

UNVEILED!

**The Ancient Secrets of Daniel &
The Revelation of Jesus Christ**

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Unveiled!

The Ancient Secrets of Daniel & The Revelation of Jesus Christ

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The Child ...

The Revelation

The LORD came to Solomon in a dream, saying, “Ask what I shall give you.” The idea of ruling a kingdom overwhelmed the new king who requested an understanding heart and the ability to discern good from evil. His desires pleased God who promised his request. He woke and Solomon offered acceptable sacrifices to God on an altar in Gibeon; then, held a feast for his servants.

¹⁶ Then two prostitutes came to the king and stood before him. ¹⁷ The one woman said, “Oh, my lord, this woman and I live in the same house, and I gave birth to a child while she was in the house. ¹⁸ Then on the third day after I gave birth, this woman also gave birth. And we were alone. There was no one else with us in the house; only we two were in the house. ¹⁹ And this woman's son died in the night, because she lay on him. ²⁰ And she arose at midnight and took my son from beside me, while your servant slept, and laid him at her breast, and laid her dead son at my breast. ²¹ When I rose in the morning to nurse my child, behold, he was dead. But when I looked at him closely in the morning, behold, he was not the child that I had borne.” ²² But the other woman said, “No, the living child is mine, and the dead child is yours.” The first said, “No, the dead child is yours, and the living child is mine.” Thus they spoke before the king.

²³ Then the king said, “The one says, ‘This is my son that is alive, and your son is dead’; and the other says, ‘No; but your son is dead, and my son is the living one.’” ²⁴ And the king said, “Bring me a sword.” So a sword was brought before the king. ²⁵ And the king said, “Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one and half to the other.” ²⁶ Then the woman whose son was alive said to the king, because her heart yearned for her son, “Oh, my lord, give her the living child, and by no means put him to death.” But the other said, “He shall be neither mine nor yours; divide him.” ²⁷ Then the king answered and said, “Give the living child to the first woman, and by no means put him to death; she is his mother.” ²⁸ And all Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king, because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him to do justice. (1 Kg. 3:16-28 ESV)

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Though not an allegory, there's a message hidden in the true story of the two women. There's an ancient argument between envy and ownership that applies to Abraham's sons by different mothers, Hagar and Sarah, whose progeny are Arabs and Jews.

Ishmael was born of a servant in the natural way, but Isaac, of an aged and barren wife's faith and an old man's trust in the promise of God. This courtroom case was included in the Bible to lend insight to an age-old mystery: envy is kindred to hatred.

Both women in Solomon's court were harlots and each had birthed a child. One mother lay on hers, suffocating him as they slept. After her own child's death, she coveted her friend's baby. Though caring nothing for him, she envied the other woman's motherhood. They brought the living child before Solomon.

Ishmaelites and Israelites, present-day Arabs and Jews, live side by side as neighbors. Both had known harlotry though they had each been given lands to keep and nourish.

Since their return to their homeland, the Jews have cultivated its fields, and the desert sands that had lain waste for millennia now thrive with life and greenery because they have faithfully cared for their land. Their half-brothers beside them have lived with similar soil but haven't tilled, cultivated, or seeded it, so the ground remains a vastly barren and fruitless desert.

Israel is the living child. Jerusalem is his heart. The one who gave him life nurtures and protects him as a true mother would. Her neighbors want the land divided because, over the centuries, their envy turned to hatred. If they could acquire the land, they would destroy it, but in Solomon's court, the matter is plain to see: the true mother's child lives.

No one can thwart the promises of God or prevent His words from fulfillment. Though they hate their neighbors, they cannot annihilate the remnant of His chosen people, because the God of Israel is faithful to His Word as the only true God.

Solomon's gift of wisdom was made famous by his solution to the conflict. As the king judged the case between the women, soon the Son of David will be enthroned in Jerusalem as King and Judge to declare the promises and to administer justice on behalf of the true mother on the Day of the LORD when the case goes to Court.

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Isaiah 18

- ¹ Ah, land of whirring wings
that is beyond the rivers of Cush, [west of Egypt/Africa]
² which sends ambassadors by the sea,
in vessels of papyrus on the waters! [w/ satchels of papers]
Go, you swift messengers, [or angels]
to a nation tall and smooth, [drawn out and independent/
to a people feared near and far, obstinate]
a nation mighty and conquering,
whose land the rivers divide. [cleave]
³ All you inhabitants of the world,
you who dwell on the earth,
when a signal is raised on the mountains, look!
When a trumpet is blown, hear!
⁴ For thus the LORD said to me:
“I will quietly look from my dwelling
like clear heat in sunshine,
like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.”
⁵ For before the harvest, when the blossom is over,
and the flower becomes a ripening grape,
he cuts off the shoots with pruning hooks,
and the spreading branches he lops off and clears away.
⁶ They shall all of them be left
to the birds of prey of the mountains
and to the beasts of the earth.
And the birds of prey will summer on them,
and all the beasts of the earth will winter on them.
⁷ At that time tribute will be brought to the LORD of hosts
from a people tall and smooth, [drawn out & independent/
from a people feared near and far, obstinate]
a nation mighty and conquering,
whose land the rivers divide, [cleave]
to Mount Zion, the place of the name
of the LORD of hosts. (Is. 18:1-7 ESV)

The location of Cush is contested by historians, but biblical Cush was in Africa. Some Bibles call it Ethiopia, a Greek name. Its land was south of Egypt in southern Nubia, now Ethiopia.²²⁸ However, in Isaiah’s day the Cushites had conquered Egypt.²²⁹ This is why Cushites came *out of Egypt*. (2 Chr. 12:3 YLT) They would have been there after Egypt regained her land. *Beyond the rivers of Cush* indicates a nation distant from Isaiah, certainly west of Egypt—maybe west of Africa. Anything beyond Cush was distant from the prophet; therefore the land is west, beyond

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Cush. The nation was unnamed because it was unknown, but its wings are whirring, clattering, spinning, and noisy, unlike birds. [Heb.: *ts^olatsal*, “clattering, whirring, buzzing.”] It’s a picture of wings that contain noisy engines. An American invention in 1903, the airplane came just in time for two world wars.²³⁰

What about boats of reed carrying ambassadors across the sea? Imagine wooden ships in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, and we can see why they were compared to vessels of papyrus, or bulrushes. Would we take a trip on a wooden ship miles above the ocean floor? They often died in storms at sea, swallowed by its perilous waves.

