

Standing with Israel in Great Trouble in the End Times

For those of you who have been here for a long time, the first page will be a bit of an overview and review. However, for those of you who are new, I want you to hear some of these sayings, check out some of the verses, have some dialogue, see if these things are true, and are in the Word of God. I always try to encourage people when you hear teaching, whether here or anywhere, always make sure that it is what the Word says, check it out with the Word, back it up with the Word, and see if the things be so, as the Bereans did (Acts 17:11).

THE BATTLE FOR JERUSALEM

Roman numeral I. The battle for Jerusalem is the most significant battlefield in the spirit today. It is the central issue to the Armageddon campaign. The battle for Jerusalem culminates with Jesus' second coming to reign as King over all the earth. The battle for Jerusalem is something that we talk about quite a bit here. It is a physical and a spiritual battle for control over the city of Jerusalem. The Church must understand this battle. We are not going to go into it with depth tonight. If you are around for a while, you will hear it on a number of occasions. The Church must understand this battle in order to effectively engage in it. It is really unimportant because most of the Church is completely unaware of the existence of the conflict around the city of Jerusalem; it is not just a natural conflict, or a spiritual conflict. It is both.

GOD'S WORD INSISTS THAT THE CHURCH STAND WITH HIS PURPOSES FOR ISRAEL

Paragraph B. For those of you who are new, pay attention, as this is the most significant battlefield in the spirit today. Again, I do not want to take an hour and develop it. God's Word insists that His Church stands with His purpose for Israel. It is not optional. It is the litmus test to determine the Church's obedience especially in the end times. We must stand with Israel, and we will come under great pressure by all the nations of the earth. The question will be, "Who is going to stand against Israel?" God requires that the end-time Church take a stand in obedience to Jesus. It is about obedience to Jesus. I have more about that in paragraph B, but I will move on.

BATTLE FOR JERUSALEM IS A KEY ISSUE PERFECTING THE CHURCH

Paragraph C. The battle for Jerusalem is a key issue to the perfecting of the end-time Church. The end-time Church is going to be spotless and without blemish. Have you ever asked yourself, "How is that going to happen?" It is not going to happen just by more time; after 2,000 years, the Church is, in some ways, in its worst condition. It is growing in parts of the world. It is lively and fiery. But in the West, the church is on the threshold of a massive falling away right now. How is God going to make this Bride spotless and without blemish? Is the Lord just going to wave His hand over us one Monday afternoon, and then by Monday evening, the whole Church of a billion people will have no compromise? That is not how it is going to happen. It is going to happen with real experiences on the earth. It is going to happen by the Spirit, but there is going to be a natural dimension to it as well. It is going to be the most glorious, but the most troubling time in all of human history.

JESUS WILL RULE ISRAEL AND THE WHOLE EARTH FROM JERSUALEM

Paragraph D. Jesus is going to rule. He is going to return. When He returns—this is a big subject here—and we have several handouts just on this paragraph D. I only want to give you the summation. When He returns to the earth at the second coming, He is going to rule the whole earth from Jerusalem. He will only return after the Jewish leadership invites him. Jesus said in Matthew 23 at the end there of paragraph D. Jesus says in Matthew 23:37-39: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not

willing! See! Your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

Jesus promised that Jesus would not return, and we will not see Him again until Israel blesses His return. Jesus says that He will not return until the leadership of Israel basically says about Jesus of Nazareth: “You are blessed of God. You are of God.” Until Israel acknowledges that Jesus is God, Jesus will not return. Unless they call Jesus God, the historical Jesus—Jesus basically said, “Until you say that you will never see Me again, I will not come back to this city” (Mt. 23:37-39, paraphrased).

SATAN SEEKS TO EXPLOIT THE MATTHEW 23:29 PROPHECY

Paragraph E. Satan wants to exploit a loophole in that prophecy because if Jesus cannot come back, He will not come back until the leadership of Israel invites Him back by His own free will. God is God; so it is not risky for God, but that was bold. That is one of the most surprising statements that the nation hates: Israel must officially receive Him, or the second coming will not happen. He will not return to Jerusalem until this happens. Israel is the most hostile nation in the world toward Jesus. It is as if the Father would say, “Do not worry, I have a plan. They will say this, and My Son will return.” Satan’s loophole is that he is trying to exploit Israel; if there is no nation of Israel, and then they cannot invite Him back. If Jesus does not come back, Satan is not thrown into prison.

One of the most significant things that Jesus does when He comes back, you find it in Revelation 20. When Jesus comes back, Satan is locked into prison for 1,000 years. Satan will be locked in prison until after Jesus comes back to Jerusalem. You can be sure that what is on Satan’s mind is to keep Jesus from Jerusalem. The only way that he is going to keep Him from Jerusalem is to annihilate Jerusalem. He is not going to have the power to stop Jesus because he does not have power over Jesus. Jesus bound Himself only to return if the people on the earth—in real time and space—in Israel and in government, invite Him back to be their King as their Messiah. Satan has purposed, I have in paragraph E, to stop Israel from receiving Jesus as King. That is the number one thing on his mind.

DECEIVE ISRAEL TO TAKE THE MARK OF THE BEAST

The number one thing on his mind is not going to prison. Sometimes we think the number one thing on Satan’s mind is to keep people out of heaven. That is not the number one thing on his mind. He does not like people getting right with God, but that is not the main thing on his mind. The main thing on his mind is not going to prison. His focus is very different than our focus. He understands the justice, which God employs by committing Himself to only return on these terms. Satan’s desire is to control the city of Jerusalem—to effectively control it.

