

ISRAEL

**TODAY
AND
TOMORROW**



Ray Brubaker



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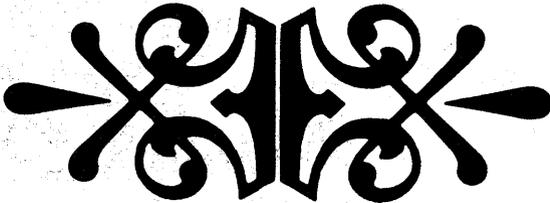
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ISRAEL, TODAY & TOMORROW



Amid talks of peace in the Middle East there are aggressive plans for war, according to reports coming out of Israel.

The swashbuckling general who led Israeli troops across the Suez Canal in the October, 1973 war has predicted that the Arab states plan to launch a series of "limited wars" in which it would be impossible for the Jewish state to win a decisive victory.

War hero, Ariel Sharon, charged that the Arab states have spent 20 billion dollars on weaponry since the last war, with the United States as their main supplier.

He put American arms sales to the Arab states at 11 billion dollars compared to 6 billion dollars' worth sold by the Soviet Union and 3 billion dollars' worth sold by France and Great Britain.

Referring to Egypt's massive troop buildup east of the Suez Canal, he notes that there are four times as many soldiers there than permitted under the latest interim agreement. "They have managed to build fortifications...digging like mad preparing surface-to-air missile sites." While "The Israel government has kept silent about this."

Likewise, former Israeli Defense Minister, Shimon Peres, is reported to have said that peace between Israel and the Arabs is still 10 to 12 years away.

What will happen in the Middle East is clearly forecast in the Scriptures. Though outwardly peace may seem to eventually be achieved, this will not solve the problems of Palestine.

Zechariah reminds us of what will ultimately happen at a time described as the "day of the Lord" when all nations shall be gathered against Jerusalem to battle.

We are approaching that day, my friends. Prophecy is being fulfilled showing that we are living in the endtime. The Day of the Lord is at hand.

Israel, Today & Tomorrow



Israel's New Prime Minister

Menachem Begin

The new Prime Minister of Israel quotes from the Bible to back his position that land which is now occupied is that which God gave to Abraham, saying: "Unto thy seed will I give this land." Gen. 12:7.

Prime Minister Begin, like President Carter, is a staunch believer in the Hebrew Scriptures which testify to the fact that God has given to the seed of Abraham the land "from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates." (Gen.15:18)

So when Israel is accused of "conquering" these territories, you will find Begin insisting on the use of the word "liberating," for they have always belonged to Israel by virtue of a covenant God made to Abraham.

It's quite interesting that for such a time as this, a man is in the White House who carries a Bible and who reads it daily. And now heading up the government of Israel as its prime minister is a man who likewise has great respect for the Old Testament scriptures.

Begin is quoted as saying: "President Carter knows the Bible by heart, so he knows to whom this land by right belongs.." referring to God's covenant with Abraham.

It was an unexpected upset to see Begin elected as Israel's Prime Minister.

The Labor Party has practically governed Israel during its history as a new nation. So it was a defeat for the liberals in Israel and a stunning victory for the conservatives.

Perhaps this is yet another indication that the land is preparing for the return of the Messiah as the people choose a man to represent them who is more considerate of Israel's religious heritage along with its glorious future as recounted in the Bible.

George F. Will of the WASHINGTON POST comments that the Scriptures cannot be used as the basis of a peace settlement in the Middle East. He notes: "Old Testament reports of what God said to Abraham will not do as a basis for Begin's policy." However, you can be sure that the newly-elected right wing bloc

will seek to follow the biblical program for Israel by stubbornly refusing to give up Jerusalem and territories it has won during provocative wars that have been forced upon them.

Incidentally, the defeat of liberalism seems to be forecast in Scripture with the coming of Christ to reign upon this earth.

Turn to Isaiah 32:1, where we read this prophecy: "Behold a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment." The context clearly relates to the coming kingdom of Messiah.

It's interesting to note the use of the word "liberal" at least three times in this chapter and practically the only mention of the word in all of Scripture. A liberal is defined as one whose political or religious philosophy is not bound by orthodox tenets or established forms.

In a religious sense, a liberal is broadminded, whereas a conservative is more narrow in his views of interpretation of the Bible. But did not Jesus Himself declare, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat; because straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Mt. 7:13-14)

As we noted, it may be prophetically significant to see the change in Israel from the stunning defeat of the liberals and the sudden unexpected victory for the conservatives, preparing the way for the coming of the Messiah. For when He comes, He will not have a broad liberal philosophy but a narrow one that is founded upon righteousness and justice.

Thus we read, "The vile person shall be no more called "liberal." Isa. 32:5. Again we read: "But the liberal deviseth liberal things; and by liberal things he standeth." (v. 8)

We think it is an interesting observation that the Scriptures should link liberalism's demise with the return of our Lord as King.

Even the role of women is described which borders on "women's lib" which is also in defiance of the Scripture. For God's determination has always been that woman should be in subjection to the man. It was Eve, being deceived, that brought about the fall.

So Isaiah goes on to describe a deterioration of womanhood, speaking of "careless daughters" and "careless women." We read, "Tremble ye women that are at ease; be troubled ye careless ones; strip you, and make you bare, and gird sackcloth upon your loins." (v. 11)

There is also seen the deterioration of the land until the coming of the Messianic kingdom.

Writes Isaiah: "Upon the land of my people shall come up thorns and briars...until the Spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field."

Isn't that a beautiful picture? From thorns and briars the wilderness shall be transformed into a fruitful field. And this is all linked to the day when the Spirit is poured out from on high!

How we would love to comment on the outpouring of the Spirit which we are seeing today. (God is reviving hearts, saving souls, on an unparalleled scale. But our purpose is to show the change in Israel from thorns and thistles to fruits and flowers.)