One version has, *sending by sea ambassadors, even with implements of reed on the face of the waters.* (YLT) At her inception, Benjamin Franklin was the first American diplomat, taking excursions to England and France with documents and treaties.²³¹ Europe’s diplomats did the same in return.

The nation is “drawn out” [Heb.: *māshak*], “obstinate, or independent” [Heb.: *mowrat*]. The eagle’s wings were pulled off the lion’s back (in Dan. 7:4). [Aram.: *m’rat*, “pull off”] Drawn out of other nations, her people were obstinate and independent. [The words’ double-meanings are intentional.]

Determined to strike out on their own, pioneers explored the land and crossed it to discover its extent. Pressing westward, they plowed its fields; risked their lives; settled its wilderness; and built towns, farms, and ranches. Marking state borders, the populace increased and built highways, railroads, and bridges.

Her people are feared near and far, mighty and conquering; she is the leopard, given dominion. (Dan. 7:6) Her *messengers* (Rev. 14:6-9) *speak to the earth and to every nation*, sending out *signals* as the whole world watches and listens. (18: 3, p. 267)

Isaiah saw a mighty nation *whose land the rivers divide*. This undoubtedly pinpoints the nation by her geography, including her many rivers. Some versions have, *whose land the rivers [or floods] have spoiled*, which is incorrect. The Hebrew word *baza* means “cleave, split along natural lines, or divide.” *Rivers that divide the land* reveal her location. (18:2) Forty-four of her states have rivers as borders.²³² Together the words describe America, not Britain, Russia, South Africa, or any other land on the earth. Twelve states were *meted out*, surveyed with straight lines.²³³

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In verse 4 God is Sovereign, intensely but quietly watching. He is in control, unmovable, impassable. *Like a clear heat upon herbs, and like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest (KJV)*. A clear heat is intense, one that can burn the herbs, but a cloud of dew refreshes both harvest and harvesters. The way God deals with her is a warning to the world.

In verse 5 at the fullness of time, there is a great slaughter. Multitudes of bodies are left to the scavenging birds and beasts. Her judgment comes before the harvest as her fruit is ripening. In Revelation 15 the first harvest is the first resurrection, and the next yields His wrath, but this is before the harvest. [Heb.: *gamal* is translated *unripe* (in YLT); but is “ripen” in several versions and in (ZGE); *the flower becomes a ripening grape* (in ESV).] This nation nearly reaches her fullness.

Isaiah 18 refers to a powerful nation, unknown in his time; not in her youth, but *when the blossom is over, and her flower becomes a ripening grape* (in 18:5). After that, the symbolism is about a great slaughter, the judgment of God. Israel is a nation, Zion, when this land is broken, humbled, and finally healed.

The importance of America’s place as the sister land to Israel can’t be overstated. The two have had close ties, and God will not forget her, but like Israel, her sins have separated her from Him. The blood of innocents is on her hands. Before He saves the nation from total destruction, He cuts off her spreading branches, her strength. His pruning hooks reach her high places. The result of her judgment proves His intention to humble her by correcting her course and to save her from utter destruction.

Terrible times have come and gone, and millions of souls have been lost. The bodies had lain in our own fields in earlier years; then in Europe, Africa, Asia, and the ME, but this is when Israel is a nation. Its imagery shows a land out of destruction like life out of death when at last she offers a gift to God in Zion.

The judgment is severe but ends with an offering to God in Jerusalem *from a nation, feared near and far, mighty and conquering, whose land its rivers divide*. She brings a tribute—a gift, an act, or repayment, given in gratitude for a blessing or act of favor—to the LORD on Mount Zion, Jerusalem. ... *for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.* (Isaiah 2:3c)

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The LORD is *like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest* to His people. (From 18:4) After the trials, her faith is rewarded, and her survivors humbly rise up with a gift of thanks to God, perhaps for life itself and for a redeemed nation too.

America has been weakened by atheism, immorality, and a drug culture. For decades, millions have been losing their future and their hope. Denying her faith under the spells that deceive her, America is losing her liberty, including fundamental natural rights endowed by our Creator.

The church must act as salt and light to preserve civilization. Jesus never compromised His righteousness with the culture that ultimately killed Him; we must never let go of His goodness.

The Word of God is a Sword that divides us. He didn't come to bring peace to this world, but to convict it because the world is evil. He doesn't unite us but by personal radical transformation—the new birth. Though we're divided from this world, we're united together in Him if His Word abides in us and we remain in Him. Our country depends on our return to the Holy Bible and to prayers that embrace our nation's biblical foundations.

No country is separate from its founders' faith. Governments are formed by what their founders believe—it's always been that way. This is a dark world, and we've fallen by blindness to our own sins though we easily spot ours in others.

America matters to God; she's been a sister to Israel since 1947. However, she has fallen by the removal of the Holy Bible from her culture, and we must pray to save the nation God chose for us to inhabit. We must follow Christ in meekness, yielded to do His will if we hope to inherit the new earth. Prayer makes a difference because God hears our words.

¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; ¹¹ in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. ... (Phil. 3:8, 10-11 NASB)

¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you; (Phil. 3:14-15 NASB) ["Perfect" is defined as "mature and of full age, made complete" by the exercise of godliness.]

The Order of Events

The Summaries

In Revelation the chapters and their mysteries are mostly out of order and full of metaphors, hidden until the end of the age. Chapter 1 introduces the Messiah as the Sacrifice Lamb Yeshua. His messages to the congregations are in chapters 2 and 3. These things were spoken for anyone who has an ear to hear.

Chapter 4 has four living creatures in heaven, also in 5 when the Lamb is chosen to open the scroll. Chapter 6 describes each of the six seals. After the sixth seal, 7 shows 144,000 male virgin Israelites in heaven who are also there in 14:3 and in 15:7 before the bowls of wrath begin, which end in chapter 16.

Chapters 8, 9, 10, and 11 happen after the thousand years. 12 is a vision of heaven, introducing the dragon from ages past. The fiery red dragon is cast to earth. 17:1-11 is next; then Daniel 7 and WW2 lead to Revelation 13, exposing the collusion of the beasts whose lives are prolonged till they lose their dominion.

Together they formed the UN, and a more sinister union.²¹⁸ The leopard has dominion and is the beast's body with the dragon's throne in 13:2. Three beasts in unison, the beast with seven heads and ten horns is an embedded international government. The dragon has two horns like a lamb and rises from the ground, *diverse from the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed*; yet he was the first beast. His prophet orders the mark, the number, and the title of the beast, and the beast with a mark is the dragon. 13 leads us to 17:12-18 when his ten kings return to the scarlet beast to destroy his former city Mystery Babylon.