So he can more effectively deceive Israel into taking the mark of the beast. He wants to control the city of Jerusalem and bring as many of Israel into a relationship where they are more than apostate; their hearts are hardened, and they cannot be reversed. They take the mark of the beast to be reprobate. A reprobate nation cannot invite Jesus back as their Messiah. He wants to get into Jerusalem, and that is heavy on his mind.

SATAN WANTS TO KILL THE REMAINDER OF THE JEWISH RACE

The second thing he wants to do is to kill off the rest of the Jewish race. He wants to kill those who are not reprobate. He is serious about this. He wants to exterminate the entire Jewish race; so they cannot invite Jesus to

Jerusalem. Until Jesus comes to Jerusalem, Satan is not going to prison; he is free to roam. He has limitations, but he can roam the earth and move in the realm of the spirit—all of these things that he is doing.

ASSURE ISRAEL IS SO OFFENDED AT JESUS THAT THEY DO NOT RECEIVE HIM

The third thing on Satan's mind if he cannot get them to take the mark of the beast, and if he cannot kill them is he wants to get the nation of Israel so offended at Jesus that they would never ever receive Him. Critical to this plan is the control of the city of Jerusalem; it is critical to Satan's strategy to affect this. Again, Satan hates people getting saved, but I assure you that that is not the number one thing on his mind. He is way more self-absorbed than to have his number one concern be about you or me. Terrorist bombers are not blowing up mega-churches; they are blowing up the city of Jerusalem because demonic spirits are focused on that.

Again, Satan hates the Church, have no confusion about that. Satan knows he will not be cast into prison until Jesus is received and invited into leadership as a Man. He is fully God, always has been and always will be. As a Jewish Man ruling the city of Jerusalem, this is what God the Father has ordained for the purpose of God to break forth in its full way.

JESUS IS KING OF BOTH JERUSALEMS

Paragraph F. Right now, He is King in the New Jerusalem. He has a throne in the New Jerusalem. The Father is King as well. Jesus is King of the New Jerusalem in the heavenly realm, but He is ordained to be King of the millennial Jerusalem in the earthly realm as well. So He is King of both realms.

When He brings those two cities together—the two Jerusalems—there is a convergence. When the New Jerusalem descends, that is one of the great expressions of spiritual authority. We will see a Man on the earth who will use the keys of the kingdom to lock Satan into prison. A Man is going to lock Satan into prison. A real Man with power in God is going to lock Satan into prison. A real Man is going to call for the New Jerusalem to come. Talk about an open heaven: beloved, the New Jerusalem is going to descend to the earth to the place of the earthy Jerusalem.

There is going to be a divine convergence of those two cities, and the blessing is going to break forth in Jerusalem, and it is going to be more than a ripple. Think of dropping a rock: the ripple is going to ripple out. The effect is called the millennial kingdom. Jesus will be King of Jerusalem in the natural, not just in the spirit; the key to that is the nation of Israel inviting Him back, and that is what is on Satan's mind to stop the entire program.

The great harvest is going to be won, as we are purified, and we stand with God's purpose for Israel. The very standing with Israel in the future will purify the Church, and it will explode in power far beyond the book of Acts. There will be no such thing as a compromising Church on the earth when the Lord returns. There will be no compromise in the Church. He is coming for a Church that is spotless, no blemish, and no compromise at all.

ISRAEL'S TIME OF GREAT TROUBLE

Roman numeral II. It is critical, and this is part of our message. This is part of the gospel of the kingdom. I do not have it on the notes here, but when Jesus said in Matthew 24:14: "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come." Do you know what Matthew 24 is about? It is about the second coming: the whole chapter is about the second coming. There are some other subjects as well, but that is the main theme of the chapter. I will just say it that way. When this

gospel, when the gospel of Matthew 24 is preached, the gospel of the kingdom, then the end will come. The gospel of the kingdom is more than the gospel that offers forgiveness without repentance. Most of the church in the West preaches the gospel of forgiveness without repentance. They say we have got to get that message to all of the nations. That is not when the end comes. The end comes when the gospel of the kingdom is preached to all nations. The gospel of the kingdom is more than the fact that there is a spiritual kingdom in men's hearts.

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF FORGIVNESS WITH REPENTANCE

The gospel of the kingdom is this: there is a King, named Jesus, who is coming to the earth in context to a military conflict, the Armageddon campaign. Jesus is not just coming back, appearing in the sky, catching us all up, and going back. He is returning in context to a military conflict. There is a clash: there is a worldwide collision of kingdoms. Our message is a Jewish King is returning to completely overthrow the antichrist empire that has its roots in the nations of the earth. It is established powerfully in the majority of the nations of the earth. It will have its tentacles in all nations, but it will have a firm foundation in many of the nations of the earth.

Our message is that another Man is coming on a white horse with angels, with a host of saints to confront this King, to overthrow His kingdom, and to reestablish government in every nation of the earth. It is the message of a clash and an establishing of a kingdom. If you want to be a part of this kingdom, repent, get forgiveness, and get in the middle of this clashing of kingdoms because there is a take over that is coming. That is the message of the kingdom that is going to fill the earth right now. Hardly ever is the gospel of the kingdom being preached. It is mostly the gospel of forgiveness, which is the entry into the kingdom and is critical. It is mostly the gospel of forgiveness even without repentance, and there is no forgiveness without repentance. That is no gospel at all. That is a concoction of Western humanism with a little bit of Jesus language sprinkled through it. It is a human concoction; it is no gospel at all. The gospel of the kingdom will be preached to all nations. Intrinsic to that message is a conflict. The Great Tribulation is the great clashing of the kingdoms; it comes to a pinnacle like no time in history. The power of God is with us. Many of us will lose our lives. We will overcome the Antichrist, we will overcome Satan because we are fearless and fully in faith even when our life is being extinguished.

