

### **(Section 4) ESTABLISHING THE VISION**

In section 3 we started to move past the gloom and doom to the glory. This included the destruction of the “*northern army*”(Joel 2:20), the establishment of Christ and his saints in Jerusalem and the area of Holy Oblation, to the preaching of the age lasting gospel seen as the former and latter rain in Joel 2:23.

Between the former and latter rains there are a number of major events including:

1. Cleansing the temple site - Dan. 8:14
2. Construction of Ezekiel's temple - Psa.48:2,12
3. 10 tribes gathered - Ezekiel 20:33-38
4. Israel greatly blessed - Joel 2:23-26
5. Nations confounded - Micah 7:16
6. Holy Spirit poured out - Joel 2:28

Before this vision in Joel can be clearly seen, it is necessary to first establish the sequence of events from Jesus' return to when his millennial reign begins. This involves so many Bible prophecies that it is needful to place them in chronological sequence.

#### **Keys to establishing this SEQUENCE:**

1. How Christ's 2nd coming is described both as a "*thief in the night*" and as "*lightning that shineth from one end of heaven to the other*".
2. That there is BOTH a **grain** and **grape** harvest upon Christ's return.
3. The "*Marriage of the Lamb*", the "*Marriage Supper*" and the "*Supper of the Great God*".

Establishing these keys is not as involved as one might think, and once done, many Bible prophecies of the future can be sequenced to fit like pieces to a puzzle.

Seven times one is warned in the New Testament that Jesus returns as a THIEF. In Matthew and Luke, it is Jesus who warns, in 1 Thessalonians it is Paul the apostle, in 1 Peter 3 it is the apostle Peter and the apostle John warns twice in the Revelation.

#### **SEVEN TIMES – Jesus returns as a THIEF!**

1. Matt.24:43 --- "*What watch the THIEF come*"
2. Luke 12:39 --- "*What hour the THIEF come*"
3. 1Thes.5:2 ----- "*Lord so cometh as a THIEF*"
4. 1Thes.5:4 ----- "*Day should overtake as a THIEF*"
5. 1Pe.3:10 ----- "*Watch, I will come as a THIEF*"
6. Rev.3:3 ----- "*Watch, I will come ... as a THIEF*"
7. Rev.16:15 ---- "*Behold, I come as a THIEF*"

Scripture is clear, Jesus will return as a “*thief*”, but there is still confusion, for Jesus' words in his Olivet prophecy seem to contradict, showing his return is dramatic as lightning.

**Jesus appears to the world as LIGHTNING!**

- *MAT 24:27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.*
- *ISA 30:30 And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall show the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.*
- *JOEL 2:2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong;*

The answer is when Jesus returns from heaven, he returns as a "thief" to gather the responsible to judgment. It is AFTER this, at Armageddon he appears to the world as "lightning" and with his saints who are symbolized as the "clouds of heaven" (Mt. 24:30; Mk.14:62).

**The SAINTS, a great cloud of witnesses:**

- *Rev. 1:7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.*
- *Heb. 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,*

The second key is to establish upon Jesus' return there are **two harvests** that correspond to **two different judgments** that occur at **two different times**. These two different harvests are easily seen in Rev. 14:15-18:

**TWO HARVESTS: (1) The GRAIN harvest and (2) The GRAPE harvest.**

- *REV 14:15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. 16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.*
- *REV 14:18 And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.*

This reaping is described in more detail in Rev. 16 by the last **two** Vial judgments poured out by **two** separate angels. The 6<sup>th</sup> vial includes and **ends** with Armageddon. The 7<sup>th</sup> vial is poured upon "Babylon the Great". It is important to note that each of the seals, trumpets and vials are specific and defined to a period of time. The same is true with the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> vial and to not confuse Armageddon with the destruction of "Babylon the Great". In Revelation 16, there are seven vials that correspond to seven judgments poured out, one after the other. Armageddon concludes the 6th vial judgment and then ANOTHER angel pours out his vial upon "Babylon the Great".

