled in the earth below" (Ezekiel 31:16b).

God's heart was broken. He is a Creator who feels pain, who loves His creation, who will work relentlessly to save them, but they would not. God's headquarters in heaven has fallen.

"See, the Lord, the LORD Almighty, will lop off the boughs with great power. The lofty trees will be felled; the tall ones will be brought low. He will cut down the forest thickets with an ax; LEBANON WILL FALL BEFORE THE MIGHTY ONE" (Isaiah 10:33-34).

"Wail, cypress tree, for the CEDAR has fallen while the STATELY TREES are destroyed. Wail, oak trees of Bashan, for the OLD GROWTH FOREST HAS BEEN CUT DOWN" (Zechariah 11:2).

So much is written in the Bible using imagery, for God wants to paint a clear and vibrant picture for His second creation on earth, but mankind reads only like a little child. The imagery is often lost; they remain babes in Christ still not able to distinguish right from wrong, let alone see the greater picture through the imagery.

All is not lost. God has a plan; an old plan from long ago. In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth—at the same time. Earth was left without form and void, while God created life in heaven. He created countless spiritual beings and life was wonderful, until iniquity was found. Now, it was time to complete His creation on earth and have Adam and Eve populate it with a different but complementary kind of creation. They will replace the fallen in heaven.

THREE: It was all part of the greater plan

God's headquarters in heaven has fallen. The foreknowing of events did not soften the blow on the day that it happened. God loves all of His creation. "The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing" (Zephaniah 3:17). This scripture is a focus on the righteous, but God wept greatly at the fall of His greatest general in heaven when he fell into iniquity and turned against Him; God's tears filled the deep springs. "I [God] covered the deep springs with mourning for it; I held back its streams [Holy Spirit]" (Ezekiel 31:15).

God allows freedom of choice. His paradise is sustained through living righteously, valuing selflessness, loving others as yourself, and loving God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength freely without coercion, without dictatorship because your love is genuine and everlasting.

With the old headquarters in heaven destroyed, God is rebuilding a NEW headquarters that will be, when all is restored, moved to earth.

The chief corner stone of this NEW centre is Jesus Christ. God knows the hearts of His creation and this son, He recognized as unique.

"No one has ever seen God. But **the unique One**, **who is himself God**, is **near to the Father's heart**. He has revealed God to us" (New Living Translation John 1:18).

Jesus's role is a fascinating enigma. He is God, he created with God his Father and after the fall of God's government in heaven, God chose him—himself to be the head of God's new headquarters in Israel—His people.

"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 [Christ]'" (Ezekiel 17:22-23).

Ezekiel 17:22-23 revealed elements painted by God of the greater picture that when the imagery is applied, it explodes into a dazzling array of color and depth; the unknown becomes clearer than daylight. God chose a "shoot" from the "very top of a cedar," that is, from God's top headquarters and He planted it on a "high and lofty mountain," that is, God's NEW federal headquarters, on the "mountain heights of Israel," that is the location of the NEW headquarters that will be established in His people, Israel.

In the Old Testament, there is an angel of God who worked very closely with the God of Israel. This is a fascinating phenomenon as this angel has the ability to forgive or not to forgive—and, God warned Israel that he will not forgive their rebellion.

"See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. Pay attention to him and listen to what he says. Do not rebel against him; he will not forgive your rebellion, since my Name is in him" (Exodus 23:20-21).

God's name is in the name of this angel. God's name is YAHUAH. Jesus' name is YASHUAH.

Abraham was promised that the Savior would come from his seed. It appears that the same angel of the Lord who gave Abraham the message from God about the Savior of mankind was the very Savior himself, "The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said... in **thy seed** shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice" (Genesis 22:15, 18).

The Apostle Paul was very clear in identifying Jesus Christ, from the tribe of Judah as the Savior; the seed from Abraham. "The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say 'and to seeds,' meaning many people, but 'and to your seed,' meaning one person, who is Christ" (Galatians 3:16).

"After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased!" (Matthew 3:16-17)

Jesus Christ, the Savior, is the splendid cedar, the prodigious leader of God's NEW headquarters that will be established in 21st century Israel.

The people of Israel have a story that runs far and wide, deep and dark. Their history began with Abraham and Sarah. Every layer of their story mirrors the greater picture. Their first son, Ishmael, not born from Sarah but a handmaid, mirrors a people who were not heirs of Abraham. The second son, Isaac, born from Sarah was the only heir; he mirrors Christ—the only heir of God's kingdom. Though Abraham had other sons, Isaac was the only heir, so Christ is the only heir but not the only son of God. Isaac married Rebekah and she birthed twins: Esau and Jacob. Both were covenant children, but only one son, Jacob, would God confirm the covenant made with Abraham. Esau mirrors a godless covenant people who will not enter God's kingdom.

Jacob married Rachel but was tricked into marrying Leah first. The story of ancient Israel begins. At that moment in time when Jacob realized that he had married Leah and not the woman he loved, he felt the shock and horror of God Almighty who intended to marry a people He loved, instead He got a short-sighted people whose eyes were "weak" (Genesis 29:17). Never-the-less, God remained faithful to ancient Israel and Jacob kept Leah as his wife. A total of twelve sons and one daughter were born from Leah and Rachel and their two handmaids. The competition between Leah and Rachel was so intense that they gave their handmaids to Jacob to bear children for him.

In the 21st century where women use birth-control in the process of family planning, the notion of bearing many children seems irresponsible. However, in ancient times, a woman's worth was based on her ability to conceive and give birth. This is an interesting reflection of the greater story. Women image the church, either a false church or a faithful church; they actually image all of mankind who are in one of the two groups.

The Apostle Paul understood the mystery of the greater story hidden in God's imagery. "For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. This is a profound mystery—but, I am talking about Christ and the church" (Ephesians 5:31-32). The man, Paul was referring to is Christ and the woman is the church. The church is the bride of Christ. Revelation 21:1 states that a new heaven and new earth will be created. At that time, Christ—the King and his wife—the Queen, will rule together as one over both realms. It is a mystery well into the 21st century that Genesis 2:24 is describing the intimate relationship of Christ and the church; he is the man and she is the church. This imagery ripples through all the scriptures most often undetected—read, as if God is talking about physical men and women.

God has built into the female role the mirroring of the church and the pride of producing a congregation. When God told Adam and Eve to "be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it" (Genesis 1:28), they saw honor in that command. They may not have understood at that time, the bigger picture. Mankind is destined to replace the wicked rulers, powers and authorities in heaven. The positions the wicked in heaven hold in God's government number in the billions are all open and will be filled by righteous mankind. The bigger picture remains, God will save the faithful ministry who birth a righteous congregation fit for the kingdom of God and the righteous will fill the open positions in God's government.

"In My Father's house there are many mansions. And if not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?" (John 14:2).

Jacob's twelve sons became twelve nations. The number twelve represents divine government. God had twelve leaders in His fallen heavenly headquarters; He will have twelve leaders again in His new headquarters.

When God divided the nations and gave them their territories and languages, He, at that time, chose the descendants of Jacob as His inheritance (Deuteronomy 32:8-9), that is, to rule over them. God has appointed them to be a holy kingdom of royal priests (I Peter 2:9 and Exodus 19:6). This calling to be priests was not always valued by ancient Israel. They became a people who grieved their God.