He will overcome many saints physically. In that very act, we overcome spiritually—that is what the book of Revelation says. Many will be delivered physically as well. We do not overcome Satan when we overcome his tactics against us physically; it is a victory for sure. That is why we want to see healing and power, those victories are important. The way we overcome Satan is when we are unmoved in the face of all of his threats. Keith Green said, "I have pledged my head to heaven already. I have already pledged my head to the eternal kingdom."

ISRAEL'S TIME OF GREAT TROUBLE

Roman numeral II. This talks about the great trouble that is coming. I was talking earlier about great trouble coming. Daniel 12 is one of the great passages about the coming trouble. An angel reveals Israel's great trouble in the end-times through the prophet Daniel. It is this trouble— here is why this trouble is important to know. The conflict of the kingdom is related to this trouble. The message of the kingdom is in the midst of a true collision of empires. This collision is not just ideologies; it is not just ideas colliding. It is lives, kingdoms, militaries, and armies colliding. The antichrist kingdom is real, and he is establishing it throughout the whole world.

AN ANGEL REVEALS ISRAEL’S GREAT TROUBLE IN THE END TIMES

Let’s read here in Daniel 12:1: “At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the son of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book.” At the time Michael the archangel shall stand up, he will be actively involved in the spiritual battle. He will stand up. The passage I have here is Revelation 12, which talks about Michael taking on Satan and casting him from his place of effectiveness in the heavens. Revelation 12: it says Michael, and his angels go to war against Satan. They cast him to the earth because Satan is far more effective in heavenly places. When Satan is cast to the earth, he loses his optimum position of effectiveness in this age. Even in his limitations, even in the fact that the cross has defeated him. He has a certain sphere of effectiveness he operates in until the name of Jesus is enforced upon him by believing saints on the earth. The prayer movement is on the earth crying out in unity with the prayer movement in heaven; we are all in unison together. We are crying out, and Michael breaks forth. He casts Satan from his place. Michael arises in this hour; he stands up. This is an angel telling all of this to Daniel. He is called the great prince—that is Michael the archangel. He is the one who stands watch over the nation of Israel. As demonic powers are assigned to nations, we call them principalities, powers, and demonic powers are assigned to regions.

Angels are also assigned to nations, regions, churches, ministries, and individuals. There is a whole hierarchy of darkness: a demonic hierarchy and an angelic hierarchy that have their assignments related to the different parts of the earth. The angels and the demons move related to the prayer movement. The angels are far more active when the Church prays and less active when the Church lacks prayer. The demons are driven out of their position of effectiveness—their optimum effectiveness whatever that is. They all have different spheres of authority. When we pray and obey, they are less effective. Their strongholds are disrupted. At the end, this is kind of like a very dynamic thing. Michael is actually released to a full on face-to-face confrontation with Satan.

It is because the prayer movement on the earth is centered on the conflict in Israel. When Michael, the great warring angel, is dispatched in this way, we are just moments away from the end. Well, technically, we have three and a half years, but that is moments. Michael is only going to stand up and be dispatched in relationship to the praying saints. The conflict is around the war for the city of Jerusalem. There is going to be a hundred million plus gentile believers; we are all engaged in this. We are prophesying, we are praying and fasting. We are all working together with this great onslaught when Michael takes on Satan in the heavenly realm, and then he is cast to the ground.

Then the angel tells Daniel that there will be a time of trouble. When this happens, when Satan is on the earth, you can read it right there in Revelation 12. When Satan comes to the earth, he will have so much anger when he comes to the earth. That is actually Revelation 12:12: “Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury because he knows that his time is short.” Just keep reading in Revelation 12. You will see it. There is so much trouble because Satan is angry when he is grounded. He is bound to the earth. He is far less effective, but he is far angrier. He is so angry. There will be a time of trouble where the angel tells Daniel such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. But at that time, there is good news, and I am skipping a bunch of things. The angel tells Daniel that Israel will be delivered at that time as well.

ISRAEL WILL BE ULTIMATELY DELIVERED

Beloved, Israel will ultimately be delivered. God will anoint them to give leadership to the whole world in the millennial kingdom. We will fully rejoice in God's choice of this grand plan through history to raise up a nation for such a role as this. Daniel 12:7: "Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished."

Now look at this because this passage is one of the heaviest passages. This is the verse that was in my mind when I was speaking about great trouble a few minutes ago when I was giving the testimony. Daniel heard the man clothed in linen. It is the angel that had shown up previously. Lots of times in the Bible and in other places, angels are referred to as the man in linen with a shining sword; but here the angel is flying through the sky. In this case, the man in linen, the angel was standing over the water of the river. He is standing in mid air. It is very clear that it is an angel that he sees. The angel is this man clothed in linen. Daniel uses the term "time, times, and a half of time." Time is a year. The Bible makes it really clear that it is a three-and-a-half year period. If that is a new idea to you, you might say, "Well, how do you know that?" You compare scripture to scripture, and it is unmistakable that that is what it is talking about. Bible teachers throughout church history universally agree upon it.