Some chapters are synchronous with their mates. In 13 the beast gets the dragon's throne, which is his city. Afterward the beast with horns like a lamb rises as a false religious leader and his prophet with the mark of the beast. These bring us to 6:9-17; then chapters 14 –15, all of 16, 17:12-18 to chapter 18; then 19 through 20:1-6. Chapters 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20:1-3 are pre-millennial, but out of order. 20:4-6 is during the thousand years. Chapters 8 –11 are post-millennial with details in 20:7-15. 21 –22 are from the end of this world to eternity.

The end of Babylon in 18 was foreseen in Dan. 2. Rev. 20 is an overview of the Kingdom to the end of time, leading to the new heavens, the new earth, and New Jerusalem in 21 and 22.

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Let's Track the Beasts

In Revelation 12 a fiery red dragon had seven heads with crowns and ten horns with none. In 17 the same beast had seven heads and seven kings; five had fallen; the sixth was Rome's. Its horns, with no kings in 12, were kings with no kingdom yet in 17. Soon after Napoleon conquered the REGN, he was defeated as the seventh king.

As WW1 ended, Britain overcame the Ottoman Empire and dominated the Middle East. In Versailles Brits set the borders for Iraq, Israel, Trans-Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon by 1922. They established twelve new nations in Europe as well.

In Daniel 7:7 the horns of the dragon rose out of the REGN. With the old order gone, the ten kings were granted kingdoms by the Treaty of Versailles in 1920–1922.²¹⁹

Hitler claimed the German-speaking lands in Europe. Three kings fell before him, but all ten gave up their crowns (in Rev. 17:11-13). Seven heads and ten horns are on the beast that gained the dragon's throne (in Rev. 13:1-2). Its *horns have crowns*, not its heads, which lost great empires to wars. The beast has a mouth, so he speaks by a man who continues forty-two months, the first half of Daniel's seventieth week. (Rev. 13:5; Dan. 9:24-26)

Chapter 13 has three beasts: the dragon with a deadly wound handed his throne to the beast. After the head of the dragon was healed by the beast, he rose from perdition as a beast with lamb's horns. At the end, these beasts rule the nations. The leaders use false wonders and lies to win the world. (2 Thes. 2)

The two-horned beast is the union of false religions, merged in a beast speaking as a dragon. It is the duplicitous kingdom of the dragon who speaks with a false prophet looking like a lamb.

The horns of the terrible beast of Daniel are ten kings that return to the scarlet beast, now the EU. From the beast of 13, they give their kingdom to the dragon in 17:17. Babylon ruled the kings of the earth as his spiritual capital with the scarlet beast in 17, but now the beast in 13 carries the dragon's throne.

The dragon carried Babylon to Rome and into her church; then to Berlin where he destroyed the Jews but was slain when his head was bruised. [The smith fans coals into flames to shape an instrument for his work, but no weapon formed against God's servants prospers. (See Is. 54:16-17)] We rise eternally.

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After his body was slain, his deadly wound was healed, and the dragon came out of the earth as a beast with two small horns. The wars in Europe and the Pacific proved Dan. 7:6: the leopard was given dominion, but since his alliance with the lion and the bear in 1945, the leopard changed. Roosevelt was influenced by Stalin and Churchill. Their close ties are revealed by the beast in 13. Their governments make the beasts different, but now an international government rises from the deep to devour the earth.

Out of Babylon the Great, a liar rises as a blaspheming ruler who overcomes the saints. After he arrives *the first beast whose deadly wound was healed* rises with the number of a man. (13:12; 2 Thes. 2) The dragon, the beast, and the false prophet attempt to steal worship from God, and this is their final ploy of the ages.

Their two kingdoms unite, and they speak together as leaders with false miracles who entice men by promising unity. But the Son of God died for our sins and was raised from the dead to justify our forgiveness. If we repent and confess Him as our Lord and Savior, enduring to the end, we'll be saved.

Coming soon: the truth is marginalized, repudiated, mocked. Believers are prohibited from buying or selling and are put to death for disputing the heresy. The dragon exalts himself in his living image, revered in Jerusalem's temple. The Jews accept the placement of his image beside the beast, and Jerusalem is given into his hands. When the devil demands worship, the world falls on its face before him.

Delivering the Messages

A messenger flying in the midst of heaven speaks the gospel with a loud voice by television, satellite, and radio air waves. Another condemns Babylon's sins, and a third boldly warns men to refuse the mark of the beast or suffer everlasting wrath.

A false religious leader orders the number, mark, and title of the dragon who makes its takers his slaves. As his image in the temple, he demands the world's worship or death by beheading. Thus the enemies of God are identified by the mark of the beast, but His servants are sealed by His Spirit. Believers endure until death in our final battle against the nature of our flesh.

The mark of the beast identifies who goes to the lake of fire, but angels are poised to gather the elect to Jesus, holding back the four winds. As the tribulation ends, 12,000 from each tribe of

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Israel are sealed as the firstfruits, the first to rise in the ascension after the first resurrection when the four winds have been loosed and the sixth seal, undone. *The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.* (Acts 2:20-21)

The trumpet blasts as everyone trembles in terror; sinners are horrified by His impending wrath; Jesus comes on a cloud with a shout, raising the beheaded from their graves. The firstfruits are taken up, leading the elect to meet Jesus in the air. Then seven angels carry the bowls of plagues for those marked by the beast.

⁴² Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. ⁴³ But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. ⁴⁴ Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. (Mat. 24:42-44) –Our eyes close in death and open to see Him.

18 And he spoke a parable to them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; ² saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: ³ And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. ⁴ And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; ⁵ yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. ⁶ And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. ⁷ And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? ⁸ I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth? (Luke 18:1-8)

When Israel sees Him, she mourns for Him as a mother for her only son. She is given the Spirit of grace and supplications:

²⁵ I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, ²⁶ and in this way all Israel will be saved. As it is written:

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“The deliverer will come from Zion;
he will turn godlessness away from Jacob.
²⁷ And this is my covenant with them
when I take away their sins.” (Rom. 11:25-27 NIV)

As His wrath is poured out on the earth, the elect worship the Father and Son in heaven. Those on earth who are left behind, especially Israel, mourn for the Son they never knew. She has faith in His name and awaits His return. (Song of Songs) The faithful endure by faith that leads to their purification, even the whole house of Israel.