Their kingdom split after the rule of King Solomon and they became two houses: Judah and Israel. The house of Judah was comprised of two tribes: Judah and Benjamin who later became known as the Jews. The house of Israel was comprised of ten tribes: Ephraim, Manasseh, Reuben,

Zebulun, Gad, Naphtali, Asher, Dan, Issachar and Simeon. The tribe of Levi was scattered among the two houses.

Initially, the house of Israel grieved God the most. They had the greatest number of tribes and people among the two houses and they felt strong and independent not needing God's help. They loved self-rule and self-glory. God wanted a humble people with a teachable spirit, instead He got rebels loving the ways of the pagan nations around them.

The pagan nations, too, received their inheritance at the time that the nations were divided and languages given. They received, as rulers over them, the members of God's heavenly court.

"When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to **the number of the sons of God**" (English Standard Version Deuteronomy 32:8).

The New Living Translation states, "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**."

There is some confusion on the translation of this verse. The Contemporary English version states, "that God Most High gave land to every nation. **He assigned a guardian angel to each of them.**"

At this point, scriptures from other books in the Bible provide pieces of the puzzle that bring the greater picture together. God assigned a guardian angel over each nation; each of them were given a heavenly prince to rule over them—a prince from God's heavenly court. But, as Ezekiel recorded in chapter 31, they all turned against God. They all were lured away by Satan to join him in the great battle that will start in heaven and end on earth, in our near future. These fallen angels, God's trusted sons, bought the wares that Satan sells.

FOUR: The bustling business of trading

Satan is a master of trading who taught his apprentice well—the ruler of Tyre. "By your wisdom and understanding you have gained wealth for yourself and amassed gold and silver in your treasuries. By your great skill in trading you have increased your wealth, and because of your wealth your heart has grown proud" (Ezekiel 28:4-5).

The wealth of this ruler is his treasures: his theology, his ideology, his way.

About the king of Tyre—Satan, God said, "Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence and you sinned... you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor... By your many sins and dishonest trade, you have desecrated your sanctuaries" (Ezekiel 28:16, 17b, 18a).

Satan's dishonest trade is his method of lying, framing, tricking, and entrapping his victim to enforce obedience. This is likely the fall of many heavenly rulers, powers and authorities (Ephesians 6:12), however, mankind is his easiest target. They listen without questioning.

Mankind has learned well. They have devised a corrupt economic system that they can manipulate to benefit a selected group with an agenda. They have created financial products of mass destruction and established trading houses that operate as gambling casinos. They have weapons that can destroy the earth with the press of a button. Yet, from the mastery mankind has achieved, they will not outshine their master. Rather, their master has already enslaved them, while they boast of their achievements.

It is an ancient story that will be repeated in the 21st century. Mankind will not be ready, for the history is forgotten, as it was sentenced by God.

The famous city of Tyre was destroyed and its memory cast into the forgotten pages of history for seventy years—"the span of a king's life" (Isaiah 23:15). Keil and Delitzsch state, "The 'days of a king' are a **fixed and unchangeable period**, for which everything is determined by the one sovereign will." These seventy years are not earthly years, but a spiritual measurement of time.

God commands their silence! The chatter of their theology, their wrath and hatred echoed out. Tyre was once a bustling commercial port on the coastline of the Mediterranean. It was an earthly reflection of the greater and spiritually powerful heavenly maritime city-centre situated in the high seas—the abode of Wickedness in heaven.

The imagery of the great seas on earth, the power of rushing waters and turbulent rivers, all paint the vast expanse and the forces of Wickedness.

"O Tyre," God said, "You say, I am perfect in beauty. Your domain was on the high seas, your builders brought your beauty to perfection" (Ezekiel 27:3). The builders were the maritime planners who lured a son of God from God's headquarters in "Lebanon" to be the mast of their

great ship—the one who knew God's plans, strategies and tactics and could anticipate God's moves well into the future. They won not just one son of God, but many. "Who planned this against Tyre, the **bestower of crowns**, **whose merchants are PRINCES**, whose traders are renowned in the earth?" (Isaiah 23:8)

By promising rulership over a kingdom, Satan—the bestower of crowns, was able to win the allegiance of many heavenly "princes." They planned the takeover of both heaven and earth. Satan, once a Guardian angel, and sons of God are identified often as "princes" in scripture.

Jesus referred to Satan as a prince. "I will not say much more to you, for **the prince of this world** is coming. He has no hold over me" (John 14:30).

"...you once walked, following the course of this world, **following the prince of the power of the air**, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:3).

In Daniel's testimony, the spiritual prince over Persia was so strong that the angel, Gabriel needed help from the Archangel Michael. "But for twenty-one days **the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia** blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me, and I left him there with **the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia**" (Daniel 10:13).

In addition, Daniel's testimony refers to yet another spiritual prince, the prince of Greece. "He replied, 'Do you know why I have come? Soon I must return to fight against **the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia**, and after that **the spirit prince of the kingdom of Greece will come'**" (Daniel 10:20).

Satan lured the best of the best and built the finest and most robust ship on the high seas (Ezekiel 27:5-11). They built a fortified maritime city. "Your home is the seas" and "all the ships of the sea and their sailors came alongside to trade for your wares" (Ezekiel 27:4, 9).

Satan's heavenly abode is ancient, "Is this your city of revelry, the old, old city, whose feet have taken her to settle in far-off lands?" (Isaiah 23:7) It will not prevail. When God creates a new heaven and new earth (Revelation 21:1), there will be no sea—no abode for Wickedness in either heaven or earth.

Isaiah verified Revelation 21:1, "The LORD has stretched out his hand **over the sea** and made **its kingdoms tremble**" (Isaiah 23:11). All of the wicked kingdoms on the high seas in heaven will be destroyed. Isaiah is specific, "He has given an order concerning Phoenicia that her fortresses be destroyed. He said, 'No more of your reveling, O Virgin Daughter of Sidon, now crushed!'" (Isaiah 23:11b-12).

"Wail, you ships of Tarshish; your fortress is destroyed!" (Isaiah 23:14)

God described the humiliation of the fallen heavenly princes who allied with the king of Tyre. "Then all **the princes of the seacoast** will **step down from their thrones** and lay aside their robes and take off their embroidered garments. **Clothed with terror**, they will sit on the

ground, **trembling every moment**, appalled at you [Tyre]. Then, they will take up a lament concerning you and say to you:

'How you have perished, **O** inhabited one, from the seas, **O** renowned city, which was mighty on the sea, she and her inhabitants, who imposed her terror on all her inhabitants!'" (Ezekiel 26:16-18)

God responded, "When I make you a desolate city, like cities no longer inhabited, and when I bring the ocean depths over you and its vast waters cover you, then I will bring you down with those who go down to the pit, to the people of long ago. I will make you dwell in the earth below, as in ancient ruins, with those who go down to the pit, and you will not return or take your place in the land of the living. I will bring you to a horrible end and you will be no more. You will be sought, but you will never again be found" (Ezekiel 26:16-21).

Satan promised the heavenly princes a crown, but their rulership was short-lived. God has imprisoned them in the "pit" [Sheol—inner earth]. These princes were once seated in the highest heavens, but now, they have been brought down to the lowest and darkest place in existence. It is just another heavenly battle mirrored through a city, they ruled on earth.