The angel raises his hand, and he swears by God who lives forever. The angel basically says, "I swear to you this that it will only last for three and a half years—this horrible time." Here is the bad news: it will not be over until the power of Israel is completely shattered. Beloved, people do not like this message: believers, Gentile or Jewish.

ISRAEL WILL BE SHATTERED AND GOD'S GLORIOUS END-TIME PURPOSES

The angel swore that this horrible season will be unsurpassed in history. Before that in the three and a half years, God will complete His purposes, and the nation of Israel will be completely shattered in its own strength. I will have absolutely no hope in its military and no hope in its political processes—absolutely none; it will have no hope except for from heaven. That is the point of it being completely shattered. Then all of these things will be finished.

When I talk to my friends, many friends who are involved in the nation of Israel, some of them do not like this verse. I say, "Listen: this is good news and bad news. It is bad news for you; but trust me the prophetic Church is going to be with you in it every step of the way." It is not good news for us either. For an obedient, praying, and fasting prophetic believer, we are dynamically a part of this—that is the negative side. The positive side is that He is going to release power, and He is going to glorify Himself in the midst of His people with a power second to no time in history. That is the good news. Then Daniel 12:8: "Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, 'My Lord, what shall be the end of these things?' Daniel said, 'My Lord,' talking to that same angel, it is as if Daniel asked, 'What shall be the purpose of these things? What is the end or the outcome? What is the purpose of shattering? My Lord, this shattering, are you sure that it is necessary? What is the purpose? What is the end result of this?'"

THE WISE SHALL UNDERSTAND

This is for Israel, for Jewish and Gentile believers in Yeshua, or Jesus in Daniel 12:10: "Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the

wise shall understand.” This is the purpose. Many will be purified through this process. Many will be made white, many will be refined, but the wicked will sin more wickedly than they have every done before. The wicked will go in exactly the opposite direction. Many wicked will get saved, but talking about those who refuse the grace of God, they will be steeped into wickedness beyond anytime in history. But the wise, the people of God will understand the wisdom of all that is going on. Beloved, right now legally by the blood of Jesus, we are pure in God’s sight in that sense that we are not going to be held guilty, or be kept out of the eternal city.

In terms of our actual character, I think that the church in the West needs far more to be purified, refined and made white, but the Lord is going to see to it that the Church as well as the nation of Israel all survive this great calamity in Israel. They will be purified. They will love Jesus and have nothing else on their minds, but obeying Him and pleasing Him. He is going to come and be King of the city. He is going to join the two cities together. When those two cities come together, I just think of it like there is going to be a big funnel: an open heaven and the power of God will go through Jerusalem and go out. It will cause a ripple affect to all the nations of the earth through the millennial kingdom.

I realize that if you have not studied the end times, this last thirty minutes has been bizarre for you. I do realize you are thinking, “What on earth is going on here?” There are two Jerusalems? There will be a man on the earth cast into hell or prison? Satan is not against the Church because he does not care if people get saved? What? I understand it is confusing. Again, he does want everyone getting saved, but that is not the main thing on his mind. There is a kingdom that is coming. It is coming to the earth. We are not going away. The kingdom is coming to the earth with resurrected bodies and angels. We are going to be on the earth forever. The New Jerusalem is coming down to the earth forever. It is exciting. It is going to be a real kingdom. We are not all going to be on a separate cloud floating with a harp. We are going to be on the earth, reigning, ruling, and cultivating the earth into its full inheritance.

ZECHARIAH 12-14 IS ABOUT ISRAEL’S CONFLICT AND SALVATION

Paragraph C. As I gave the testimony, I mentioned that Zechariah 12-14 is one of the most important places where the great trouble is described. If you want to study a passage of scripture, Zechariah 12-14, there is none like it. I mean it has so much of the elements of the end-time conflict and of the end-time clash of kingdoms.

I really urge you to study Zechariah 12, 13, and 14. The same with Daniel 12—those are classic chapter. These are really big ones in terms of understanding what is going on. Here is what Zechariah 12 says: one of the prominent points of Zechariah 12-14, and one of the main themes that is repeated several times is that all the nations of the earth are going to gather around the city of Jerusalem. All the nations of the earth are gathering around Jerusalem in a hostile way.

THE NATIONS WILL STAND AGAINST ISRAEL

I am asking the Lord if all nations means most nations. It really might, and there really might be exceptions. There really might be because with prayer and fasting, you never know what might happen. God has that mysterious “perhaps” with prayer and fasting. It says “all nations of the earth.” I am praying saying, “Lord, raise up some nations out of the two hundred and ten nations on the earth. Raise up some that stand. I do not know, but I am praying for this nation and other nations that there will be such an overwhelming breaking in of righteousness. We will leave that number for the Lord to decide.” The scripture says, “all nations” (Zech. 12:9).

JERUSALEM: A CUP OF DRUNKENNESS

Here is what God said about Jerusalem: this is beginning to happen right now. Zechariah 12:2: “Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem.” We are in the early days of it, and it is going to build up to a crescendo. You have to know this. To not know what I am going to say in the next couple of minute is to be nearly illiterate about the end times, if you do not know these points. My point is not to insult you, but my point is to highlight how absolutely fundamental and prominent these ideas are to the end-time scenario. So if they are new to you, say, “Well, they are new to me today, but by this time next week, they are going to be old to me.” Just jump in, learn them, and get your mind around them.