Voices, thunders, lightnings, and the greatest earthquake of all shake the whole world. At the last plague, Babylon the Great is utterly destroyed. Her city is *thrown down with violence*, and her *smoke rises forever*. (Rev. 18) Cities crumble as mountains and islands disappear because the Day of the LORD has come.

The invitations were sent, and the hall is filled with wedding guests. After the last bowl of wrath leaves the Sanctuary, the marriage of the Lamb is announced in heaven where angels and saints celebrate the destruction of Babylon. Then Yeshua flashes across the sky with the elect on white horses to rescue Jerusalem.

Blessed are they that are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. (Rev. 19:9) He rides with vengeance against the armies of the nations that wait for war in Armageddon. There the Lamb destroys them by the sharp sword of His Word. The birds and beasts consume the flesh of His enemies in the great supper of God, and Yeshua hurls the beast and prophet into the lake of fire.

Finally, an angel chains, locks, and seals the dragon in the pit for a thousand years as the Son of David, Messiah, reigns in Zion. Martyrs beheaded for resisting the beast and his mark are chosen to join the elders and living creatures as priests and kings.

Yeshua enters Jerusalem, riding a white horse with His army after Him. (Rev. 15:5-8) The elect virgins, undefiled men from the twelve tribes, worship Him in the temple, never leaving His Presence. Israel is saved when Messiah Yeshua establishes His throne as Jerusalem and reigns over the earth. (Lk. 12:36; cf. Rev. 19:1-9) The nations are judged. (Mat. 25:31-40; Rev. 20:4)

Justice, mercy, and truth prevail in His Kingdom as heaven and earth sing. Weapons are made into plows to till the earth. Men farm their fields to feed their families. (Is. 2:1-4; Mic. 4:1-4)

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After the thousand years, a worldwide rebellion rises, and the Lord opens the seventh seal. Seven angels sequentially sound their trumpets till the last judgment. After the first four trumpets, three woes begin at the fifth trump in 9:1 where *Apollyon*, “the destroyer,” is loosed out of the bottomless pit, tormenting men for five months with stinging locusts that don’t kill them.

At the second woe, the sixth trumpet sends two hundred million troops to destroy one-third of humanity. Gentiles occupy the outer courts of the temple and trample the city underfoot for 1,260 days. It’s the second half of the seventieth week. The Lord empowers two witnesses for three-and-a-half years until the destroyer kills the prophets. The world rejoices three-and-a-half days, but the prophets rise to ascend as men watch in awe.

The whole earth is shaken; a tenth of Jerusalem falls, and seven thousand are killed as the judgment against their rebellion ends at the second woe to the glory of God. (Rev. 11:14)

Satan rules Gog of Magog, gathering his armies from all nations. Rebels encircle Jerusalem and the camp of the saints, but fire and brimstone destroy them. The third woe comes as the second ends at **the last trump** when Satan is cast into the lake of fire, and the living and the dead are judged (in 11:18).

Only Yeshua is worthy to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords, and all heaven rejoices. He is the Judge of all men—the Alpha and Omega, seated on the great white throne. At the sight of Him, heaven and earth disappear with a great noise. (2 Pet. 3:10; Rev. 20: 11) The rest of the dead from ages past fall down before Him at His high and lofty judgment throne.

At the great white throne, the judgment seat of Christ (in Rev. 11:18), the saints rise to face the Judge as books are opened with the Book of Life. Rewards and judgments are given for our works, whether good or bad. Hypocrites and sinners go into the fire where their agony never ends; its worm never dies.

In 20:7-15 whoever is not in the Book of Life is hurled into the lake of fire forever. Then death and hell are cast into its fire, and death is destroyed, and the souls in the fire are never-ending.

At last new heavens and a new earth descend from heaven’s God. New Jerusalem arrives as His Bride. Though many nations, tribes, and peoples, we are one as the Son is one with the Father. After enduring trials to the end, we worship the one true God!

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Between the Lines

The scarlet beast moves with his government seat, and his city plays the harlot with the nations' kings. Before the thousand years, ten kings return to give their kingdom to the dragon in 17:16-17. As it ends, the feet of the king's idol, East and West, are crushed by Israel's Stone in Daniel 2.

The beast, the dragon, and his prophet will persecute the saints who reject the beast and his mark. They order beheadings of the saints. Jesus assured us, *Immediately after that tribulation*, He comes on a cloud to take us up to Himself. Martyrs and survivors who resist the beast are with Jesus when His wrath goes out in 14:17-15:1. In 15:2-4, they worship Him in heaven. Then comes 15:5 till 16 ends with His bowls of wrath. In chapter 17, Mystery Babylon is described, but from 17:15 to the end of 18 she falls forever. In 19:11-21, the Lord returns to conquer His enemies. (Zec. 14; Ezk. 39) Ezekiel 39 precedes the kingdom, whereas 38 is fulfilled after the thousand years (in 20:7-10).

Twice the ten horns have one mind with the dragon: in 17:13 and in 17:17. First the unseen kings join the dragon in WW2. Before the Kingdom comes, they rejoin his two-horned beast.

On September 11, 2001, the mysterious harlot was a marked woman. In chapter 16 at the fifth bowl the beast and his kingdom are judged. It's a worldwide empire of a leopard with the mouth of a lion and feet of a bear in Mystery Babylon.

Before the leopard was given dominion in WW2, the U.S. joined Britain and Russia to overcome a common enemy, but the union evolved into a plan for the world. Marxism fell in Russia but China had received it while at war. The union of the beasts was allegedly for "peace on earth." By the authority of an orator, the dominion of a leopard, and the power of a bear's feet, a very different beast rises. Power transfers and insurrections destine their nations to fall, but they adore the beast that kills the saints.

The time is at hand when the world will take the mark of the beast. Reprobate in hedonist lusts, they assent to their deaths. In Ezekiel 39 and Revelation 19, the Lord returns to destroy the armies by His penetrating Sword, the Word of God. Birds and beasts cleanse the land of its dead. Eagles feast on corpses to fulfill prophecy. For seven months men bury their remains, and their graves fill the valley of Megiddo for a thousand years.