The fate of Wickedness is sealed. "In that day the LORD will punish the powers in the heavens above and the kings on the earth below. They will be herded together like prisoners bound in a dungeon; they will be shut up in prison and be punished after many days" (Isaiah 24:21-22).

Though this fortified, robust trading centre conducted business with great success, "She became the marketplace of the nations" (Isaiah 23:3); it cannot withstand the all-powerful strength of the Creator God. God uses Wickedness to test and try His creation and God is not yet finished. The latter days will see the return of this bustling enterprise and the people on earth will be astonished, like the Apostle John, "When I saw her [Babylon], I was greatly astonished" (Revelation 17:6b). From the outside, Babylon will appear to be a marvel.

FIVE: The return of Tyre under a NEW name

Earthly kingdoms are but a poor reflection of the great and mighty power of the heavenly kingdoms. For seventy years, this heavenly city-centre of trade will be forgotten, "the span of a king's life" (Isaiah 23:15). "At the end of these seventy years, it will happen to Tyre as in the song of the prostitute:

'Take up a harp, walk through the city, O prostitute forgotten;

play the harp well, sing many a song, so that you will be remembered" (Isaiah 23:15b-16).

The song of a prostitute is a song declaring her rulership as a queen, someone of strategic importance. In the latter days, Babylon will sing, "I sit as a queen; I am not a widow, and I will never mourn" (Revelation 18:7b). She will be ecstatic that princes, fallen sons of God from heaven who are part of the beast coalition from the sea, are intimate with her. She rides them all in her glory. She is "dressed in purple and scarlet, and glitters with gold, precious stones and pearls... This title was written on her forehead:

MYSTERY
BABYLON THE GREAT
THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH
(Revelation 17:4-5).

She will be convinced that the power she then will hold, will be eternal. Mankind is her children and she will lavishly reward the obedient, while killing the disobedient. "The waters you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages" (Revelation 17:15). She sits on "waters"—not as vast as the "sea," but still the image God uses as a place of Wickedness. She is a religious institution selling her theology to the world. They are confident that they will overthrow the Almighty God and rule both heaven and earth.

The ancient Tyre will become 21st century Babylon who will conduct a thriving business with the nations on earth. They will trade their wares: mystery science and magic, alien technology, avatar wonders that forward the evolution of man into a form of spirituality with a promise of eternal life bundled into the worship of these gods and obedience to their ways: self-glory, self-reliance, and self-determination.

In exchange, the cost will be high. Mankind will be forced to give her the most precious and opulent of produce and production on earth: "cargoes of gold, silver, precious stones and pearls; fine linen, purple silk and scarlet cloth; every sort of citron wood, and articles of every kind made of ivory, costly wood, bronze, iron and marble; cargoes of cinnamon and spice, of incense, myrrh and frankincense, of wine and olive oil, of fine flour and wheat; cattle and sheep; horses and carriages; and bodies and **souls of men**" (Revelation 18:12-13). Some are

willing to trade their soul for the wares she sells. They will fall into slavery with nothing to call their own. Her plan is to cripple mankind, while she lives in luxury.

This marriage of Babylon and the beast from the sea will appear invincible. Certainly, the nations of the world will feel powerless for they will say, "Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?" (Revelation 13:4b)

Wickedness is a team of crafty experts in deceit, lying, twisting the truth, thievery, murdering, self-glorifying entities imaged through the various roles, all part of successful trading across the sea [wickedness].

"Every sea captain, and all who travel by ship, the sailors, and all who earn their living from the sea, will stand far off. When they see the smoke of her burning, they will exclaim, 'Was there ever a city like this great city?' they will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out:

"Woe! Woe, O great city, where **all who had ships on the sea** became rich through her wealth!" (Revelation 18:17-19)

Everyone who is skilful in wickedness is imaged as seafaring tradesmen. Earth will become the final battlefield of good against evil.

"But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows his time is short" (Revelation 12:12).

Mankind will trade all Godly knowledge, understanding and wisdom for the theology of Satan. Jesus prewarned mankind.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19-21).

God has given us the way to freedom and life. "God understands the way to it [wisdom] and He alone knows where it dwells, for he views the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens. When he established the force of the wind and measured out the waters, when he made a decree for the rain and a path for the thunderstorm, then he looked at wisdom and appraised it; **He confirmed it and tested it**. And he said to man, 'THE FEAR OF THE LORD—THAT IS WISDOM, AND TO SHUN EVIL IS UNDERSTANDING" (Job 28:28).

Mankind will enter into the darkest times of their creation. Finding their way out will cost them their lives.

SIX: The beast from out of the sea is an alien invasion

The arrival of this immense heavenly force on earth will be like a horror story directly out of the movies. This alien invasion will result in the enslavement of the nations on earth. They will try to defend themselves, but their weapons will prove to be useless and totally ineffective. The beastly coalition from the sea is extraordinarily powerful. It is a terrifying beast, Daniel described it as, "frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns" (Daniel 7:7).

These ten horns are identified in Revelation 17:12, "The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have **not yet received a kingdom**, but who for **one hour** will **receive authority as kings** along with the beast." Ten princes in heaven were promised a kingdom by God, sometime prior to the heavenly great rebellion. These are not physical kings because the nations have already surrendered to the alien invasion. "Who can make war against the beast?" they declare. The beast is not a physical coalition of wicked leaders, for Apostle Paul said that our enemy is **NOT flesh and blood**, but evil heavenly rulers, powers and authorities (Ephesians 6:12). Our enemy is not just Satan, but evil heavenly rulers [princes], powers and authorities—heavenly entities with heavenly power and strength. Their strength far overpowers any earthly strength.

God knows that these ten kings have long since turned against Him. He fulfills His promise to give them a kingdom in the latter days for only one hour (a very short period of time). These ten princes will rule as kings for the same period as the revived Tyre, called Babylon who will be destroyed in one hour.

"They [the 10 kings] have **one purpose** and will **give their power and authority to the beast**. They will make war against the Lamb" (Revelation 17:13). Once God gives these ten princes power and authority, friction ignites from within this beastly coalition, because Daniel described a significant shift in power.

"It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns. While I was thinking about the horns, there before me another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it" (Daniel 7:7b-8) and "The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. After them another king will arise, different from the earlier ones; he will subdue three kings. He will speak against the Most High and oppress his saints and try to change the set times and the laws. The saints will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time" (Daniel 7:24-25).

Beyond our visibility today, in heaven the "little horn" has taken control and awaits the summoning of Satan to earth.

In that time, 21st century Babylon will be in her glory, terrorizing and killing all those who refuse to accept her wares: her teachings. She "was drunk with **the blood of the saints**, **the blood of those who bore testimony of Jesus**" (Revelation 17:6).

The Great Mystery of Babylon is the secret plan of Wickedness to establish a kingdom in heaven and on earth ruled by rogue heavenly princes, powers and authorities and to subjugate every earthly man, woman and child with their theology and worship to ensure that they will never rise up against them. All the nations who submit to Wickedness will become slaves to this rogue heavenly force.

This mighty heavenly coalition appears successful as it plows over the nations without effort and grows in strength, but they underestimate the all-powerful Creator, God of Israel and the supreme God-given power awarded to Jesus Christ.

"But **the Lamb will overcome** them because he is **Lord of lords and King of kings**—and **with him** will be his called, chosen and **faithful followers**" (Revelation 17:14).