Here is what God says in Zechariah 12:2: “Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. God will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the nations around it when they lay siege against Judah and against Jerusalem. What a sentence. I am going to make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness. Here is what it means. It is not just going to be Islamic; but right now, the reality is that it is mostly Islamic. When these Islamic nations, it is already beginning to take place, when they touch Jerusalem, they are intoxicated with rage and a dark spirit. They become drunk, and I do not mean drunk in the physical sense of drunk. They are enraged. It is completely irrational. What is on their mind?

The fact that you have seen the videos—these Islamic terrorist groups, the ten year olds on the video saying, “I want to grow up, and I want to be a martyr for Allah. I want to blow up those who are against Allah. Praise be to Allah.” Beloved, that is called drunk—when a generation of children believe that this is wisdom and that they are drunk.

God says, “I am going to arrange things in such a way, so that when the nations touch Jerusalem it will be like an intoxicating delusion comes over them.” They will be irrational. They will be thinking completely differently when they touch this nation in a wrong way. I will make it a cup of drunkenness; this is what it means. The impact upon the nations that buy into this is so bad. It completely disorients them from reality. I am talking about spiritual reality. We are already watching that right now. It is insane—it is absolutely insane what some of these nations are doing. The cup of drunkenness is operating even now.

JERUSALEM: A HEAVY STONE

Zechariah 12:3: “I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all people.” Now, a heavy stone is a burden. The issue of Jerusalem will be a burden for believers, unbelievers, Africans, Asians, Europeans, the Americas—North and South—and all over the world. Jerusalem is going to be an issue that will be a heavy stone for all the peoples of the earth. In other words, no nation will escape this vortex that is bringing everybody into the center of what this thing is about. Even distant nations in Africa, every single one of them will be grappling with the issues of Jerusalem. Every nation in South America will be grappling with the issues of saying yes or no. Terrorist bombers, economy, oil, resources, everything is going to be wrapped up in this.

God said this, and I want to make this clear, “I have made Jerusalem,” thus says the Lord, “At the end of the age, Jerusalem will be a heavy stone that every people group of the earth will run into. We will all run into this issue, and have to answer it one way or the other.” Everybody will be troubled by it including the Body of Christ. We will have to stand. We will have to risk our lives to stand as an ambassador of God. A number of us

will go to the death camps with them. We will lose our lives. Beloved, Jerusalem will be a heavy stone to all people. There will be no neighborhood of the earth that will be immune from this war.

Whether it touches them with the effects like when 9/11 happened, the economy was be shaken for a few moments. Even people far away had their economies shaken, and it was a burden. Beloved, September 11, 2001 was about Israel more than a lot of people understand. Not only about Israel, but it was certainly about Israel. When the stakes go high, the oil, the economies, the coming and going of neighborhoods of the earth will be affected by the down line impact. The dominos will go down to every person. I want you to understand this. God said, “I am going to make Israel a heavy stone. I personally will make it the issue that will burden every people group of the earth.”

In this great vortex, a vortex is this power that draws everything to its center. It is as if God says, “I will purify My Church. I will win the great harvest, and I will save the nation of Israel. I will judge the wicked without ever violating My justice all over this issue of one city—Jerusalem.” In Zechariah 12, every line is loaded. Zechariah gives another statement. He says, “By the way, those people who want to leave it away. The President of Iran, I want to drive them into the sea. Many of the Islamic—not all Islam are like this.” I am talking about terrorist, militant terrorist; they want to drive them into the sea.

Here is what God says: There are about ten, really powerful statements I will make, and they are all different. If you read it too quickly, you think that He is saying the same thing over and over. No, every one of them is a book in itself. These are all divine decrees from heaven.

ZECHARIAH 12:2

Zechariah 12:2: “Behold I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples.” That is very different than “I will make it a heavy stone” (Zech. 12:3). Now, He is talking about this other mandate. He says every nation, or every group, some of these terrorist groups want to heave Jerusalem into the sea; when they touch it, they will be cut into pieces because they touch it, and it will be like a rock, like a burden, but a rock laden with razor blades. It will slice them to pieces when they want to move Israel into the sea. They find it will cut them into pieces. It will be like razor blades touching them. Every nation that touches Israel will find them lacerated at the end of it. It is absolutely horrible. God promised He would do this.

ZECHARIAH 12:3

Zechariah 12:3: “And it shall be in that day, that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away, will surely be cut to pieces, though all the nations of the earth are gathered against it.” Some great powerful men will stand up and say, “Wait, wait. God cannot win; we have everybody on our team.”

God says, “I do not care, get everybody on your team. If you touch Israel, it will lacerate you; it will cut you to pieces like picking up a heavy stone that has got razor blades all the way around it. Everywhere you touch it, it will lacerate you. It does not matter how big your armies are, or how many nations you have in unity. It will cut all of you.”

It is as if the Lord will say to them, “On the last day, I gave everyone of you a due warning; I gave everyone of you due process. You all had reason to know this was trouble, but you did not listen to Me. Rather, you got

drunk in your fixation to destroy Israel.” The Nazis were lacerated into pieces, every nation that has ever tried to heave them into the sea has been cut into pieces all throughout history; but it is going to come to a crescendo.

ZECHARIAH 12:9

Zechariah 12:9: “In that day, I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.” I am just barely touching these statements, but these are glorious passages. I mean terribly glorious and gloriously terrible. I tremble when I read these, but I say, “Oh God. My spirit is alive with these truths.” I read them and say, “This is our future ahead of us.”