This separation between the 6th and 7th vial is confirmed for "Armageddon" means in the "HEBREW" tongue, heap of sheaves, NOT heap of grapes. Therefore it is tied with the grain harvest and not the grape harvest. The grape harvest is described in the 7th vial as the "wine of the fierceness of God's wrath".

**TWO separate judgments upon Jesus' return:**

- God's 6<sup>th</sup> vial judgement:
  - *REV 16:12 And the sixth angel poured out his vial ...*
  - *REV 16:16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon <717>*
  - 717 Armageddon {ar-mag-ed-dohn'} of Hebrew origin, n AV - Armageddon 1; 1
    - (6194) "armemah" = a heap of sheaves (Ruth 3:7)
    - (1516) "gay" = gorge (Zech 14:4)
    - (1777) "duwn" = judge (Psa.9:8).
- God's 7<sup>th</sup> vial judgement:
  - *REV 16:17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial ...*
  - *REV 16:19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.*

These two judgment are also noted in the last book and chapter of the Old Testament where Armageddon in Mal. 4:1 is pictured as a day that "*burneth as an oven*" and the wicked as "*stubble*" which is burnt up. Then in Mal. 4:5, reference is made to the "*great and dreadful <3372> day of the LORD*" or as expressed in Joel 2:31, the "*great and terrible <3372> day of the LORD*".

- 3372 yare' {yaw-ray'} a primitive root; v AV - fear 188, afraid 78, terrible 23, terrible thing 6, dreadful 5, reverence 3, fearful 2, terrible acts 1, misc. 8; 314

**TWO different days: (1) "The day that shall burn as an oven" and (2) The "great and dreadful day".**

- *MAL 4:1 For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.*
- *MAL 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:*

These two different days in Joel 2:1,5,20 and Joel 2:31;3:13 are differentiated with the word "*stubble*" in Joel 2:5 and "*press*" in Joel 3:13. The grape harvest is covered in considerable detail in section 6.

**TWO days – TWO vials --TWO judgements – TWO harvests:**

Revelation 14:14-15	Grain harvest	6 <sup>th</sup> Vial	"thrust in thy sickle, and reap"
Revelation 14:18-19	Grape harvest	7 <sup>th</sup> Vial	"... thy sickle and gather the vine"
Joel 2:1	Grain harvest	6 <sup>th</sup> Vial	"the day of the LORD cometh"
Joel 2:5	Grain harvest	6 <sup>th</sup> Vial	"... fire that devoureth the stubble"
Joel 2:20	Grain harvest	6 <sup>th</sup> Vial	"... far off from you the northern army"
Joel 2:31	Grape harvest	7 <sup>th</sup> Vial	"great & terrible day of the LORD"
Joel 3:13	Grape harvest	7 <sup>th</sup> Vial	"the sickle ... the press is full"
Malachi 4:1	Grain harvest	6 <sup>th</sup> Vial	Wicked ... "shall be stubble"
Malachi 4:5	Grape harvest	7 <sup>th</sup> Vial	"great & dreadful day of the LORD"
Isaiah 26:20-27:2	Grape harvest	7 <sup>th</sup> Vial	"a vineyard of red wine"
Jeremiah 25:15-38	Grape harvest	7 <sup>th</sup> Vial	"shout, as they that tread the grapes"

The prophet Jeremiah details the “*great and dreadful day of the LORD*” in Jer. 25:15-38 and the prophet Isaiah doeth the same in Isa. 26:20-Isa. 27:2.

**The “great and terrible/dreadful day of the LORD”:**

- *Jer. 25:30 ... The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth. (Verse 33) And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth:...*
- *Isa. 26:21 For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.*
- *Isa. 27:2 In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine.*  
*This and since in Israel the GRAIN harvest occurs in summer and the GRAPE harvest in fall, this shows the battle of Armageddon (“sheaves”) occurs in the 6<sup>th</sup> Vial and not the 7<sup>th</sup> Vial in Rev. 16.*

**The THIRD KEY involves establishing :**

- (1) The "marriage of the lamb" (Rev. 19:7,8).
- (2) The marriage supper (Rev. 19:9).
- (3) The supper of the great God (Rev. 19:17).