The saints will be resurrected at that time and fight with Christ in this significant spiritual battle on earth. Christ, his Bride—the saints and the heavenly army will overthrow the beast from out of the sea, while God Almighty leads a remnant repentant people in victory against the raging sea of nations obedient to Wickedness. These nations will not understand who they are fighting against; the world will be topsy-turvy; they will be in total submission to their master.

Who are the remnant people that God gives victory over the subservient nations?

Apostle John provides clues to this mystery. "I saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and over the number of his name" (Revelation 15:2).

It won't seem possible. A shocking time is coming to God's people because they have again, wandered far from Him. All won't go well for the 21st century nations of Israel that God refers to as "Jacob," for a time of trouble lies on their near horizon. "At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time" (Daniel 12:1).

The world will be shocked! The beast will make war specifically against the nations of **21**st century Israel. All twelve tribes of **21**st century Israel will be attacked, leaving a remnant of survivors who will go into captivity. The nations of the world will be terrified. Death will mount into the millions and the remnant people will be like chaff in the wind.

Superpower status will be snuffed out in the blink of an eye. Jacob's trouble will cause their allies to tremble. Their power and prestige will be replaced by mocking and ridicule by the

nations who will serve the heavenly coalition. "For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again" (Matthew 24:21).

It will take this excruciating suffering before God's people fall to their knees. All of the nations of 21st century Israel will drop to their knees during their captivity and call out for help to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Moses wrote, "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).

Nobody can thwart the plans of the Great Creator. God will hear them and rescue Israel a second time from captivity. "Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give men in exchange for you, and people in exchange for your life... I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back'" (Isaiah 43:4-6).

All twelve nations of 21st century Israel will be oppressed at the same time. "The **people of Israel are oppressed**, and **the people of Judah as well**. All **their captors hold them fast, refusing to let them go.** Yet **the Redeemer is strong**; Yahuah Almighty is his name. He will vigorously defend their cause so that he may bring rest to their land, but unrest to those who live in Babylon" (Jeremiah 50:33-34).

The raw power of our Creator will become the surreal headline stories that will fill the media across the nations. The beastly coalition will do their best to diminish the truth, but the reality will be impossible to hide.

Upon their release, God will say, "Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope" (Zechariah 9:12) for there remains one final battle. These people now have faith in their God and are filled with hope.

This time, God Almighty will lead 21st century Israel into battle against the raging nations whose leader "speaks against the Most High and oppresses his saints" (Daniel 7:25).

In God's hand, he will grip Judah as his bow and fill it with the arrows of Ephraim. "I will rouse your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece, and I will make you like a warrior's sword" (Zechariah 9:13b).

God will make His people into a hero's sword. He will appear over them as a mighty warrior. He will sound the trumpet and the battle will begin. They will rejoice "as with wine" that the God they extinguished through their teaching of evolution, is alive and willing to forgive their disbelief and on top of it, give them victory. Who can know this God of Israel who is so willing to forgive and so filled with compassion and love?

"The Ephraimites will become like mighty men, and their hearts will be glad as with wine" (Zechariah 10:7).

He will shield his people as they march into the most violent battle to ever rage on earth" (Zechariah 9:14).

God's arrows will flash like lightning into the enemy with devastating destruction. The 21st century nations of Israel will be super-naturally protected, as they devour the enemy like ravenous lions. "They drink and roar as with wine; they will be full like a bowl used for sprinkling the corners of the alter" (Zechariah 9:15).

When the battle is over, God will abolish the military of the remnant nations of 21st century Israel. He will "take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken" (Zechariah 9:10) and they will bend their knee before Almighty God and their King and Lord: Jesus Christ.

God knew that the beast would strip the nations of all authority and force them into slavery. This state of humility will move the nations to know their Creator without interfering pride and arrogance. The riches that Babylon accumulated during this time, will be given by God to the repentant people serving Him—a reward for their suffering during a time of great distress; they will live as kings and queens. "Yet her profit and her earnings will be set apart for the LORD; they will not be stored up or hoarded. Her profits will go to those who live before the LORD, for abundant food and fine clothes" (Isaiah 23:18).

Ultimately, mankind on earth will be tested and tried by rogue heavenly princes, powers and authorities (Ephesians 6:12). The repentant will be awarded positions of leadership and authority in God's great kingdom. Jesus said, "In My Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and welcome you into My presence, so that you also may be where I am" (John 14:2-3).

The great rebellion in heaven has opened the door for mankind. God is offering repentant mankind the positions once held by all of the rogue rulers, powers and authorities in heaven. So great is the calling of mankind that Satan will do everything necessary to keep it a secret, for he wishes that nobody take his position as Guardian angel. He is working day and night to keep mankind in sin.

"Be sober-minded and alert. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, STANDING FIRM IN YOUR FAITH and in the knowledge that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering" (I Peter 5:8-9).

21st century Babylon will do all she can to steal the faith that Christians hold of the gift of grace and the wonderful promise of adoption as sons of God and she will work relentlessly to replace it with faith in her, as if she was ever willing to suffer the crucifixion to give mankind

eternal life. She desires only to enslave and afflict mankind, even the wicked who have long served her.

A big story is revealed in the scriptures, hidden no more. Yet, there lies in Sheol the imprisoned who wait anxiously for the news of the outcome of the final great battle on earth. We know the outcome, because God has given it to us in His word. "The realm of the dead below is all astir to meet you [Babylon] at your coming; it rouses the spirits of the departed to greet you—all those who were leaders in the world; it makes them rise from their thrones—all those who were kings over the nations. They will all respond and say to you, "You too have become weak as we are; you have become like us!" (Isaiah 14:9-10)

Well... that's a shame. Their loss is our gain, if we repent and turn to the God of Israel. God is truly awesome and desires that "all people be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (I Timothy 2:4).

SEVEN: The forgotten chosen people

The people of Israel work Almighty God to the bone to this very day. His enduring love for them will humble them and earn Him eternal gratitude and awe when their nations into the 21st century—all twelve, sincerely repent, still yet in the future. The two houses of the kingdom of Israel split over 3,700 years ago. The house of Judah is remembered today as the Jews, but the house of Israel is forgotten because God divorced them, due to their relentless adultery [worship of the rebel gods].

In their history, along the way, during distress and difficult times, the house of Israel repented. If their story, during those cursed many years was recorded, it remains hidden in the pages of the few historians recording mere moments when these lost people touched them. Regardless, God has preserved this important story for them, in the parallel stories recorded in their ancient book—the Bible. These nations are the prodigal son of Luke 15 and the Syrian general of II Kings 5.

The story of Naaman, the Syrian general provides some interesting details that identifies this house of ten tribes. God spoon feeds babes in Christ until they grow up into young spiritual adults, then He expects them to develop into a skilled scholar pursuing the deep things of God. Those who uncover the rich stories hidden by God are like kings to Him, that is, the brilliant strategists and courageous leaders who seek out treasure and recognize the precious from the dross.

"It is the glory of God to conceal things, but **the glory of kings is to search things out**" (Proverbs 25:2).

The house of Israel went into captivity because of their sins in 722 B.C. by the Assyrians. After their sentence, the ten tribes of Israel were released, but they would not repent. They remained angry and indignant.

"The LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion" (Isaiah 30:18). He pleaded with them, "in repentance and rest [rest from rebellion against God] is your salvation, in quietness [listening quietly to God and not telling Him what you want to do] and trust [in God—He knows what is best] is your strength, but you would have none of it" (Isaiah 30:15). So, God punished them seven times the length of their original sentence.