NEWSWEEK magazine has commented: "Today...resourceful Jews have forged an amazing success story in the Biblical desert."

It is further noted: "The Israelis have cultivated the fertile valleys of Galilee and brought sections of the vast Negev into bloom..."

We're reminded of Isaiah 35:1-2 which looks ahead to the Kingdom Age. We read, "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly..."

Is this not happening today?

A once obscure Israeli company, Maritime Fruit Carriers, is now doing a tremendous business of shipping fruit to all parts of the world. It now owns 20% of the world's refrigerated cargo vessels.

Israeli citrus has captured the world's markets with the development of a new orange that is sweeter, having a much richer aroma, and is easier to peel.

In addition, trees flourish everywhere. The Jewish National Fund has planted some 130 million trees in Israel over an area of 130,000 acres. Together with 87,500 acres of natural oak forest this totals 217,500 acres of woodland.

What a fulfilment of prophecy as the land blossoms forth. In Ezekiel 36:35, we read, "And they shall say, this land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden..."

From reading the Bible, you'll recall accounts of the promised land being a land of milk and honey.

The PROPHETIC WITNESS has reported the construction in western Galilee of the world's largest milk container. It is capable of holding 44,450 gallons of milk. This stainless steel monster is equipped with special gears which stir the milk every three minutes to keep it fresh.

Surely, if Israel can maintain her present agricultural stature, she will soon be able to help supply much of the world's food products.

Speaking of Israel blossoming as the rose, it might be of interest to relate that daily flights of fruit and flowers are shipped to Europe and the United States.

During this past winter, it is reported that Israel sold 50 million roses to Europe. It is cheaper to grow them in Israel and ship them by air freight than to grow them elsewhere.

What a remarkable prophecy being fulfilled just as we read it there in Isaiah.

This year, for the first time, Israel hopes to sell twelve million flowers to the United States. They doubled production this year over last year, from 65 million flowers to 130 million. The most popular flowers from Israel are the carnations.

Eventually buyers of flowers will be able to subscribe for flowers the same way they subscribe for a newspaper.

What of Israel's future?

It is when the forests flourish and the wilderness is garnished with flowers and fruit that the Lord holds out the challenge to Israel to "Be strong, fear not; behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you."

Without question Israel is in for some hard times. And the United States has been warned that unless peace comes to the Mid-East there could be harm to the relations we have with the Arab states with the threat of an oil embargo.

For Israel, the future is grave. And yet, with a heritage established in the promise God gave to Abraham that the land would be Israel's forever, there is a certain amount of bravery and courage exhibited among the Israelis.

The recent ouster of the Labor government and a return to conservative politics might be a reflection upon the youth of the land which NEWSWEEK has called "a conformist and conservative lot."

To the young generation of sabras is the responsibility of maintaining the Zionist dream that was newly kindled in the nineteenth century by idealistic men and women who yearned for a homeland.

But all Bible prophecy students must admit that God put that desire in the hearts of Jews to return to their land and there await the promised Messiah.

Isaiah goes on to declare that when the desert blossoms as the rose that "they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God...Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water..."

It is then that we read these words: "And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." (Isa.35:2b,5,6,10)

Doesn't that sound exciting?

What a day to be alive!

Witnessing events taking place in Palestine today, we can be sure that these prophecies we have related in this broadcast are not too far distant. Our Lord could return at any moment for His own and then the great tribulation could begin which Jesus described as a time of trouble such as the world has never seen before nor ever shall see again.

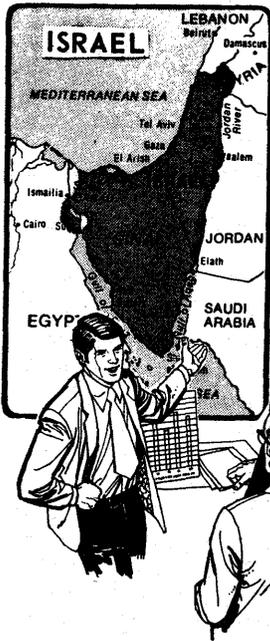
Dr. Jacob Gartenhaus, founder and president of the International Board of Jewish Missions, has stated: "Truly these are momentous days. Many friends have written in asking, "Is this the time?"

He replies: "Of this one thing I am certain: the events which we have been witnessing today are like those of Biblical times-- events which point to the return of our Lord and which will culminate in Israel's national repentance and conversion."

Today is a day of salvation and whosoever sincerely repents of sin to trust the Saviour can share in the blessed hope of Christ's coming. It is a glorious day to be alive if we know the Lord.

We would ask again, Are you ready were our Lord to come today? Or would you be left behind to endure the time of trouble destined for the whole world?

Rather, receive Christ as your Saviour and Lord. And "be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."



Bible Diplomacy

Some have wondered, Did Bible diplomacy prevail during the meeting of President Carter with Israeli Premier Begin?

That both men are men of the Bible is pointed out in an article in one of our national magazines. Begin, like Carter, is interested in quoting from the Bible, especially the Old Testament Scriptures which relate to Israel's restoration to her land.

TIME magazine notes: "...it would be untenable for a contemporary statesman to base concrete territorial demands on the Bible. But Begin often uses biblical allusions to support a Jewish historical claim."

The magazine declared that "the parts that Begin knows best are the countless verses of the Old Testament that refer to the existence of Erets Yisrael (the land of Israel) and to God's promise of a homeland for his chosen people."

Mention is made of Gen. 15:18 which states: "In that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the great river Euphrates."

Again notes this magazine: "If modern Israel claimed this vast expanse, it would include not only Damascus and much of modern Syria but parts of Turkey."

Other passages given included Numbers 34:3-12 and Deu. 1:7 which relate to Israel's possession of the land that is the subject of political discussions today.