We are getting ready, and we are being watchful. We are praying. We are fasting, and we are engaged in the battle for Jerusalem. We are going for this thing at the end of the age. We are burning our bridges. There is no escape hatch, or not a second plan. We are in it until the end, and that is called being an overcomer. It says in Zechariah 12:9: “It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.” God will destroy all of them; there will not be one nation standing at the end of the war.

ZECHARIAH 12:10

Zechariah 12:10: “I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; they will look on Me whom they have pierced; they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for their firstborn.” God will pour His Spirit out; the Spirit is being poured out on Israel right now. It is in small measure, but there are more people being saved in Israel than anytime in history. There are thousands of them who are being saved in Israel. I am talking about throughout the nations. There are more Jews getting saved now, more than any time in history, more than the book of Acts; right now in pre-revival. It is building right now. I am talking on a global level. There are more Jews saved than there were in the early church, clearly.

The outpouring has not come yet. I mean the big obvious signs and wonders outpouring, but it is happening right now. Zechariah 13:1: “A fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.” God is going to cleanse them with power. That is exciting.

SATAN’S ATTACK AGAINST THE JEWS WHO RESIST HIS REGIME

Paragraph D. Let’s just read the verse Zechariah 13:8: “And it shall come to pass in all the land says the Lord that two thirds in it shall be cut off and they will die, but one third shall be left in it.” They will be killed. Two thirds will be killed. There is a debate in the commentaries because the word “land” and the word “earth” are the exact same word. It is used hundreds of times. Hundreds of times when it says this Hebrew noun, they translate it earth, and the other hundred times they translate it land. Nobody knows for sure, and my guess is it means in all of the earth. I am hoping that is what it means, but that is what I believe it means because the angel told Daniel this would be the most severe time in history. It will surpass any other time in history in severity.

Two thirds of the Jews of Europe were exterminated by the Nazi regime. Two thirds of all European Jews died, and this thing will be far more extreme than any other period in history. The man leading the charge will be far more powerful than Adolf Hitler. One third will be born again. They will not just be saved physically, they will be save and delivered physically, but they will be saved and call upon the name of the Lord. They will be saved—millions at the end of this process.

HALF OF JERUSALEM WILL BE TAKEN INTO CAPTIVITY

Paragraph E. Half of the city of Jerusalem will be taken into captivity. It says in Zechariah 14:2: “For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; the city shall be taken. The houses rifled, and the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, but the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.” It says it several times. Beloved, Zechariah 14:2 is such a terrifying statement. It did not say the Devil is gathering all the nations. God said, “I will gather all the nations. I am going to bring them to Israel, and I am going to destroy them in Israel. I am going to glorify My Son in the sight of Israel in their own land.”

God is bringing them, and they will come in power. They will come in pomp and circumstance; they will come in confidence, but they will be slaughtered in the land. Jesus will be magnified in all that remain in Israel, as the delivering King and as the far greater Moses in their midst. What Moses did was awesome with three million Jews in Egypt with the mightiest empire in history up until that time. But what Jesus is going to do far surpasses what Moses did.

ISRAEL’S CONDITION BEFORE JESUS’ RETURN INCLUDES PRISON CAMPS

Paragraph F talks about many verses; there are twice as many verses as I have listed there. Those verses indicated that when Jesus comes, He is setting people free from prison camps. Again, there are more than twice as many verses on that. The condition in which Jesus returns is this: many Jews are in prison, and He opens prison doors at His second coming. Literally, He does. It is one of the most emphasized features of the New Testament and the Bible. When you take all of the Bible and take the top ten issues about Jesus’ second coming, Jesus’ liberating Jews from prison camps is like the third or fourth most prominent of all the prophecies.

Yet, it is almost completely ignored when we talk about the second coming. Jesus is not coming to go away. He is coming to take over, to liberate all the camps, and to heal all of the people on the earth to set up His kingdom. The glorious and terrible part of this is not just that they are in prison camps. The Body of Christ is God the Father’s first line of defense for the nation of Israel. It is the Church prophesying, healing the sick, doing miracles, and walking even into the jaws of death fearlessly being purified. This is where history is going. Nobody can steer it in a different direction. The Devil cannot make it go differently. All of the kings of the earth cannot make it go differently. We are going into the greatest conflict of all human history, and the greatest outpouring of power we have ever seen.

CHURCH’S SACRIFICIAL LOVE TO STAND WITH ISRAEL IN PERSECUTION

Paragraph G. We are all but done, but I will just give you just a minute on the last page or two. The last page or two is just more for you to read later. I will mention a point or two. The Church must act in sacrificial love to obey Jesus in standing with Israel in persecution. One of the key missions of the Church is to make Israel jealous to have Jesus and to praise Him. One of the key mandates of the end-time Church is to provoke Israel to jealousy, to make them jealous to have Jesus. Israel will jealously desire what Gentile believers possess spiritually. This will happen as we risk our lives to provide refuge for Jews in flight. It will be illegal to provide refuge for them.

God will supernaturally protect many Gentile believers and help them make provision. Many Gentile believers will go into the camps with the Jews like Corrie ten Baum, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Niemoller. Those different guys are famous throughout history. In the context of this great fire, we will multiply the food, heal the sick, and prophesy. Angels will direct and open prison doors, and the Jews in flight will go. We have never seen anything like this. This is like Elijah and Moses, and we are going to say that we are a part of what your guys did. It is the

tree of Abraham that we have been grafted into. We have just been grafted into it. They are going to say, “What do you mean? Aren’t you guys Christians?”