"If in spite of these things you do not accept my correction but continue to be hostile toward me, I myself will be hostile toward you and will afflict you for your sins **seven times over**" (Leviticus 26:23-24).

For 2,520 years, seven times their 360-year penalty, they wandered through the nations, some have only recently arrived in the past few hundred years in new lands, other tribes settled in western Europe. Compared to the Asian, Indian, African and Arabian peoples who have lived in their lands as long as 4,000 years, the ancient Israelites of the ten tribes have only just settled down recently. When Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 A.D., the Jews were scattered and only a small remnant live in Israel today.

During the extended sentence of the ten tribes, a young, faithful Hebrew church reminded them to return to their God, for He is compassionate and forgiving. They listened and with their heads down, this time, they approached the Almighty God for forgiveness with a genuine desire to change from their sinful behavior. God healed them of their systemic spiritual decay.

The story of Naaman, the Syrian general provides the coded details that reveal the greater story. The parallels are clear:

- Naaman was a Gentile general.
 - The ten tribes after their divorce from the covenant family became Gentiles.
- Naaman was a great general and a valiant soldier in the sight of his king because he was victorious with the help of God.
 - The ten tribes were a strong military force who through God's help were victorious. They were likely under servitude to a ruling power and served faithfully.
- Naaman had leprosy.
 - The ten tribes were systemically spiritually sick. They were totally consumed with the ways of the pagans.
- A captive, a young girl from Israel who served Naaman's wife, said that a prophet in Samaria can heal him.
 - A young, captive Hebrew church through a mediator advised the ten tribes to go to Jesus Christ [a prophet] for healing.
 - Samaria was the capital city of the ten tribes when they were in the Promised Land. Christ was in the Holy Land, they remained outside.
- Naaman listened and took: 10 sets of clothing, 10 talents of silver, 6,000 shekels of gold.
 - The ten tribes together go to Christ with 10 sets of clothing, which images the ten tribes coming with a willing heart to change their behavior. Clothing is the image for outward behavior.
 - "Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.) (Revelation 19:8)
 - The ten tribes bring ten talents of silver mirrors the parable in Matthew 25:14. Those who overcome and grow in God's way are described as having been given talents. One man was given ten talents, one five talents and one only one talent. Being responsible with what you have been given and gaining multiple times over more than what was initially given, is the responsibility of Christians.
 - The ten tribes also brought **6,000 shekels of gold**. Six thousand shekels of gold refers to the amount "as measured by the weight of the sanctuary shekel" for each of the ten tribes in payment as a guilt offering that would cover their trespasses against God.

"When anyone is **unfaithful to the LORD** by sinning unintentionally in regard to any of the LORD's holy things, they are to bring to the LORD as a penalty a ram from the flock, one without defect and of the proper value in silver, **according to the sanctuary shekel**. **It is a guilt offering**" (Leviticus 5:15).

 Naaman received instructions for healing. Elisha, the prophet, sent a messenger to say to Naaman, 'Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed'" (II Kings 5:9-10).

Jesus Christ sent a message through the Jewish ministry to get baptized, wash seven times—a complete washing and they would be healed.

• Naaman was not ready for healing. "But Naaman went away angry and said, 'I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?' So, he turned and went off in a rage" (II Kings 5:11-12).

The ten tribes expected a big ceremonial healing ritual, full of show—still thinking in the ways of the Gentiles. God knew their heart; they were not repentant. They were still proud and shallow.

"What can I do with you Ephraim? What can I do with you, Judah? Your love is like the morning mist, like the early dew that disappears" (Hosea 6:4).

• Naaman reconsiders the prophet's instructions. "Naaman's servants went to him and said, 'My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!' So, he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy' (II Kings 5:13-14).

Like Naaman, eventually the ten tribes listened and were baptized according to Christ's instructions and they were completely healed.

• Naaman acknowledged the Supreme God. "Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, 'Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept now a gift from your servant" (II Kings 5:15).

The ten tribes were baptized and went to Christ in prayer and acknowledged the true God, no longer worshiping pagan gods. They offered gifts, but there is no price any human can pay for the redemption of their sins.

"The Prophet answered, 'As surely as the LORD lives, whom I serve, I will not accept a thing.' And even though Naaman urged him, he refused" (II Kings 5:16).

Naaman asked for a sacred place of worship. "'If you will not,' said Naaman, 'please let
me your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry, for your servant will
never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god but the LORD'" (II Kings
5:17).

The ten tribes to this day have not yet returned to the Promised Land. They asked Christ if they could have a holy place where they live to worship God—the only God they promised to worship.

• Naaman asked for a compromise. "But may the LORD forgive your servant for this one thing: When my master enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down and he is leaning on my arm and I bow there also—when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the LORD forgive your servant for this'" (II Kings 5:18).

It is intriguing that it was recorded that this general asked for forgiveness from the Prophet that when he is assisting his master, he too bends before a pagan god only because he is stabilizing his master. The Prophet simply says, "Go in peace." The national leaders of the Christians like their churches have never fully cleaned out their pagan traditions. Their churches have Christianized pagan holidays to this day. The Prophet foreknew a bending would take place, but for now, peace has been achieved and a thorough cleansing remains still in the future.

• **Gehazi, the prophet's servant**, runs after Naaman and asks for payment. Graciously, Naaman gives Gehazi two sets of clothing and two talents of silver in two bags.

The twist in this fascinating story is the behavior of the prophet's servant. This servant images the religious leaders of the Jewish house, who asked for payment from their brothers, the ten tribes. The Jews preserved the oracles of God and taught the commandments of God, but in addition, they added their own many laws—the traditions of the elders. These additions imaged the payment Gehazi asked from their repenting brothers.

"But Elisha said to him, 'Was not my spirit with you when the man got down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to take money, or to accept clothes, olive groves, vineyards, flocks, herds, or menservants and maidservants? Naaman's leprosy will cling to you and to your descendants forever.' Then Gehazi went from Elisha's presence and he was leprous, as white as snow" (II Kings 5:25-26).

The priests of the Jewish house would become systemically spiritually sick from their refusal to abolish the traditions of the elders.

The Pharisees and Scribes asked Jesus, "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They do not wash their hands before they eat. Jesus replied, "And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?" (Matthew 15:2-3).

"Thus, you **nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down**. And you do many things like that" (Mark 7:13).

"Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him" (Mark 14:1).

There are sixty-six books in the Bible written by forty different authors. The Book has a unified flow filled with riddles and mysteries. Only by piecing the scriptures from the different books together and applying God's mirroring and imagery can the greater picture be seen.

And so, the repentance of the nations of the ten tribes is preserved through God's sophisticated penmanship. These rebellious and stubborn people became transformed into a God-fearing people—a wonder to the nations watching. The grace the ten tribes of Israel received then, still amazes their descendants today. With gratitude, they continue to give thanks to God singing, "Amazing Grace" and "Your Grace Still Amazes Me."

The story Jesus reminded the Jews in Nazareth many years ago, made them very angry. He said, "'And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.' All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this" (Luke 4:28). The Jews understood what Jesus was saying. They did not want a Gentile nation being healed and brought into the covenant family.

"They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him down the cliff. But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way" (Luke 4:29-30).