Some say that the Bible cannot be used to determine a peace settlement. But Begin has consistently followed the biblical interpretation which finds Israel's ancient land as stretching from Dan to Beersheba.

A biblical scholar at Jerusalem's Hebrew University confirms that "the Promised Land always includes Judea and Samaria and sometimes the eastern side of the Jordan River."

It is further pointed out that if diplomats were to go by the Bible, they would find "some intriguing ideas about a possible peace settlement." For instance, Isaiah 19:24 foresees a day in which "Israel (shall be) the third with Egypt and with Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the earth."

"That," says TIME, "could be interpreted as the need for a Cairo-Damascus-Jerusalem federation."

During the recent visit of the Israeli Prime Minister to America, Begin stressed unwillingness to meet the members of the Palestine Liberation Organization in order to effect a settlement of the Middle East problem. Already some see disaster if the PLO does not have a say in the peace talks.

Using the Bible, some see a responsibility for Israel to reverse that policy. For Ezekiel 47:22 speaks of those who are aliens who should have opportunity to utilize the land.

We read: "And it shall come to pass, that ye shall divide it by lot for an inheritance unto you, and to the strangers that sojourn among you, which shall beget children among you; and they shall be unto you as born in the country among the children of Israel; they shall have inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel."

Some have openly wondered, If President Carter knows his Bible, why does he advocate an almost total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory and the creation of a Palestinian homeland?

It would appear from a Scriptural standpoint that we can be sure of certain signs which would characterize Israel in the day when she is restored to her land. We don't have time for all of these signs but will list a few of them.

First, Israel's restoration to her land will provoke great trouble.

Writes Jeremiah: "For, lo, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the Lord; and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it." (30:3)

This we have seen in our day. It is a marvelous fulfillment of prophecy to see Jews returning to their ancient land, a remarkable attestation to the truth of the Word of God.

Then we read: "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it." (v. 7)

Did you hear it? The days ahead will be dark for Israel, but it will not bring annihilation. Although greatly outnumbered, SHE shall be spared defeat from her enemies because of divine intervention.

As we read, "The Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel." (Joel 3:16)

Second, Israel's restoration to her land will provoke the wrath of the nations.

Joel declares: "For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number..."

When this happens, there will be a call to prayer in Israel. And we read: "Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people." And the Lord goes on to declare he will rout the intruding invasion. "I will remove far off from you the northern army, and will drive him into a land barren and desolate."

So instead of Israel being driven by her enemies into the sea, they will be driven into what may be desert country. (See Joel 1:6, 2:18 and 20)

Some believe this invasion will be from Russia and nations allied with her. Ezekiel 38 speaks of this endtime invasion, saying: "And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee...and thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days..." (v. 15 & 16)

That these are the latter days seems evident from Scripture, and this battle awaits its fulfilment.

Notice there are other warnings given, especially to those nations that concern themselves with a peace settlement that affects the future of Jerusalem.

We read of this in Zechariah 12:3: "And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people; all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it."

What a remarkable tribute to God's willingness to protect His people and to preserve Jerusalem!

Again we read: "And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem." (Zech. 12:9)

So you see clearly that the focal point of Bible prophecy will have its ultimate fulfilment in the Middle East. That's why events unfolding would lead us to believe that we are entering the final phase that will find these present discussions leading to a peace settlement of sorts. But when they shall say, "Peace and Safety," then sudden destruction begins. Armies will be on the move and will be marching toward Jerusalem and will end in the greatest battle of all, ARMAGEDDON.

Zechariah speaks of this, saying: "Behold the day of the Lord cometh...For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle...Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives...and the Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with thee." (Zech. 14:1-5 excerpts)

Do you see it? It is these events that will lead to the return of our Lord. First, we see Him coming for His saints, and at the final battle we see Him returning with His saints. How we would pray that all who listen today might heed this message and prepare for the day whenever our Lord is seen coming FOR His own.

That we can be sure we are living in that day is again related by Joel. After speaking of the coming invasion from the north, we read: "I will also gather all nations and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and PARTED MY LAND."

Talk of the partition of Palestine--here you'll find the Lord is angered over any attempts to surrender Israeli territory.

The election in Israel that found Menahem Begin winning came as a great surprise. No one expected him to win, because he believed the Bible showed Israel in possession of these captive lands. Begin won, testifying to Daniel's assertion that God "removeth kings, and setteth up kings." (Dan. 2:21)

Now it is when the Middle East becomes the focal point of the world's attention that God issues His own proclamation. We read, "Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war!" (Joel 3:9)

Did you hear it?

While on one hand there is talk of peace, there are the SALT talks; on the other hand, there is discussion concerning the use of nuclear weapons such as the neutron bomb and the impact it would have in a future war.

This is the day about which our Lord hath spoken, and He goes on to declare: "Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about."

We read further what will happen as the nations face judgment for actions that are contrary to the divine will. God's plan is to use Israel, for He has determined that Messiah must rule in Jerusalem, while the nations are out to destroy Israel.

Let me read it to you: "Put ye in the sickle..." Incidentally, the sickle and hammer are two Russian insignias we're all acquainted with. So we see the sickle bringing on this endtime judgment.

Let me read it again, "Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great. Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.

The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel."

There you have it. That's all the time we have in today's broadcast to set the setting of endtime events about to unfold.

We can't help but wonder how many there are listening today who are a part of that multitude that are not ready were our Lord to come back today. As we see it, before our Lord can return to this earth with His saints, He must first come for His saints as He promised.

So the Lord is the hope of His people.

We read, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." (Titus 2:13-14)

Are you ready for Christ's coming? Have you been redeemed by Him?

If not, pray this prayer: "Lord Jesus, come into my heart and life and save me. Help me to live for you each day, and be ready whenever you will come."

Indeed, be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.