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Right after the tribulation, His bowls of wrath follow the first resurrection and the rapture. At the fifth bowl in 16:10-11, the land is full of darkness. They gnaw their tongues in pain, blaspheming God for His judgments, His righteous acts, but they refuse to repent. A sixth angel pours out wrath from his bowl on the Euphrates, which dries up for the kings of the East—perhaps all of them—China, Iran, Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, India, with Russia and Turkey, joining others in Armageddon to war against the Lamb. Yeshua warns us ahead of time. All who believe are exhorted to holiness:

¹⁵ Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. (Rev. 16:15)

In 16:16 Christ is about to destroy the armies of the nations gathered to Armageddon. When the seventh angel comes with the last bowl, God remembers Babylon in 16:19 to give her the cup of the wine of His fury, and the seventh bowl empties of His indignation, shaking mountains and islands at Yeshua's return.

His millennial reign is confirmed in Rev. 20:2-7, described in the prophets and in Psalms. [Ezk. 39:21-29; Is. 2:1-4; 62; 65:8-25; Zec. 14:8-11, 16-21; Ps. 2]

Seven Trumpeters

In Revelation 8, 9, and 11, seven trumpeters announce the judgments after Yeshua reigns for a thousand years. At the fifth trumpet in chapter 9, the dragon is released from the pit. At the sixth, two witnesses judge the rebellion. At the last trump in 11, we stand at the great white throne till the past is gone forever.

¹⁸ Who is a God like you,
who pardons sin and forgives the transgression
of the remnant of his inheritance?

You do not stay angry forever
but delight to show mercy.

¹⁹ You will again have compassion on us;
you will tread our sins underfoot
and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

²⁰ You will be faithful to Jacob,
and show love to Abraham,
as you pledged on oath to our ancestors
in days long ago. (Mic. 7:18-20 NIV)

The Order of Events

The Kingdom (in 22:10) reveals the inconceivable: All these years, Yeshua has left the Revelation unsealed! Speaking silently with thoughts as words, He reveals the prophecies, and we hear Him in our native tongues. With thoughts as words, Jews from all nations heard one hundred twenty disciples speak in heavenly tongues on Pentecost, and they understood them. Given the gift of interpretation, each man heard them in his own language. But others scoffed because it wasn't given to them (in Acts 2:1-13).

There is a correlation between the angels who pour out seven bowls of wrath before the thousand years and those who sound seven trumpets after the Millennial Kingdom of Yeshua who rules the Eternal Kingdom forever:

Bowls	Assignments	Trumpets
1	Earth	1
2	Sea	2
3	Rivers & Springs	3
4	Sun	4
5	Domains of the Beasts	5
6	Euphrates River	6
7	Final Judgments	7

We who have received His gift are set free to choose life or death. We're given the power to become children of God, *that everyone who is believing in Him may not perish, but may have life age-during [everlasting] (Jn. 3:16 YLT) ... But as many as did receive him, to them gave he authority to become sons of God—to those believing on his name. (Jn. 1:12 YLT)*

He wants us who want Him, proving it by yielding to His Spirit and obeying His words. Constantly seeking Him for more of His righteousness, we call others to repentance and faith.

Those who have never been changed by His grace and His love must find it strange that we who've had sordid pasts would openly share our lives. But we glorify God for the transformation we've experienced by faith in Jesus Christ. Not till then did we know for sure that He's alive today.

We can't receive the grace of the gospel until we recognize our desperate need of forgiveness. Then with thankful hearts, we love Him more than life itself because He first loved us.

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This is the basic order: chapter 12, then most of 17; next Daniel 7; then chapters 13, 14, 15, 16, and the end of 17; then 18, 19 and 20, leading to the everlasting kingdom. The bowls of wrath in chapter 16 are after 13; the trumpets of 8, 9, and 11 are after the thousand years. At the last trump, we are made incorruptible at the great white judgment throne of Jesus Christ. The Apocalypse is a jigsaw puzzle; its picture is for the church to see by receiving its revelation.

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The full solar eclipse that crossed our nation from southeast to northwest on August 21, 2017, divided the country in half.²²⁰ It was not only a spectacular sight, but a true omen. An eclipse isn't the rarest phenomenon, and it will cross America again in 2024, but it is not cause for celebration. Biblically, it is not a good sign, but a bad one. When the sun's light becomes dark, its sign warns the nation whose light has turned to darkness.

Immediately after the eclipse, Hurricane Harvey slammed the southern coast of America and put Houston underwater. Irma hit Florida. Maria nearly destroyed Puerto Rico,²²¹ and wildfires raged against the West as tornadoes and floods pummeled the central states.²²² Has God been judging the nation? Certainly.

An economic crash in the U.S. would reverberate worldwide, and the world knows it. A crisis like that is useful for globalists to declare an international emergency. With the United Nations in charge, anti-Zionism would gain momentum, and fascism would be empowered. We might wonder if American politicians are positioning themselves as elite rulers of the world.

The heavens have shown their signs for millennia, but let's recognize our short-sightedness and the weakness of our nature. Mortality has a way of distorting the truth, but the truth is not short-lived. Long ago God set signs in the heavens that recur to send warnings to sinners to repent and believe. Though our time runs out, His doesn't.

The Signs of God

²⁵ And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; ²⁶ Men's hearts failing them for fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. (Luke 21:25-26)

The series of four blood moons divided by a solar eclipse testified to Jerusalem on the Jewish feast days of a Shmitah year [an agricultural sabbath]. Nothing like it has been seen in over two thousand years.²²³ In Revelation 12 another sign appeared that returned on September 23, 2017. Their corresponding events headlined the news in 2015 from Yom Kippur to the last of four blood moons, a super blood moon over Jerusalem. On September

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22, the pope called “Francis” landed at Andrews Air Base at 4 p.m. The next day, Yom Kippur, he met with President Obama at the White House. On the 24th he spoke to Congress. On the 25th he spoke at the UN in NYC. On the 26th he was in Philadelphia. On the 27th he held Mass on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway before boarding his return flight to Rome at 8 p.m.²²⁴ New York and Philadelphia were national capitals before Washington, D.C.

On September 28, 2017, the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly invited President Barack Obama as its first speaker.²²⁵ That night the super blood moon, the fourth in a series, appeared in Jerusalem’s sky. The signs were profound, but the church was asleep. We should be slow to trust in men but quick to trust in God who puts people in authority to bless or to judge a nation. Blood moons are rarely over Jerusalem during her feasts, but the super blood moon was ominous.

The religious councils that voted against the Jewish Bible in the 4th century led the churches into apostasy by their unbelief. Had they not professed faith in Jesus Christ, they would not have been apostates by the deceptions they received. Apostates do not rise outside of the church.