We are going to say, “Yes, Jesus of Nazareth is the full answer to what your guys were hoping for.” They are going to say, “No, we have not been that wrong for 2,000 years.”

We will answer, “Yes, He is the Jewish King, and we operate in His name.” Beloved, it is that collision. It is in that conflict that the one new man, the Jew and Gentile will be bonded together in a bond of love that will be nothing short of supernatural. It will also be in context to walking in love in this heaviness.

POLITICAL SITUATION: TWO NEW FACTORS THAT INCREASE DANGER

Roman numeral III. There are two new factors that increase the danger right now. I mean two new factors in the last three to four months. Beloved, this is why this works in a signs of the times course. Two new factors: I am putting a few terms in here, and I am assuming some of you are completely unfamiliar with these terms. There are two or three terms, and if you get them, you will be able to understand your newspaper when you are reading it; they are quite simple. Two new factors that have happened on the world scene that Israel is really aware of; these two factors are not just trouble for Israel. These two factors are in place. A string of events are going to lead a complete conflict across the world. Only the Antichrist himself will answer with a false peace. The stage is being set.

THE SUDDEN EMERGENCE OF IRAN’S TERRORIST PRESIDENT

Factor number one: the sudden emergence of Iran’s terrorist President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. He is a terrorist President, and he got elected in October out of nowhere. It was not on the horizon. He was not like the guy ten years ago, the most likely to succeed in Iran. He just suddenly got into power; it was absolutely shocking to the world.

Iran is Persia from the ancient day. In Daniel 10:21: the prince of Persia is raising up again to strike Israel and all who will stand with Israel. This is really serious because this President is developing a nuclear program very aggressively, and I have read a number of different sources. To be honest, I doubled and tripled my reading in the last couple of days. I was going to meet with the Ambassador; I have got to get educated between now and tomorrow. I tell you do not do that pop quiz thing and stay up all night because a forerunner needs to get prepared ahead of time. I was unprepared on some of this information. So I just talked to a bunch of them there, I really got a lot of things clearer of the hour that we are living in. President Bush is addressing this in a really straight forward way in the news.

THE UNEXPECTED VICTORY OF HAMAS

The second thing is the unexpected victory of Hamas, which is a political party; it is a political party in the Palestinian Parliament right there in Israel. It is a political party, and they are a terrorist party. They are a rogue, terrorist party, and it is as shocking as the Iranian thing. They are now in power. These are really dangerous men, and they won a landslide election on January 25, 2006.

It shocked them; they were not expecting this. Nobody was expecting this. It came out of nowhere. Matter of fact, they are criticizing the Israeli government because their intelligence could not see it coming. If it was in Germany, it is as if the Nazis are now in power. If you talk to them, they would describe themselves as religious

zealots because they will die for the cause. They are terrorists. They know they are terrorists. They have said over the years that we want to exterminate Israel, and now they are in power. How did this happen?

How did this Iranian man get in power in October, and the Hamas get in power a week ago? Two new power bases are right now in the Middle East. They are both public. I mean they say it loudly. They do not care who hears it. They publish it, and they are proud of it. Their goal is to not remove Israel from the land. It is to exterminate them from the earth.

IRAN ELECTED MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD

Paragraph B. We will look at the Iranian President. In October 2005, a few months ago when he got elected, a week or two after he got elected, he made a radical stand. He took a stand in one of his first speeches after the election. He proclaimed the annihilation of Israel must happen. We are talking about a twenty-first century President of one of the most powerful nations of the earth. Iran is a mighty nation Iran. Here is what he said; let's read this. This will terrify you in the natural, and it will excite you in the spirit. You can kind of sort it out in your E12 group. He called for Israel to be wiped off of the map of the world. He did this publicly. He continued by proclaiming that with the help of Allah, of God Almighty with the help of Allah Islam. He said, "Islam will experience a world without America, or Israel." A world without America existing and without Israel is feasible and even possible, even now in this generation. The Islamic nations, many of them were terrified; but many of them, the extremist applauded fanatically. I do not mean just at a meeting, many applauding at the meeting, but I am talking about throughout the land. He said, "America—it is possible to completely remove Americans, if we bond together. That is his cry, not just Israel, America as well." He is absolutely serious about this.

IRAN IS A CENTRAL POWER BASE FOR ISLAMIC RELIGION

Paragraph C. What it is saying is that they are on an aggressive program to develop a nuclear program, in several different authorities and different nations. They are terrified by this. They are expected to have the final stages of their nuclear program to where the nuclear weapons work by end of 2006.

Russia is helping them aggressively. Russia is helping them right now. President Bush is very alarmed by this. Israel is really alarmed by this. They said that they would have nuclear weapons by 2006— by the end of the year. Let's say that they are off a year. OK, it is 2007, a minute later. A nation that believes Israel has no right to exist will have nuclear weapons in their hands. Russia is helping them right now along with the Hamas, and the government right there in the land. We will look at that in a moment. Again, I am not going to cover it in depth; I will just barely touch it back there on page four. Right there in Israel, in the Gaza strip. Just a few miles from Jerusalem, you know just about a half an inch on the map or less—just about that far away. They are right there in the land saying, "We want to exterminate Israel," and they are working with Iran. They are working together. They say, "Hey, we have got territory now. You can put some of your stuff in our area. The Gaza strip is ours; nobody can invade it. You can come, and set up some of your operations. Let's help each other."