Israel Today

The controversy rages as to who has the right to the land of Palestine. Israeli Prime Minister Begin, returning from his talks with President Carter, confirmed that the president asked him to refrain from new settlement on the West Bank, which Israel wrested from Jordan during the Six Day War.

However, declared Begin, "We stand on the right of Jews to live in any part of Israel."

Begin bases his beliefs on the Bible. He maintains that the Scriptures provide a homeland for Israel...and that territories now occupied are a part of the land promised by God to Abraham.

What will happen? What of the future? Will there be peace or war in the Middle East?

Various pronouncements are being made concerning the future of Palestine.

Dr. Charles R. Taylor, editor of TODAY IN BIBLE PROPHECY, notes: "The Middle East situation is approaching a time of climax." In spite of Begin's protest of the partition of the land, Israel must return occupied territories for guarantees of peace and security.

Writes Dr. Taylor, "There is to be a seven-year covenant guaranteeing Israel's security." (Dan. 9:27) And he goes on to point out, "This covenant is to be signed by "The King" of the End Time Era called the Antichrist."

So this prophecy awaits fulfilment.

Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia maintains that any "U.S. failure to forge peace between Arabs and Israelis would have two consequences: an all-but-certain war in the Mideast, and incalculable harm to the close Saudi-American relationship..."

The Rev. William Beirnes, Editor of the MIDNIGHT CRY, observes: "The pressure is on both Israel and the Arabs to make concessions in order to obtain a permanent peace in the troubled Middle East."

However, he notes: "When the smoke of battle clears and the next international peace conference is convened, Israel's national boundaries will be greatly extended."

Ultimately, God's purpose is to restore the Nation of Israel to a place of prominence that no one would believe possible unless they knew the Bible. As we read in Deut. 28:13; "And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only and thou shalt not be beneath if that thou hearken unto the commandment of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them."

When Israel returns wholly to the Lord, blessing will come again to the land. Until then there will be wars and desolations--

a time of Jacob's trouble that is described as unprecedented for the world. But following earth's tribulation, there will come a restoration of peace on earth when Christ shall reign for a thousand years. As Zechariah tells us: "And the Lord shall be king over all the earth." Zech. 14:9

Returning to Israel after his visit with President Carter, Prime Minister Begin insisted that Jews have a right to live in any part of the land of Israel. He went on to assert that his policy would not dispossess a single Arab in the land.

It was Begin's belief in the Bible that has encouraged him to support the existence of the land of Israel as God's promised homeland for his people.

We're told that Secretary of State Vance kept a Bible close to a book which discusses Israel's borders in case he needed to read up on biblical reasons for Begin's policy in the Middle East.

The question in the minds of many is, What's ahead for the Middle East?

Jeane Dixon, writing her forecasts for the future in a series of mid-year predictions, noted: "The Middle East is on the verge of its most terrible war, far worse than those of the past. The toll in fatalities and wounded will be staggering, and the physical destruction will leave vast areas looking like the surface of the moon."

In her syndicated column she goes on to predict, "The conflict will precipitate an armed showdown between the United States and the Soviet Union, and involve other nations."

Jeane Dixon feels it is providential that Jimmy Carter was elected president, saying: "In his hands will be a priceless chance for peace, not just in the Middle East, but all over the world. And it will be our last chance."

Well, we hear all kinds of forecasts for the future but none so accurate as those in the Word of God. That Israel will become the target for future invasions is an absolute certainty. On the other hand, the Bible makes it plain that although all earth were to gather together to war against Israel, she shall never be blotted out.

Listen to the words of Jeremiah the prophet who writes: "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah." (31:31) And the Lord says: "It shall come to pass, that like as I have watched over them, to pluck up, and to break down, and to throw down, and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them, to build, and to plant, saith the Lord." (v. 28)

Now listen to this. "Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night...If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me forever."

Notice again: "Thus saith the Lord, if heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord."

But the sum of the matter is that although Israel has wandered away from God, and rejected Him, yet when she is established in her land she shall not be removed, saith the Lord. As we read: "It shall not be plucked up, not thrown down any more forever." (v. 40)

God's purpose is to put Israel on display as a model nation. When Christ returns to establish His reign upon earth for a thousand years, there will be peace such as this world has never known. And there will be righteousness such as has never before prevailed upon this earth.

The world will have suffered great calamities ending in the battle of Armageddon just before our Lord returns. But when He returns you can expect the curse to be lifted from the land and rich blessings to flow from Israel to the whole world.

Centuries ago God promised there would come a day when Israel would be scattered to the four corners of the earth but that they would again return to their land.

Quoting Amos 9:14-15, "And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities and inhabit them....and I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God."

Did you hear it? These are the very verses quoted by David Ben Gurion who was Israel's prime minister when the state of Israel was established. So Israel today exists because God said it would again be restored as a nation. Ben Gurion called Israel's existence "one of the greatest miracles of modern times." And truly it is.

Israel's return to her land is in fulfilment of Bible prophecy.

Hosea once declared: "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim." But then we read: "Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and David their king; and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days." (Hosea 3:4-5)

Again we ask, Do you know these are the "latter days?" Well, the reason we know it, is because we are told Israel would return to their land in the latter days. And ultimately Christ shall return to be their king. As He came as the Saviour, so He is coming as King.

As Dr. John Owen wrote in 1673: "The Jews shall be gathered from all parts of the earth where they are now scattered, and brought back into their own land....The Lord Christ himself being their king, who shall then also be acknowledged as King over all the earth." Three hundred years ago those words were written. I'm sure if Dr. Owen were alive today, he would exclaim dramatically, "We are living in the Endtime," and he would know that Christ is soon to return as King.

Charles Spurgeon similarly wrote a century ago: "Israel is now blotted out from the map of nations; her sons are scat-

tered far and wide; her daughters mourn beside all the rivers of the earth...But she is to be restored...There will be a native government again; there will again be the form of a body politic!"