The house of Judah and the house of Israel have a long history of hostility. The Jews in Nazareth became violently angry with Jesus when he reminded them that only Naaman, a Gentile commander was healed of leprosy, when in Israel many suffered from the deforming illness. They didn't like to hear that God chose to heal a Gentile over His chosen people.

Through the story of Naaman, Jesus was preparing the Jews to accept the return of their Gentile brothers, the house of Israel that God divorced from the covenant family long ago. Jesus said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel" (Matthew 15:24). Still, at the time of Christ, there remained much hostility between the two houses, which led to the building of the court of the Gentiles in the outer area of the temple, to keep the converted Gentiles from entering into the areas of the inner courts.

With the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D., the man-made rules for the Gentiles disappeared. A new relationship exists today, one with many surprises for the house of Israel who has forgotten their identity and the house of Judah who has forgotten their brothers. They are known today as the Judo-Christians who worship the same God and share the same holy book. The restoration of these two houses is still a future event. It will come after a time of great distress. This time, both houses will return to God at the same time, unlike their ancient past. Together, they will return with weeping and in sincerity. They will enter into an everlasting covenant that they will not break, for they will know their God and obey Him willingly.

"In those days, at that time, the people of Israel and the people of Judah TOGETHER will go in tears to seek the 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).

God has foretold this wonderful event. "I am going to take the stick of Joseph—which is in Ephraim's hand—and of the Israelite tribes associated with him, and join it to Judah's stick, making them a single stick of wood, and they will become one in my hand... I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms" (Ezekiel 37:19, 22).

Ephraim, Joseph's younger son became the leader of the ten-tribed house of Israel. God often refers to that house by the leader's name.

The ancient tensions between the two houses has evaporated. Israel, today, allies with the Christian nations.

"Ephraim's jealousy will vanish, and Judah's enemies will be destroyed; **Ephraim will not be jealous of Judah, nor Judah hostile toward Ephraim**" (Isaiah 11:13). **All of Israel—all TWELVE tribes will be saved.** Today, their rule is under the umbrella of democracy, but at the return of Christ, they will return to a monarchy.

When God made mankind, He made them: male and female. The male gender mirrors the national leaders and the female gender mirrors the church. The story of the repentant nations of Israel was hidden in the story of Naaman, but where is the story that mirrors the repentant church of the ten tribes?

EIGHT: The repentance of the church of the ten tribes of Israel

The church of the ten tribes had become exceedingly sick. Her story is preserved in two parts. The first part is described in Mark 5.

"And a woman was there who had been **subject to bleeding for twelve years. She had borne much agony** under the care of many physicians and had spent all she had, but to no avail. Instead, her condition had only grown worse. **When the woman heard about Jesus**, she came up through the crowd behind him and **touched his cloak**. For she kept saying, "**If only I touch His clothes, I will be healed.**" Instantly, her bleeding stopped and she felt immediate healing. At once, Jesus was aware that power had gone out from him. Turning to the crowd, he asked, "Who touched my clothes?"... But he kept looking around to see who had done this. Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before him trembling in fear, and she told him the whole truth. "**Daughter**," said Jesus, "**your faith has healed you.** Go in peace and be free of your affliction" (Mark 5:25-34).

This woman's story is the parallel recording of the spiritual healing of the repentant tentribed church of Israel. For half of their time on earth, that is, twelve of the twenty-four hours in a full day, she was dying spiritually. She was truly unclean embracing false religion and their practices. A time came after searching and exhausting all of her resources for healing, she turned to Jesus. She remembered her ancient teachings and touched the corner of his tallit.

"But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness [Christ] will **rise with healing in its** wings [kanaph—the corners of the tallit]" (Malachi 4:2).

Jesus knew this woman had Hebrew roots because he felt power leave him from the very place of healing. He did not seek her; she sought him. She relied on the ancient teachings for healing and it worked. The Christian churches have accepted Christ as their Messiah and their spiritual healing has begun. Jesus is able to heal the spiritually dying and he is able to heal the spiritually dead, as he raised from the dead, the little daughter of Jairus.

The story following the healing of the woman with the issue of blood for twelve years, is the story of the twelve-year-old little girl who died while Jesus was talking to the woman healed from the issue of blood. She mirrored the dead congregation of a spiritually dying church. Fortunately, Jesus can heal the dead.

The second part of the healing of the church of the ten tribes is recorded only by the Apostle John in chapter four of the book of John. She is the woman at the well.

Alone, Jesus asked the woman for a drink from the well. She questioned why a Jew would be talking to a woman—a Gentile woman. Jesus ignored her concern and continued, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water" (John 4:10). Jesus continued to break the barriers between the

Jews and the Gentiles, males and females by continuing to talk to the Gentile woman. She wondered how he could offer her "living" water without anything to draw with, from the well that she knew was built by **their forefather**, **Jacob**. They both acknowledged having the same forefather, Jacob. Jesus was from the house of Judah and the woman at the well was from the house of the ten tribes—Israel.

She liked the idea of "living water." She was tired of going to the well, day in and day out, in the heat of the day. Life was burdensome and the church of the ten tribes was desperate for relief. The church doesn't yet understand the spiritual connection.

"Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water" (John 4:15).

She is a broken woman. She is coming to get water during the heat of the day because she is an outcast, a Samaritan. She cannot come in the cool of the morning because she is shunned and a shame. She images a Gentile pagan church shunned and disdained by the covenant lewish church.

She doesn't want to come during the heat of the day, day in and day out, getting water anymore. It is heavy and she is alone. She's wanting to be rescued. She may be thinking that Jesus can give her this "living" water like the manna that came from heaven when they wandered in the wilderness. This ten-tribed church had experienced the curses of God in full measure. They have witnessed the evil of the gods ruling over the nations and felt the shame of a church who cannot give birth to a congregation. They were ready and waiting for their Savior; Jesus was there to announce his arrival.

First, Jesus said, "Go, call your husband and come back" (John 4:16). She informed him that she does not have a husband and Jesus confronted the issue of her failing relationships. She had five husbands and the one she was with was not a husband.

Jesus was confronting the church of the ten tribes about their previous relationships with gods, teaching a false, pagan religion and their history of treachery. The church had entered into relationships with five different gods. This woman's life was a re-enactment of the church of the ten tribes.

She was amazed that Jesus knew her background and immediately began to think that Jesus is a prophet, so she asked him about the location of worship: "on this mountain" (Shiloh) or "in Jerusalem." Shiloh was the place of worship for all Israel before the first temple was built in Jerusalem. She remembered her history. Jesus replied with a response that would baffle the religious leaders for a long time.

"But a time is coming and has now come when the **true worshipers will worship the Father** in spirit and in truth, for the Father is seeking such as these to worship Him" (John 4:24).

Jesus was trying to take the ancient thinking of a physical temple and sacrifices to a new level and place. The new place of worship is in spirit and truth. It is the receiving of God's Holy Spirit that will transform the rebellious heart of stone into a heart of flesh, a willing spirit desiring to obey God and accept His truth. Jesus is the Word of God; he is truth and truth will set you free from spiritual death. So, the new place lies within you, where, through the Messiah you receive God's Holy Spirit and become the new temple—the New Jerusalem of Revelation 21.

Worshiping in spirit and truth was a strange concept for her, so she reassured herself, "I know that the Messiah is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." This church is eagerly waiting for their Messiah, the one who will save them from spiritual death and reopen the door to eternity.