At a Fatima celebration in St. Peter’s Square, Francis said, “[Mary] takes us with the hand of a mother to the embrace of the Father, to the Father of mercy.”²²⁶ Consecrating the world to Mary, he faced an idol to offer a prayer. Is there any question about idolatry in the church? Roman Catholicism is not the mother of believers; neither is Mary a mediator. The mother of believers is named in the New Testament: *Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.* (Gal. 4:26)

¹⁸ The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger. ¹⁹ Do they provoke me to anger? saith the LORD: Do they not provoke themselves to the confusion of their own faces? ²⁰ Therefore thus saith the LORD GOD; Behold, my anger and my fury shall be poured out upon this place, upon man and upon beast, and upon the trees of the field, and upon the fruit of the ground; and it shall burn and shall not be quenched. (Jer. 7:18-20) [Also see Jer. chapter 44]

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⁵ For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, *the man* Christ Jesus; ⁶ Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. (1 Tim. 2:5-6)

A wonderful sign appeared after sunset on December 21, 2020; the planets Jupiter and Saturn aligned for the first time in 800 years, creating the appearance of a great star. Something very special is about to happen. We should be looking up.

The apostles' writings came from the Tenakh, the Hebrew Testament, which reveals Messiah and lays the foundation of the Christian-Messianic faith. *The just shall live by his faith* was first written by Habakkuk. (2:4) A new covenant was disclosed by its Jewish apostles, eyewitnesses to mysteries and miracles foretold by its prophets before them. Jesus Christ endorsed the words that churches often refute today. He fulfilled prophecy, confirmed the commandments, and taught the Tenakh, opening a new covenant from writings the bishops despised, ignorant of its rich contents.

Whoever doesn't love the truth will believe Satan's lies. If we have the Holy Spirit and the mind of Christ, why do we nearly all disagree? and why haven't we known the truth?

¹¹ How is it you don't understand that I was not talking to you about bread? But be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." ¹² Then they understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees. (Mat. 16:11-12 NIV)

The falling away, or apostasy, is the rejection of the truth. Its false teachings have had strongholds in our hearts and minds. Paul wept knowing people would enter the church to introduce heresies. By smooth words, they'd persuade believers to dismiss the Bible; but prophets and apostles wrote to deliver the truth of God for us to be one new man, united by their inspired words.

2 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, *and* bring on themselves swift destruction. ² And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. ³ By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive

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words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber. (2 Pet. 2:1-3 NKJV)

False teachings are pleasant, so we eagerly receive them, but they are not true to its Revelation or to the new covenant. How vital it is to believe the Bible's apostles and prophets!

⁸ But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we said before, so say I now again, If any *man* preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. (Gal. 1:8-9)

His Son's good works and His resurrection proved God true and faithful. Had Jesus not overcome death, His eyewitnesses would not have suffered torture and death for the gospel of His resurrection. The testimony of their blood validates their words.

Multitudes are deceived, dying for the devils' lies, but those who are eyewitnesses of the fulfilled prophecies, even His death, resurrection, and ascension, died for the truth they couldn't deny. Persecution serves us well, refining and proving us whose faith endures.

He makes us holy as He is holy—that's the truth. We are not immune to sin, but will answer to God who has given us His Spirit to be holy. It takes a spiritual person to have His mind:

¹⁵ But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. ¹⁶ For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ. ³ And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. (1 Cor. 2:15-3:1)

Winning the War

John wrote that we who receive Him are given the right to become children of God by faith in His name, *born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.* (See Jn. 1:12-13) We must renew our minds by tearing down the errors we've believed; they put our souls at risk. We presume our popular ideas are acceptable, but they are not. If we believe the truth, why do we alter His words, wrestling and twisting them to fit our own doctrines and traditions? Is it our unbelief?

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If we are tested to the limit, the fear of God encourages us: *No temptation hath taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. (1 Cor. 10:13)*

Children who believe their fathers are examples of humility to us. *In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and His children shall have a place of refuge. (Prov. 14:26)* Have we become children yet, or have we learned too much from others? His Spirit urges us to offer our bodies to Him:

12 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. (Rom. 12:1-2 NASB)

As children of the Kingdom, we live in opposition to the sin nature into which we were first born. Infants in malice, we were once sophisticated but are more than we once were. However, he calls us to maturity in understanding. (See 1 Cor. 14:20) Now we live by the power of a higher nature, believing God will put us where He wants us when He wants us there:

⁴³ Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. ⁴⁴ But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to those that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; ⁴⁵ That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. ... ⁴⁸ Be ye therefore perfect as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. (Mat. 5:43-45, 48)

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit for us to live by faith in His Word, not turning from it by unwarily going along with evil. This is the way the warfare works: though our flesh strives against the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, by the Spirit and the Word, we overcome the carnal nature. Jesus asked the Father to send His Spirit to us who believe and obey. (Jn. 14:15-16) He empowers each of

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us to win the battles. His Spirit is in the Word as its life, and His Word is in the Spirit speaking to us as God who is One.

He's calling us back to our first love since we slipped away. It's not too late to fervently love our Savior as when we were newborns and every word of the Bible was meaningful to us. His words corrected our ways till we looked to teachers for what He had not shown us. And the walls went up. But its Author teaches us who have *ears to hear* and *eyes to see*:

¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. ²¹ But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God. (John 3:19-21)

From the beginning, God chose us to be saved through the sanctification of the Spirit and faith in the truth. Before faith in Jesus Christ set us free, we were bound to sin. The apostles urge us to believe the teachings and traditions their words pass on to us. (2 Thes. 2:13-15) If anyone distorts the gospel of Christ, he is under a curse.

The Word is rich with mysteries for us. Its secrets are in the verses we've questioned. Our questions go unanswered because the answers are hidden in the mysteries. Then let's not shipwreck our faith by a lack of knowledge, but believe the truth and love and win the prize.

On Anti-Semitism

In Paul's letter to the congregation in Rome, he taught that not all Israel is the Israel of the promise and then explained,

⁹ For this is the word of promise, at this time shall I come, and Sarah shall have a son. ¹⁰ And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; ¹¹ (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) ¹² It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. ¹³ As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. ¹⁴ What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. ¹⁵ For

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he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ¹⁶ So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.
(Rom. 9:9-16; cf. Mal. 1:2-5)

We don't really *see* the scriptures' words until we believe them; then we understand them. Our faith is dying when we rely on others for explanations. A few are good, but many are mistaken. Some are deceptive, but we only receive what we're willing to believe. Are we willing to believe the difficult parts?