Well, that has happened in our day. We are living in the greatest period of history. Christ can come at any moment.

For the Psalmist declares: "When the Lord shall build up Zion, he shall appear in His glory." (Psa. 102:16)

Doesn't that sound exciting?

Witnessing Israel in her land, we can expect our Lord's return at any time. In fact, many believe that our Lord used the parable of the fig tree to suggest that the generation which sees Israel's restoration to her land will also see His return. So we might say that Israel's return is linked to Christ's return.

Listen to our Lord's words to His disciples when He said, "Behold the fig tree and all the trees; when they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So, likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, Know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled."

Did you hear it?

Israel is symbolized as a "fig tree." This is a part of her national symbol. So what the Lord is saying is WATCH ISRAEL. And, He says that when we see the fig tree blossom, or when we see Israel again in her land, then we can KNOW that His kingdom is at hand.

Again we would ask, Are you ready for Christ's return? We can know it is at hand as we see Israel back in her land. A generation has almost gone by so our Lord's return draweth ever near.

The return of Jews back to Palestine, the re-establishment of the State of Israel, and the conflict with the Arab nations are all signs that we can KNOW Christ's coming Kingdom is near.

Our Lord's coming hastens...and no doubt multitudes today are not ready....multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision.

Why not decide for Christ today? His kingdom shall ultimately prevail. And there's coming a time when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that He is Lord.

Why not own Him now as your Lord? Receive the gift of eternal life freely offered to all who will turn from their sin to trust Him.

Is it worth it--to go on in your sin? You are not happy. There is no peace, saith God, to the wicked. But you can have peace, and rest, and joy, and eternal life if you will right now receive Christ as your Saviour and Lord. And then live for Him daily. And be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the son of man cometh.



ISRAEL, TOMORROW

The Kingdom of the Messiah will be more beautiful than all of the past empires combined when our Lord rules as King of kings and Lord of lords.

When our Lord establishes His Kingdom, there will be definite changes made. For example, Isaiah tells us: "There will be beauty for ashes." (Isa. 61:3)

Cities that have been reduced to rubble, possibly from atomic destruction, will once again be made beautiful during the kingdom age when our Lord will rule this earth. Further evidence is found in Isaiah 61:4 which tells us: "They shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations."

In Israel, and particularly in Jerusalem, there will be this rebuilding of the waste places. But we would also expect this rebuilding to be worldwide with new cities springing up overnight. Our Lord is determined to prove that governments established on Christian principles can be enduring.

We read: "They shall possess the double," which is a reminder of God's promise to bless twice as much as ever before. With Satan bound and the curse lifted, there will be plenty to feed the world's population. Sickness and disease will be rare indeed, and death kept to a minimum so that the population will increase rapidly. It will be a glorious day for this world when Paradise is restored to earth. The millennium will be an era of Utopia when peace and prosperity prevail.

Since these blessings will result from God's blessing upon Israel, of them it will be said: "They are the seed which the Lord hath blessed." (Isa. 61:9)

The double blessing then will be both physical and spiritual. Listen to this: "For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations." (Isa. 61:11)

Did you hear it?

Instead of parched ground, there will be the proper moisture, watered by the dew from heaven. Instead of drought, there will be rain in the right amount.

As gardens flourish, so will righteousness and peace cover the earth.

Now, this is God's design for this earth. Wherever sin is found, you have corruption, decay, pollution and litter. But purity, cleanliness and holiness will characterize God's kingdom

on earth in the day when Christ rules.

God is not satisfied until this objective is fulfilled. Hear him as He says: "I will not rest, until the righteous thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth." Yea, we read that our Lord will not rest "until he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth." (Isa. 62:7)

Don't you get the picture of our Lord wanting to return? I see Him on tiptoes waiting for the signal from the Father. He came the first time to redeem man, and now He comes to rule in the hearts of all who love Him.

Thus, the prayer in the heart of every believer is expressed in Isaiah 64 where we read: "Oh that thou wouldest rend the heavens, that thou wouldest come down..."

Is this your prayer?

Are we not told to pray, "Thy kingdom come!" And, are we not encouraged to pray, "Even so come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev.22:20)

Should we not get excited about the coming of the Lord and do all we can to hasten that day? Our Lord is anxious to come, but He wants us to get out the Gospel and to hasten the day by praying that He will come.

You may ask, Why get so excited about our Lord's Return? Well, we read: "For since the beginning of the world, men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him."

Did you hear it?

You have no idea what God has in store for His children. It will be too wonderful for words.

The conclusion of the matter is expressed by our Lord who says: "For behold I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered, nor come to mind."

In Jerusalem there will be joy and rejoicing and no more mourning. We read: "The voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying." (Isa. 65:19)

What a wonderful day that will be!

The mortality rate will be greatly reduced. We read, "There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed."

This gives something of a picture of the millennium. There will be death but man will live to be older than Methuselah who died at 969 years of age.

Although Satan is bound, we should point out that man has a free will. He can make his own choices. And some will live to satisfy themselves rather than to please the Lord.

For instance, Zechariah reminds us that all the nations shall go up to Jerusalem each year to worship the Lord. "And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain." (Zech. 14:17)

So, to some extent men can do as they please, but they will have to suffer the consequences. A sinner will die at a hundred

rather than live to be a thousand years of age.

Since there will be no war, there will be no plunder. "Men shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat." There will be peace, equality and tranquility.

A sign of this tranquility is expressed in the picture of the wolf and the lamb feeding together. (Isa. 65:25)

We read: "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox." What a picture of how it will be during the millennial age!

Throughout the earth there will be peace. In fact, we read: "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." (Isa. 11:9)

That's why I believe there will be television. But every channel will glorify the Lord Jesus. Television could accomplish so much good, because you learn so much more by the eye as well as what you hear with the ear.