Jesus leaned towards her and said, "I am he."

She was ecstatic! Her heart must have jumped with joy as she ran to give the good news to her people. The old jug was left behind; it is no longer needed. The church accepted the gift of God's Holy Spirit. They were at that time, a broken people longing to return to the covenant family and this news for them was so long overdue, so, the hearing and accepting of it was immediate.

Her town's people came straightaway. "They urged him to stay with them and he stays **two days**" (John 4:40-41). "With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day" (II Peter 3:8). For two thousand years, Christ has been staying with the ten-tribed church, teaching them as he did in John 4:40.

Christians today all accept Christ as their Savior, but they have wandered far and wide teaching many, many differing theologies from the same Book. Christ warned the seven Church of Revelation to overcome and return to the one theology that he taught when he was on earth. Christ is the same today as he was yesterday and into the future. God's word has not changed, but religious men over the past two thousand years have made changes that will bring them a heavy penalty on Judgment Day.

The woman was first to meet Jesus face-to-face before the men in her community, which indicates that Christ will first go to the church before their government. Two major roles form God's kingdom: the priestly role and the national role. The female gender images the priestly role while the male gender images the national role. The national leaders and the church of the house of the ten tribes, immediately accepted Christ as their Messiah, without question. They look for no other and they wait for his return, when they will play a major role with their Jewish brothers, in the overthrow of Wickedness on earth.

NINE: The church and national leaders of the house of Judah

The Jewish church has its own story. For so long, God hoped that she would remain faithful, but a quick glance into the future told only the heart-breaking story of unfaithfulness.

On one Sabbath, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, and a woman there had been disabled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was hunched over and could not stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your infirmity'" (Luke 13:10-12).

Her story provides a painful illustration for 21st century Judo-Christians of the crumpled state of the Jewish church that won't be healed by Christ until the Millennium—on the Sabbath. Her condition mirrors the greater story of the Jewish church that within a 24-hour period being a full day, three-quarters of that time, they have been crippled from the heavy burdens placed on them by their religious leaders.

Jesus said about the Pharisees, "They tie up **heavy**, **cumbersome loads** and **put them on other people's shoulders**, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them" (Matthew 23:4).

Jesus saw the woman and had sympathy for her. He called to her and healed her on the Sabbath. God gave this woman a role to pay for the greater picture. Her suffering imaged the Jewish church bent over for eighteen long years working hard to serve God, but her religious leaders added more and more rules—traditions of men that bent her back, until she could not see where she was going. This woman mirrors the persevering strength of the church of the house of Judah who endures the burdens of the traditions of the elders. They also have a long history of carrying heavy burdens. They rebuilt the second temple despite the many obstacles. They honored and preserved the oracles of God during times of peace and adversity—alone, while their brothers who are many—the ten tribes—flirted with the gods. And to their credit, they continue to acknowledge Moses, the commandments, God's Sabbath and God's holy days.

Unfortunately, their nation and church, a long time ago, followed the ways of their brothers and wandered far and wide away from God. Jeremiah was given the foresight and he wrote, "I gave **faithless Israel** her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries. Yet I saw that her **unfaithful sister Judah** had no fear; **she also went out and committed adultery**" (Jeremiah 3:8).

While the house of Israel was notorious for being faithless and unrighteous, the pendulum continued to swing away from the middle and the house of Judah became notorious for being unfaithful due to their self-righteousness.

Worse than the wayward national leaders and the lost congregations, **the religious leaders in Jerusalem** became the most appalling of them all. **"Samaria** [the capital city of the ten tribes

of Israel] did not commit half the sins you did. You have done more detestable things than they, and have made your sisters seem righteous by all these things you have done" (Ezekiel 16:51).

Jesus longed to protect the people trying to obey God. "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children [congregation] together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing" (Matthew 23:37).

"Name one prophet your ancestors didn't persecute! They even killed the ones who predicted the coming of the Righteous One—the Messiah whom you betrayed and murdered" (Acts 7:52).

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when you have succeeded, you make them twice as much a child of hell as you are" (Matthew 23:15).

Satan's crafty and evil servants linger in the shadows whispering to every self-glorifying ear to sell the works of Wickedness. For self-gratification, these people lead the innocent astray. Mankind is an easy target for Satan and his rogue heavenly coalition.

"The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or **Satan, who** leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him" (Revelation 12:9).

Rarely does mankind question the narrative. Investigative journalism died when evil gained power. Critical thinking is condemned and shamed as "conspiracy theory." Truth-seeking is the joke of the century for they think that they have all truth. For the most part, mankind is just happy following along. God will not allow the nations of 21st century Israel to follow along. He will work until they awaken them from their foolishness. God will succeed over the alluring and mesmerizing chatter of Wickedness.

"For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her righteousness shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow. You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD'S hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God" (Isaiah 62:1-3).

God's work is the molding of His people into a faithful, righteous congregation. The destruction of God's city-centre on earth is a central goal of the rogue heavenly coalition. Today, it is a controversy and soon, it will become a bloody battle field, before God reclaims His capital and restores its beauty.

"For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

And his [Christ's] feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with thee" (Zechariah 14:2-5).

The greater battle is God and Christ against the rogue heavenly rulers, powers and authorities of Ephesians 6:12. Mankind is yet to learn that these rogue entities have been our only enemies since the creation of Adam and Eve. Wickedness thought they had conquered God's headquarters in heaven with the fall of every great leader [cedar] and they thought they had conquered God's headquarters, Jerusalem, on earth. But, it was for only the time that it took to bring God's people to their knees, see the truth and turn back to their God with an eternal burning faith that will never diminish. Jerusalem will be restored.

TEN: Back to God's garden in Eden

God Almighty is seeding a new headquarters.

"In a very short time, will not **Lebanon be turned into a fertile field** and the fertile field seem **LIKE A FOREST?**" (Isaiah 29:17)

God sounds excited!

God, our Creator, is filling His royal, ruling family with faithful princes and princesses.

"Instead of the thorn bush [wicked rulers] will **grow the PINE tree**, and instead of briers [wicked nations] the **MYRTLE will grow**" (Isaiah 55:13).

God sounds confident!

Our Savior is the splendid cedar who did act wisely and became a king—the King of kings and Lord of lords. He is the compassionate mediator who understands our earthly frailties. He walked the earth seeking no glory for himself or esteem. Willingly, he suffered and died for the sins of mankind, so that we could once again have the offer of eternal life.

"See, my servant will act wisely... he grew up before him like a tender shoot and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering... he was despised and we esteemed him not. Surely, he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities, the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way, and the LORD has land on him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 52:13-15, 53:2-6).

God has already announced that this Son—Jesus Christ, will stand with the great! He remained loyal to Almighty God while he suffered both in heaven and on earth.

"After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life, and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. Therefore, I will give him a portion among the **GREAT**, and **he will divide the spoils with the strong** [the saints will rule with him], because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors" (Isaiah 53:11-12).

Christ will share his rulership with his bride, the saints.

"But the court will sit, and his power [the power of the fourth beast] will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of the kingdoms

under the whole heaven will be handed over to the saints, the people of the Most High. His kingdom will be everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him" (Daniel 7:26-27).