The Bible's words are often like grains of sand in an oyster's shell, irritating our flesh. If we take them into our hearts, mulling over them and not shrinking back, we receive them by faith until we understand, and then out comes the truth like a pearl!

Now we have a free will, and now the choice is ours: will we live by the Spirit or die by the flesh? That's the other half of the gospel in Romans chapter 8. We should be aware of the spiritual forces of darkness that work against the Kingdom of God. Anti-Semitism is on the rise in Europe, nearly as it was in Nazi Germany. It's on the college campuses and is increased worldwide.²²⁷

²⁰ And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. ...

²² For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. ...

²⁴ And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. (Lk. 21:20, 22, 24)

What if His vengeance against the Jews made a way for our days of grace? Jesus implied it was so. A provocative discourse in Romans leads the apostle to a conclusion about the sovereign wisdom of God:

³⁰ For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: ³¹ Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. ³² For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all. ³³ O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom

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and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! ³⁴For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? ³⁵Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? ³⁶For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. (Rom. 11:30-36)

Anti-Zionism rejects God by its war against His Kingdom. Anti-Semitism judges Israel as His choice. Watch their enemies fight and rage—multitudes living in rubble and misery, eating up bitterness as though it were sweet.

The Seventieth Week

Dan. 9:24-27 predicts seventy weeks; each represents seven years. From the Edict of Cyrus until Jerusalem was rebuilt, seven weeks passed—forty-nine years. Messiah was cut off for others, and Rome ruined the temple after sixty-two more sevens passed. Now sixty-nine sevens have passed. Where is the last week?

The seventieth week is divided by a thousand years; Christ reigns in its midst. Its halves are *forty-two months* and *1,260 days*, or three-and-a-half Biblical years. *Unto the end of the war desolations are determined (from Dan. 9:26)* alludes to the war between the forces of good and evil.

²⁴ Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. ²⁵ Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. ²⁶ And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. ²⁷ And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of

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abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate. (Dan. 9:24-27; also YLT, CWSOT)

Gabriel foretold the days of the people who'd destroy the city and the sanctuary, Romans. They're the people of the prince that shall come, indicating the illegitimate one. Six thousand years have passed since the beginning of this great war, but *with the Lord, ... a thousand years [is] as one day.* (See 2 Pet. 3:8)

At the end history repeats itself. The ruler that shall come shall make a covenant with the Jews and sit beside an image in the temple, a portent of their desolation. He breaks his end of the deal in the middle of the prophetic week. No mention is made of the end of that week until after the thousand years:

²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator." (Dan 9:27 ESV)

The interlinear agrees (ZGE), but another literal translation reads, *he is making desolate, even till the consummation, and that which is determined is poured on the desolate one.'* (from Dan 9:27 YLT; KJV agrees.) It may be an error in a manuscript.

The consummation is at the end of the age at Jesus' return. Is it prophetic irony that the desolator becomes the *desolate one*? [Ar.: *shâmâm* is "stupefied"] Then the victimizer is astonished. The scripture implies, "To look on God is to look on Him":

¹⁰ "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn. (Zec. 12:10 ESV) [Literal]

¹³ "On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness. (Zec.13:1 ESV)

Antiochus was a little horn out of four horns on the goat that ruled Greece. He was comparable to the little horn after the ten in Daniel 7. He is not the same man, of course, but the dragon

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was in each man at different times in history as the **eighth king**, the scarlet beast in 17, revealed on page 19.

²³ And in the latter end of their kingdom, about the perfecting of the transgressors, stand up doth a king, fierce of face, and understanding hidden things; ²⁴ and his power hath been mighty, and not by his own power; and wonderful things he destroyeth, and he hath prospered, and wrought, and destroyed mighty ones, and the people of the Holy Ones. (Daniel 8:23-24 YLT)

God judges nations bent on destruction but uses destroyers like a rod of discipline or like a whip to scourge His own. Many were destroyed in the wilderness because their refusal to enter the land revealed their unbelief. If we continue in sin without repentance, He'll destroy us too. We were not born again to sin but to lead holy lives, the vision without which many perish.

It's unwise to make excuses or cover-ups for the judgments of a holy God against evil. He who reigns on high does as He pleases because He is Sovereign. If we credit ourselves for our faith, we'll despise the Jews for unbelief, but there's no boasting in heaven. Even kings who exceed His intentions are judged:

⁵ O the Assyrian, the rod of my anger,
in whose hand is the club of my wrath!

⁶ I send him against a godless nation,
I dispatch him against a people who anger me,
to seize loot and snatch plunder,
and to trample them down like mud in the streets.

⁷ But this is not what he intends,
this is not what he has in mind;
his purpose is to destroy,
to put an end to many nations ...

¹² When the LORD has finished all his work against Mount Zion and Jerusalem, he will say, "I will punish the king of Assyria for the willful pride of his heart and the haughty look in his eyes. ... (Is. 10:5-7,12 NIV)

¹⁵ Does the ax raise itself above him who swings it,
or the saw boast itself against him who uses it?
As if a rod were to wield him who lifts it up,
or a club brandish him who is not wood!

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- ¹⁶ Therefore, the Lord, the LORD Almighty,
will send a wasting disease upon his sturdy warriors;
under his pomp a fire will be kindled
like a blazing flame.
- ¹⁷ The Light of Israel will become a fire,
their Holy One a flame;
In a single day it will burn and consume
his thorns and his briers. (Is. 10:15-17 NIV)

If we study the Bible, we find God has a reason for everything He does, including His judgments against the world. It pains Him to see His own children in disobedience because the Father knows our rebellion will lead to our destruction. He warns us to walk on the path that leads to life since His righteousness requires His impartiality when He judges us with all humankind on the last day. Revelation is like the cross: we don't want to face it, but it ends with the resurrection and everlasting life.

God came against His chosen people when they turned from Him to their riches, to the works of their hands, to pride and arrogance, and to idolatry. When violence prevailed in the streets and sexual immoralities filled their land, He judged them. When they sacrificed their children to fire, He destroyed them. We're on the cusp of His coming. The world will never be the same. Have we believed God or the teachings of men? Who is on the Lord's side?