The knowledge of the Lord is what curtails crime and violence. Since prayer and Bible reading were taken out of the schools of the United States, the crime rate has increased 200 times.

We're told: "In one year 17,000 people fell before the sickle of violence, 364,000 people suffered from aggravated assaults, and 41,890 women went through the agony of forcible rape." We could go on and on describing the ways that people get hurt. But they shall not hurt nor destroy in God's kingdom.

In fact, we read of the sensitivity of the people in that day. "He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man." Think of it.

There will be instant answers to prayer faster than any computer might be able to function. In fact, we read: "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear."

Imagine getting ready to make a phone call to a friend, and before you get to the telephone, you get a call from the person you were going to talk to, with the answer you wanted! That's how God will answer prayer in that day. We can readily understand that prayers are often delayed because Satan hinders the answers to our prayers.

In the case of Daniel his prayers were hindered from being answered for 21 days during which time he was fasting, but then on the 22nd day an angelic messenger came with the answer to his prayer. The messenger told Daniel that he had heard him from the very moment he first prayed but that he was unable to get the answer back to him.

This will give you something of an insight into your praying. We read: "Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia

withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me.”

Isn't that a beautiful picture of heavenly messengers aiding us in our praying, because Satan is constantly trying to stop our prayers from being answered.

Paul indicates how Satan hinders. Writing to the Thessalonians, he says: “We would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us.” (I Thes. 2:18)

But when Christ reigns upon the earth, he will no longer hinder the answer to prayer. Men will merely think and their prayers will be answered. In fact, the Lord will have such knowledge of man's needs that before they know what to ask for, they will have already received.

Now all that we have discussed in today's broadcast cannot happen until Israel experiences her day of great trouble. She will soon endure such tribulation such as the world has never seen, but it will bring about her purging and purifying. Those who rejected their Messiah but who now turn to Him will suddenly come to salvation.

Writes Isaiah: “Who hath heard such a thing? Who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth children.” As soon as Israel experiences such trouble that she calls upon the Lord in her distress, He will be there to help.

We read, “For behold the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will the Lord plead with all flesh; and the slain of the Lord shall be many.” (Isa. 66:15-16)

What a day that will be when our Lord comes to judge the earth. He will destroy all the armies that come against Jerusalem, and will become the hope of His people Israel from that day and forward.

The doom of the wicked is sealed when our Lord returns. At Armageddon, the blood shall flow to the horses' bridles, and remaining will be the carcasses of the men who have transgressed against the Lord. Death will not be the end, however. Isaiah closes the chapter, saying: “Their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.” (Isa. 66:24)

That's how the book of Isaiah ends.

But for the saints there is the new heavens and the new earth. (Isa. 66:22) And all who come to repent of sin to trust the Saviour can look forward to the day when our Lord will come for His own.

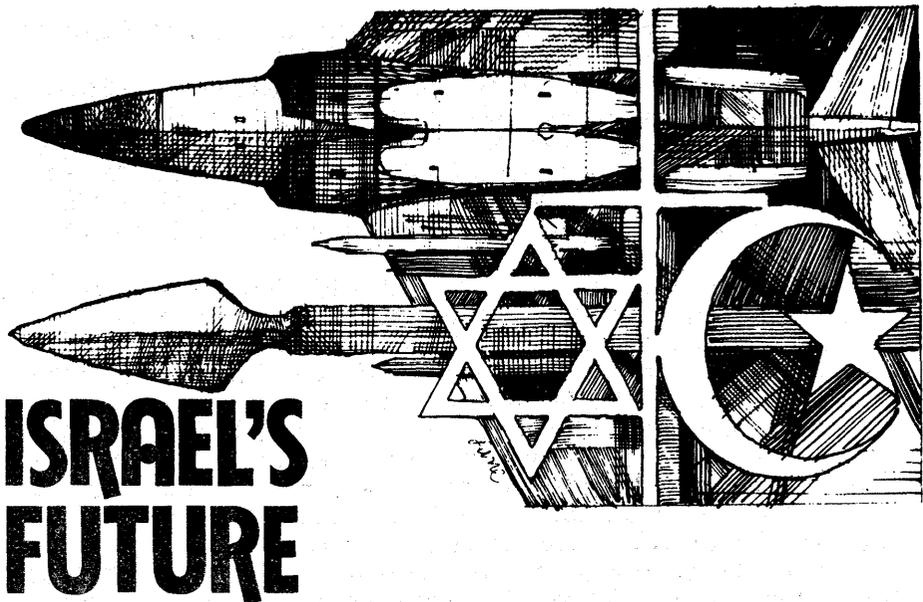
This could happen at any time. As one writer has expressed it: “The next great event, no doubt, will be the rapture of the church; the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ to take out of this world, the true church; which is made up of all who are ‘Born of the Spirit’ and Cleansed with His Precious Blood.”

For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” (I Thes. 4:16-18)

Indeed, “Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.” (Matt. 24:44)



President Sadat (right) of Egypt



ISRAEL'S FUTURE

According to one news source, it is predicted that renewed fighting will break out in the Middle East if Israel does not give up its conquered territories.

I recall traveling in Israel when we picked up a soldier who was looking for a ride. One of the remarks made by the Israeli soldier was that they will never give up this captured land.

Meanwhile, a Soviet official has stated that Russia will back Syria's demands in the event it moves to regain territories now occupied by Israel.

Will war break out again in the Mideast?

Will Russia become involved in such a war?

What about the future of Israel?

In Isaiah, Chapter 6, the question is asked--How long before Israel will be saved?

The prophet laments the condition of his people. The heart of this people has grown fat, their ears heavy, and their eyes closed.