IRAN'S PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WILL USE FULL VIOLENCE

Paragraph D. Iran's President just recently has openly announced that he will use the full degree of violence necessary to reach Islam's highest goal of Jihad, holy war. His highest goal is holy war again, as the United States is big. He said, "We will use the full degree of violence to engage in Jihad—a holy war to completely eliminate these nations." Obviously, America has got a lot of weapons—that is a big statement. My point is not that his statement is going to happen. It is not going to happen. My statement is that there is going to be a lot of trouble because nations are going to move in these directions.

THINK OF MASS DESTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS STRIKING

Point number one under paragraph C. Mass destruction, let's fast forward. Let's not worry about 2006 and 2007, like some of these authorities say. Let's just say it is ten more years: I mean just put another minute later. Ten years will be here in a minute, either way it goes. Think about the political landscape of what is happening in the Middle East. A couple of these nations get nuclear capabilities. Remember Iran: it is a prince, demon, and it is a powerful demon breathing on this man's mind. I think of like a dragon with hot fire breathing on his mind to inspire his spirit in evil. It is not just a man with logic. He is already drunk; he has touched Jerusalem, and he is drunk right now. He has no logic.

Think about a couple of these nations getting together, and it is not airplanes into the world trade center; it is three or four cities that have a nuclear weapon strike all in the same hour. It is not four airplanes: three made it, and one hit the ground. It is not four airplanes hitting a target within an hour or two or three.

What if it is that three or four nuclear warheads are released? Imagine one hitting Washington DC, one hitting New York, Jerusalem, London, or Frankfurt? What if it is that three or four major cities all are hit in one day? Just like September 11, 2001, but on a far greater level; imagine the chaos to the planet. Again, Jerusalem, this will be about Jerusalem. God will make Jerusalem heavy as a stone. This issue of Jerusalem will disrupt the economies in all the countries in the earth.

ISRAEL WILL FEEL THE PRESSURE TO MAKE PREEMPTIVE STRIKE

Paragraph E. Israel feels the pressure right now. They were talking about this a lot this last day, or two. They have been here for the last weeks. Everybody who I talk to in DC, which is very few people, there are millions there, but I only talk to a couple of them. The buzz is, "What is going to happen?" The pressure that Israel feels to make a preemptive strike is just intense. Right now, if the United Nations cannot make sense with these guys, Israel has no other option, but to take a preemptive strike and send a missile to them before Iran sends a missile to Israel.

You will remember a decade ago, they did this with a man named Saddam Hussein. They had a preemptive strike because they thought he was developing nuclear weapons, and he was. They blew up the stuff, and everybody got really mad at Israel. Twenty years later, everybody says, "Israel, good move. That guy turned out really mean. Back then, we did not know he was mean. We were mad at you." Twenty years later, imagine the Gulf War with nuclear warheads in Saddam Hussein's hand. Iran is a year away, maybe two, maybe three, if they get delay.

Beloved, that is a minute any way. Israel has done these preemptive strikes. If Israel does a preemptive strike, and right now that is on the minds of many, there are lots of debates and conflict. One camp is saying, "If we do not do this, they are going to annihilate us." We will not have the morning after to strike them back.

What would the Islamic nations do who hate Israel, but they are kind of thinking, "We have other things on our mind. Our national economies, we hate Israel, but we are doing other things." If Israel hit a preemptive strike, it would so galvanize, it would so unify the Islamic nations and Russia in a heartbeat. Beloved, we are minutes away from this sort of thing happening. What happened in October 2005 when this man became President in Iran, and Hamas got into power a week ago makes the world scene very different. It is like there is about to be a match dropped on the dry wood. It is set up. It was always there in spirit, but I am telling you the situation is right now ready to act on.

THE SECOND FACTOR INCREASING DANGER TO WORLD PEACE IS HAMAS

Paragraph G. The second factor is the Hamas party. I just laid out a few terms there; there are two main parties. You can read that on your own. I do not want to go through that, I just wanted to point it out to you. The Fatah and the Hamas parties are the two parties in the Palestinian authority right there in the land of Israel.

The Palestinians: they have about 1.2 million Palestinians over there in the Gaza strip area. They have an authority structure over them, and they have got a structure through the land. One group, they all hate Israel, but one group is far more conservative, secular, and nationalistic. Another group are religious fanatics and zealous terrorists; they are the ones who are now in power for the first time as of a week ago. They are in power, and they are talking to Iran. They are buddies. That is a strange way to say it, but they have a history of working together. They are now in power and things are heating up. Beloved, we have come into the kingdom.

MINISTRY TIME

I am going to end with that. Let's stand. Read that on your own. We have come into the kingdom for such a time as this. It was like this is a sign of the times; is like right in front of us. Things are really heating up in these days. I am just going to have us wait before the Lord for a minute even without the instruments. Let's just stand before the Lord for a minute. I realize it is late; we are going to end in just a few moments probably. Let's just ask the Lord to touch our hearts here. Beloved, we have come to the kingdom for such a time as this. The words that I spoke to this man the other day are real. We are in this thing together. The Body of Christ, the Captain of our Army whose name is Jesus is going to help us. He is mandating us, but He is going to put grace on us. "Lord, here we are." Let's just wait before Him for a minute.



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