- ³ Many peoples will come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
To the temple of the God of Jacob.
He will teach us his ways,
so that we may walk in his paths."
The law will go out from Zion,
the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
- ⁴ He will judge between the nations
and will settle disputes for many peoples.
They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war anymore.
- ⁵ Come, descendants of Jacob,
let us walk in the light of the LORD.
(Is. 2:3-5 NIV)

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APPENDIX to Chapter 13

O, Jerusalem!

In Luke's gospel Yeshua spoke at the temple in Jerusalem when they asked Him about its destruction. He described what must first occur and then said, *Before all these things*, citing the city's destruction in 70 AD and giving the reason for it as well:

²⁰“When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. ²¹Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city. ²²For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written. ²³How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people. ²⁴They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. (Lk. 21:20-24 NIV)

The passage by Luke refers to Jerusalem at the destruction of its temple till after their punishment when the Jews repossess Jerusalem. Then there are signs in the earth, the sea, and the sky, more frequent and more unusual than we've known in a lifetime.

Mark and Matthew relayed Yeshua's words, but the venue and audience changed. On the Mount of Olives, four disciples took Him aside and asked about the end of the age. Above the Kidron Valley, they observed the temple:

³And as he sat upon the mount of Olives over against the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled? ⁵And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed lest any man deceive you: ⁶For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. ...

¹⁴But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not, (let him that readeth understand,) then let them that be in Judaea flee to the mountains: ¹⁵And let him that is on the housetop not go down into the house, neither enter therein, to take any thing out of his house: ¹⁶And

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let him that is in the field not turn back again for to take up his garment. ¹⁷ But woe to them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!

¹⁸ And pray ye that your flight be not in the winter. ¹⁹ For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be. ²⁰ And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.

²¹ And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or, lo, he is there; believe him not: ²² For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if *it were* possible, even the elect. ²³ But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things. ²⁴ But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, ²⁵ And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken. ²⁶ And then shall they see the Son of man, coming in the clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven. (Mk. 13:3-6, 14-27)

Gabriel prophesied to Daniel four hundred years before the image of Zeus was set in the temple beside Antiochus. He and his so-called 'god of gods' prepared a great slaughter in Judea. This was prophesied by Christ to reoccur close to His return.

The apostles hadn't written for their generation, but for us to understand. In Daniel 8 and 10 –12, the prophet heard Gabriel describe the scene: An image in the temple led to the desolation of Jerusalem by a king in 167 BC. In chapter 13 a similar event is on its way.

Of Times and Seasons

Israel's civil calendar has 29 or 30-day months. To make up for the lack in her 354-day lunar year, she adds a month in the spring every 3 –4 years, the month of Adar I. Then Passover and the Day of Firstfruits are in Adar II for the season of its harvest.

The rule applied to Israel's Biblical year with its twelve 30-day months. In one of its three years, the extra month was added,

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making the total number of days 1,290. Its three years and six months qualify as a time, times, and half a time with one year as a leap year: *And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.* (Dan. 12:11)

In 167 BC Antiochus IV *Epiphanes* [“god manifest”] desecrated the temple by an image and a pig on the altar, demanding worship as God. He crucified and tortured hundreds of thousands of Jews for three-and-a-half years, apparently including a leap year.

The Maccabees were a Jewish family of priests who rededicated the temple to God. When Antiochus returned, in their zeal, the family defeated his army. During the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem in John 10:22, Jesus was in the temple colonnade.

Yeshua predicted another abomination in the temple near His return and cited Daniel, saying, *Except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved, but for the elect’s sake, those days shall be shortened.* (Mat. 24:22b) Its beast rules for forty-two months (in 13:5; cf. Dan. 7:23-28). The tribulation is shortened for the living saints who reject the beast and his mark.

²⁵ And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. (Dan. 7:25)

The martyrs of *the first resurrection* and the elect who are still alive are named in a book. *The rest of the dead*, saints and sinners, awake on the last day when the Book of Life is opened (in 11:18; cf. Dan. 12:2):

12 “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. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. ² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. (Dan. 12:1-2 ESV)

We believe the words of His eyewitnesses who saw Him ascend from the holy mount [Hermon] into the clouds when He

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was received in glory. He comes for us in the same way:

⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:9-11 ESV)

Americans have lived like kings, but our luxuries have done us no favors if we've trusted in them. We're about to be tested like silver or gold refined by fire. Will we be strong in the Spirit and endure tribulation, not giving up the faith, or will we cling to this world's pleasures? Our goals direct us, so let's look up, fear God, and serve well. Love is primary. Obedience is at the heart of faith. (2 Cor. 3:18)

The End of an Age

As it became clear to Nebuchadnezzar, God appoints kings and leaders for His divine purposes. We must pray for them and for our nation's repentance if we want to see America saved. By our neglect, the land is facing dangerous days.

Mark writes about the signs of the Lord that precede His coming. A vast period of time passes between the days of Mark and when an abomination is in the temple. *After that tribulation*, He comes on a cloud for the elect to meet Him in the air. (Mat. 24:29-31, p. 92) He returns *as lightning* at the last bowl, *flashing from the east to the west*. Prior to His return, there are antichrists who come in His name and lead men astray, acquiring admirers.

Even now leaders are idolized who are misleading many of us who profess the faith. We must not use our words carelessly. Christ is able to do for us what we cannot do for ourselves, and that means righteousness to us who abide in Him.

If our faith is true, we are found in Him; if we keep His words, we remain in Him; if we crucify our old nature, we overcome sin; if we yield to Christ, His Spirit fills us. If we are filled with ourselves, we leave no room for Him; if we judge other people's motives, we expose our own sins; if we contradict or wrestle with His words, we are believing false doctrines and resisting the truth.

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² Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have its perfect work, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. (Jacob [James] 1:2-4 TLV)

⁴ Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ² that he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. ...

⁷ But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. ⁸ And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "*love will cover a multitude of sins.*" (1 Pet. 4:1-2, 7-8 NKJV)

After we receive Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, we can do things our way or implore Him to take control of our lives, putting to death our sinful self-will by faith in Him. (Rom. 12:1-2) If we think we aren't worthy of grace, we lack wisdom; no one is. If we're living in sin, we're in unbelief.

⁸ He has shown you, O man, what is good;
And what does the LORD require of you
But to do justly,
To love mercy,
And to walk humbly with your God? (Mic. 6:8 NKJV)

So wake up, sleeper! Rise from the dead, and Jesus Christ will shine in you! (from Eph. 5:14)

²⁰ At that day, you will know that I *am* in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. ²¹ He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him." (Jn. 14:20-21 NKJV)

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