Later, in explaining why He spoke in parables, our Lord quoted from Isaiah's prophecy. Listen to what He has to say in Matthew 13:13. "Therefore speak I to them in parables; because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand." He goes on to explain, "And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive; For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them."

Do you see that our Lord laments the condition of those in Israel who refused to heed His message?

The Apostle Paul similarly quotes from this same passage, saying: "Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers," and he repeats the same message.

Today we would like to ask--How long will Israel's eyes be blinded, and her heart heavy, and ears dull of hearing? How long before they will be converted and the Lord heals them?

The Apostle Paul deals at length with this great theme in Romans. In Romans 9:27, he asserts that a remnant shall be saved. Listen to his words. "Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a REMNANT shall be saved."

The remnant described here is a "spiritual" Israel within the "national" Israel. As we would understand it, the remnant will be the remaining segment of the Israelites who survive the ordeals still ahead. Paul in Romans 11:5 speaks of "a remnant according to the election of grace."

So in the final analysis we would sum up Israel's present condition with her future glorious hope by stating, "...blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved..." (Romans 11:25-26)

Will all Israel be saved? Indeed, what's left of the nation following her time of trouble will be saved. Those who miraculously survive the coming ordeals of great tribulation will marvelously escape as they are transported to a place of safety in the wilderness during this coming holocaust described by Jesus as "a time of trouble such as the world has never seen, nor ever shall see again."

Many believe this place of safety to be Petra, a city carved out of rock to which the remnant will be carried as with "two wings of a great eagle." (Rev. 12:14)

While some may suppose this could be the airplane, only a helicopter could land within the confines of Petra. So it is our belief that God's chariots which could be related to "unidentified flying objects" may transport this remnant to this place in the wilderness prepared for them.

Again let's return to Isaiah's prophecy concerning Israel's failure to understand God's will and purpose for her. Basically, it was Israel's rejection of her Messiah that finds Isaiah describing her as being blind, with ears that are dull of hearing and a heart void of understanding.

Isaiah, upon being informed of Israel's blindness to spiritual things, asks: "How long, Lord?"

How long will it be before Israel accepts her Messiah-King?

Here is what the voice of the Lord said to Isaiah. Listen to it, for if we can understand these verses, we have some of the greatest prophecy-revelation concerning what's ahead for Israel. How long before Israel accepts her Messiah? We

read: "Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate, and the Lord have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land."

Did you hear it?

Without question, this prophecy was partly fulfilled in AD 70 when cities were destroyed and there were those who were scattered to the four ends of the earth.

We might ask--Could this happen again? Will cities in Israel again be devastated? Will there be mass destruction with great loss of human life?

According to our understanding of God's Word, this is what we may expect to see before Israel finally receives her rejected Messiah.

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of this time of Israel's tribulation, relating her time of trouble to her return to her land. We read: "For, lo, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the Lord; and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it."

My friends, we have seen this happen. From every country around the world we have seen the sons and daughters of Israel returning to their land.

Now notice, instead of returning to a land of peace there is fear and great trembling. "Alas!" writes Jeremiah, "for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it." (Jer.30:3,7)

Yes, desperate days are ahead for Israel. The Middle East cauldron that has boiled over into venomous hatreds, bloody wars, and violence between nations is yet to see its worst conflicts.

Again we might expect to see cities wasted and the land made utterly desolate, as a result of wars still to be fought in Palestine.

Zechariah describes this coming assault on Jerusalem, saying: "Behold the day of the Lord cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. 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 the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city."

We read: "Then shall the Lord go forth and fight against those nations as when he fought in the day of battle." (Zech. 14:1-3)

This is the Battle of Armageddon. Zechariah goes on to describe the appearance of the Lord with all His saints coming to the mount of Olives which is before Jerusalem. But before He puts His feet upon the mount, He must destroy the last remaining resistance of man to His authority and then He will appear to the remnant of Israel that is left and they shall be delighted to see Him.

We read: "And the Lord shall be king over all the earth; in that day shall there be one Lord, and his name one."

What a great future lies ahead for this world when Christ comes back to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords!

Until then, there is great trouble, outstanding trials, and awful tribulation ahead...not only for Israel, but for the whole world. But in the midst of Israel's suffering she shall discover Christ to be her true Messiah. Those left of Israel, spared from death and protected in the secret hiding place believed to be Petra, will recognize Jesus Christ as truly the Son of God.

Eyes closed for so long shall be opened, ears stuffed shall be unstopped, and hearts shall be changed. Israel will be both converted and healed to become the chief nation of the earth.

Witnessing armies surrounding Jerusalem, and hostile nations threatening war, makes us wonder how soon it will be before prophecies described today will be fulfilled.

At least, it behooves us to be ready for the coming of our Blessed Lord for whenever that day and hour may be that He comes for His own. Is it not our blessed hope to believe in the possibility of escape from coming wrath and the times of great tribulation seen coming upon the world?

Indeed, we are told to "watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." And notice, "For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth." (Luke 21:36,35)

Is Israel alone to see this time of trouble? No, as we just read, "All that dwell on the face of the whole earth" will face God's judgment as it falls upon this earth.

Witnessing the crimes of passion and violence, with drug addiction and drunkenness disrupting homes and causing accidents, and seeing immorality in its many forms, makes us wonder how long God can tolerate our sin.

Yet, today is still a day of salvation. Turn to the Lord Jesus Christ with all of your heart and there is hope that we can escape this coming day of judgment.

This is the message of the hour--a call to repent--to turn from sin to trust the Saviour Who died for our sins. Then let us live for Him and look for His coming.

Remember He hath said, "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."



Russia's Invasion of Israel

Stalin, the author of Russian policy.

It is reported that before his death, Stalin boasted that he would gather the largest army ever assembled and send it against Palestine. As a matter of fact, for years the Soviet Government, I am told, had a postage stamp depicting this map of Russia and the Middle East with four horsemen bearing a red standard galloping south toward Palestine.