What the fallen sons of God wanted, will be given to the humble, insignificant, God-fearing, God-serving saints. These ordinary people are: a dry tree grown tall, made strong through suffering, exhibit fortified loyalty, serve in love, and obey the Almighty God the Creator because they know and love Him.

Christ won't be alone in the new headquarters in the garden of God; the faithful will be with him.

"The righteous man will flourish like the PALM TREE; **he will grow like a CEDAR in Lebanon**; planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God. They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming, 'The LORD is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him" (Psalm 92:12-15).

"The trees of the Lord flourish, the CEDARS of Lebanon that He planted" (Psalm 104:16).

God's capital city, Jerusalem will be adorned with the glory of Lebanon.

"'The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,' declares the LORD... 'Though in anger I struck you, in favor I will show you compassion... **THE GLORY OF LEBANON WILL COME TO YOU**, **the PINE**, **the FIR and the CYPRESS together**, **to adorn the place of my sanctuary** and I will glorify the place of my feet... all who despise you will bow down at your feet and will call you The City of the LORD, Zion of the Holy One of Israel'" (Isaiah 59:20, 60:10, 60:13, 14).

God will raise up righteous leaders and faithful people everywhere, even in places where wickedness reigned.

"I will turn the desert into pools of water, and the parched ground into springs. I will put in the desert the CEDAR and the ACACIA, the MYRTLE and the OLIVE. I will set PINES in the wasteland, the FIR and the CYPRESS together, so that people may see and know, may consider and understand, that the hand of the LORD has done this, that the Holy One of Israel has created it" (Isaiah 41:19-20).

God's Holy Spirit is the water that forms the springs and waters that the repentant people of Israel receive and blossom into righteousness. "I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants. They will spring up like grass in a meadow, like POPLAR TREES by flowing streams. One will say, 'I belong to the LORD,' another will call himself by the name of Jacob; still another will write on his hand, 'The LORD's,' and will take the name Israel" (Isaiah 44:3-5).

Finally, after all these years, God's people will come to see and love their Creator. The rebel heavenly entities will be seen for what they are and the God of Israel will finally rest from

battling against His people. "I will be like the dew to Israel, he will blossom like a lily. Like a CEDAR of Lebanon, he will send down his roots, his young shoots will grow, His splendor will be like an OLIVE TREE, his fragrance like a CEDAR OF LEBANON. Men will dwell again in his shade. He will flourish like the grain... blossom like a vine and his fame will be like the wine from Lebanon" (Hosea 14:5-7).

"How fair are your tents, **O Jacob**, Your dwellings, **O Israel!** 'Like valleys that stretch out, like **GARDENS beside the river**, **like ALOES planted by the LORD**, **like CEDARS beside the waters**" (Numbers 24:5-6).

This wonderful future becomes a reality after the Great Tribulation when mankind is brought down to their knees and Jesus Christ, our humble Savior, offers them a peace treaty. Christ is the living example for mankind. He is Prince of Peace, King of all kings, Lord of all priests. He is our mediator and advocate who willingly suffered to understand the frailty of being human. What type of love is it that captured Christ's heart so that he was willing to die a brutal and shameful death for a people revelling in hatred, lapping up self-glory and fighting for supremacy? Who is this man, this Son of God, this Savior?

ELEVEN: Our humble Savior and King of kings, Lord of lords

"He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief. Like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised, and we esteemed him not" (Isaiah 53:2-3).

When Jesus walked on earth, his physical appearance was ordinary. He did not seek to win the adoration of mankind through good looks, but by bringing them to love the word of God. He did nothing to bring attention or glory to himself, but to bring mankind to acknowledge and glorify God. He was willing to accept denial from the Jews, if only they would recognize the miracles that he did, as a direct result of receiving power from God.

In the 21st century, men who do not have any heavenly power, yet sit in a place of authority, do not hesitate to subdue their opposition and demand respect, but Jesus, a humble Savior, lives by the gospel of peace.

"If I am not doing the works of My Father, then do not believe Me. But if I am doing them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works themselves, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I am in the Father" (John 10:37-38).

Jesus is the Son of God who patiently works with proud and arrogant mankind. He lives to serve, not to be served.

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).

"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:29-30).

Jesus is the example for mankind. "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8).

"Humility is the fear of the Lord; its wages are riches and honor and life" (Proverbs 22:4).

Possibly, few have thought of the great risk Jesus accepted by putting his eternal life on the line to save sinning mankind. If Christ had sinned on earth—God forbid—he would have lost his former glory of eternal life in heaven. Jesus Christ loves righteousness and hates wickedness. He is absolute in that determination and will not change.

"But about the Son he [God] says, 'Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness, therefore God [Jesus Christ], your God [Almighty God], has set you [Jesus Christ] above your companions [the other sons of God]'" (Hebrews 1:8-9).

The key to Jesus' success is that he lives to do the will of his Father.

"Who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on the cross" (Philippians 2:6-8).

He does not seek to overthrow his Father—"equality with God something to be grasped," instead he remains a humble servant of God, even to the point of being beaten beyond human recognition and shamed, dying on the cross. His love for his church and mankind is without a doubt, genuine and eternal. His ability to love goes beyond the comprehension of mortals. Only by God's Holy Spirit can this type of love be understood and returned.

It will be both a deeply emotional and humbling revelation for mankind when they learn that Jesus willingly submitted to becoming mortal and suffer, so that he could truly understand the human experience—the weaker vessel and intercede for them.

"For this reason, he had to be made like his brothers in every way, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, in order to make atonement for the sins of the people" (Hebrews 2:17).

His sacrifice for his church and all of mankind demonstrates the depth of his commitment for our success and his love, which flows out "wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:18-19).

Jesus puts everything aside to preserve righteousness and restore the kingdom of God to the way it was before iniquity was found. He has won many heavenly battles unseen by human eye to overthrow Wickedness. He is the rider on the white horse wearing many crowns.

"...before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war... **on his head are many crowns**... his name is the Word of God" (Revelation 19:11-13).

A royal wedding is on our near horizon. The King, Christ—Son of God will marry his Bride—the church, the Queen from the earthly realm. As God said, "He made them in His image; male and female He made them (Genesis 1:27). The creation of gender on earth was intentionally designed to reflect the two realms, the first creation and the second creation. These two realms will always exist, as separate abodes.

Our Creator God presently rules from heaven with His first creation, but a change will come after He creates a new heaven and new earth. A great honor will be bestowed on earth that will

baffle mankind for all eternity. God will establish His headquarters in the re-united kingdom of Israel on earth.

TWELVE: God will come down from heaven and live with man

It was once asked, "Who is man that God is mindful of him?" (Psalm 8:4)

Such a question begs an answer, for our God is the Creator—all powerful, omni-everything.

"To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One. "Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing" (Isaiah 40:25-26).

21st century Israel have drifted far and away from God. They mock at the talk of a Creator and they revel in technology and medicines that extend life, even grasping at eternal life without a Savior.

"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom" (Isaiah 40:28).

God doesn't want war. Repent and He will gladly take you into His arms—MAKE PEACE WITH HIM.

"I am not angry. If only there were briars and thorns confronting me! I would march against them in battle; I would set them all on fire. Or else let them come to me for refuge; LET THEM MAKE PEACE WITH ME, YES, LET THEM MAKE PEACE WITH ME" (Isaiah 27:3-5).

So, why is God and Jesus Christ so mindful of mankind despite their fight against Them? It is simply Their infinite love for Their creation.

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