With our Bibles open we would like to take a look at a passage of Scripture which depicts such an event--an invasion of Israel by Russia and countries allied with her. We believe that this threatened invasion may not be too far away.

In Ezekiel, chapters 38-39, we have a prophecy concerning Gog, of the land of Magog. Gog is the leader and Magog is believed to refer to Russia. For even in our Lord's day, Jewish theologians, I am told, believed that Magog, with references to Meschech and Tubal, referred to Russia and the cities of Moscow and Tobolsk.

Now concerning this Northern Kingdom we read... "In the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of ISRAEL, which have been always waste; but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them"

What a description! For Jews, who have been disbursed to the four corners of the world, have found their way back to their homeland. If I were an atheist I would certainly have a difficult time explaining how the Jewish people, driven from their land for nearly two thousand years, have again been restored to their land. For is this not just another proof of the Word of Almighty God who promised to restore Israel to her land in the latter days. For instance, Isaiah foresaw a return to Palestine from the four corners of the earth(11:12) and Jeremiah reminds us of a time in the "latter days" when the Lord will again bring the families of Israel from "the uttermost parts of the earth."

To have seen this return of Israel to her land should cause all of us to recognize that God is on His throne, performing that which He promised He would do. We should realize that Israel's return to her land is an indication that these are the latter days and that Christ is soon to come.

Notice again, if you will, as I read verse 16, of Ezekiel 38, where reference is made to this invasion by Russia coming from the North. We read: "And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land: IT SHALL BE IN THE LATTER DAYS..." Did you hear it?

Friends, do you know that we are living in the latter days and that momentarily we can expect this invasion to take place? The unknown factor is WHEN this battle takes place. What we do know is that it will occur in the latter days and that Israel will be the target of this invasion.

Then, concerning this invading army, we read: "Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee." (38:9). From this verse we get the impression of an air armada taking off in great numbers. "To ascend" means to fly. "To come like a storm" speaks of coming suddenly, swiftly, and without warning.

Well, what happens? The nations looking on in surprise are heard saying, "Art thou come to take a spoil; hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey; to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?" (v.13)

It is known that the Middle East is the most coveted land on earth. Here have been the great past civilizations, the dynasties of the Pharaohs, the Rulers of Babylon. The Greeks, Medo-Persians and Romans have all coveted this land because of its location, climate and great wealth. The dead sea alone is said to be worth more than two hundred trillion dollars, and two-thirds of the world's known oil reserves are buried in the Middle East.

So, this invasion catches the nations off guard. They aren't prepared for it; and it is seen happening so swiftly.

But notice, God sees what is happening. We read in verse 18, "And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord God, that my fury shall come up in my face." Now, God has put up with the clenched fist of the communist salute--a fist raised toward heaven. He has laughed at the idea of anyone suggesting that He is dead, or that He does not exist, declaring that only a fool can say there is no God. But, when this invading host comes down toward Israel, God gets mad. He gets angry. In fact, the Scripture indicates that He becomes furious--"my fury shall come up in my face."

You see, ISRAEL is destined to become the greatest nation on the face of this earth, but not without drastic changes and much bloodshed. Jesus Christ must reign in Jerusalem during a thousand years of peace, and the devil is going to do all he can to thwart, or hinder, or try to stop these plans. Here is

where God steps into the picture. "For he that keepeth Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps." Israel is the apple of His eye, the object of His affections.

Whether you want to believe it or not, amazing incidents are reported to have taken place that border on the supernatural and the miraculous. There is no logical explanation for the Israeli victories apart from divine intervention. It's not that God doesn't love the Egyptians or the Syrians, but that He will not have His people destroyed or driven out.

As the prophet Amos wrote centuries ago, "And I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel,...and I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God." Amos 9:14-15.

So, neither the Arabs nor the Russians are going to be able to destroy Israel, even though there may be much devastation. For God is going to intervene, and when this invasion from the North occurs, we read where He will vindicate His people. "And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord God: every man's sword shall be against his brother. And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. Thus, will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, AND THEY SHALL KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD." (Ezek. 38:2-23)



Make no mistake about it, God may permit the Communists to blaspheme His name, but when Israel is attacked He marvelously and miraculously intervenes. As a result, the whole world will know there is still a God in heaven. Of course, military men may try to explain away the circumstances that lead to Russia's doom--the hail and the rain, but without question only God could be responsible for the defeat of a great military power like Russia coming down to war on a tiny country such as Israel.

You can write it down, we serve a great God. He is interested in the affairs of men and nations; He is concerned about our own great republic which is in mortal danger of losing its freedoms and capitulating to Communism like many of the other nations in Europe and Asia. Needed is divine intervention--God proving Himself to be very much alive--which will occur when this invasion of Israel by Russia takes place.

When this happens, and if you're still here, I hope you'll remember that it was all foretold in your Bible. Really, I hope we will all be in heaven. I hope the event called the rapture occurs first, and that we will be with Christ in heaven when this all takes place.

But since no man knoweth the day nor the hour when our Lord will come, we simply know that it pays to be ready so that when the trumpet sounds and the saints are raised from the dead that you will be among the living who rise to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

In Scripture, this is referred to as the "blessed hope." We read in Titus 2:13, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

Sincerely, we ask you--would you be ready were Christ to come today? Have you had a definite encounter with the Saviour whereby you know that you have invited Him into your heart and life? "For as many as receive Him to them gives he power to become sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." If you have never made this decision, right now, pray - "Lord Jesus, come into my heart and life by your Spirit. Take all my sins away, and henceforth help me to live for you. Amen." He will do it, and as you pray each morning and read your Bible each day, He can keep you ever ready for His return.

For remember, He hath said, "Be ye therefore ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh."

GOD'S NEWS ..BEHIND THE NEWS

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