The marriage of the lamb is the marriage of Christ and his ecclesia, which follows the resurrection and judgment and is thought to take place at Mount Sinai in Arabia (**Appendix # 2**), as did the marriage of God and Israel.

**The marriage covenant between God and Israel near Mt. Sinai in Arabia:**

- *Exodus 19:5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:*
- *Ezekiel 16:8 Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.*

The marriage of Christ with his saints at Mt. Sinai is further supported by five references describing Jesus coming from that area with his saints. These verses are Deu.33:1-3; Psa.68:17; S.S. 3:6; Isa. 16:1; Hab. 3:3. Many scholars and archeologists believe that Mt. Sinai may be in Arabia in the land of Median because of Gal. 4:25; Hab. 3:7 and Exo. 3:1. (see **Appendix #2**)

**The marriage of Christ and his ecclesia:**

- *REV 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.*

**Weddings in the first century normally included three stages:**

- (1) The legal consummation of the marriage by the parents of the bride and of the groom, with the payment of the dowry.
- (2) Wedding procession – the friends and groom come to meet the bride and her attendants, usually at night as illustrated in Matt. 25:1-13 in the familiar parable of the 10 Virgins).
- (3) The wedding supper (illustrated in John 2:1-11) which was a several-day feast following the previous phases of the wedding.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of the marriage of Christ and his saints, there is “fear in the (gentile) night” (S.S. 3:8) and a call goes forth for the lamb (Isa.16:1). Jesus Christ (the lamb, Rev. 13:8) with thousands of his saints (Deu. 33:1) leaves Mt. Sinai and comes up through the “wilderness” to deliver the “daughter of Zion”, (S.S. 3:6-11). But “*what of the night*”, (Isa. 21:11,12) just before Zion’s glad morning? The “daughter of Zion” is in deep trouble for the “northern army” has destroyed two thirds of her people and occupies her capital (Eze.38:15,16; Zec. 13:8; Dan. 11:45).

Christ comes with his saints “*unto the daughter of Zion*” (Isa.16:1). The “*mount of Olives*” splits in two (Zech. 14:4) allowing the “*daughters of Zion*” (S.S. 3:8) to flee forth through the “*valley of the mountains*”, (Zech 14:5). The “*lamb*” now “*lion*” (Rev.5:5;13:8) judges the “*northern army*” (Eze. 38:15,21,22) which becomes “*stubble*” (Mal.4:1). After Armageddon (“*heap of sheaves in the valley of judgment*”) Jesus is magnified “*in the eyes of many nations*” (Eze. 38:23) and inherits the “*throne of his father David*”, (Luke 1:32).

**After the marriage of Jesus and his ecclesia:**

- *Isa. 16:1 Send ye the lamb to the ruler of the land from Sela to the wilderness, unto the mount of the daughter of Zion.*
- *Song of Solomon 3:8 They all hold swords, being expert in war: every man hath his sword upon his thigh because of fear in the night.*
- *Zechariah 14:4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*
- *Luke 1:32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:*

The gospel (Rev.14:6) will then be preached to the whole world and, an invitation will be issued throughout the “highways” of the nations to the “*MARRIAGE SUPPER of the lamb*”.

**The "Marriage SUPPER of the lamb":**

- *REV 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.*
- *Matt. 22:9 (NRSV) Go therefore into the main streets (highways), and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' 10 Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.*

The marriage supper FOLLOWS the first stage of the marriage thought to be in Sinai in Arabia. After this marriage between Christ and his saints, Jesus comes with his saints to deliver Israel at Armageddon. Following Armageddon and Jesus inheriting David's throne, the gospel will go forth to the whole world and with it, the invitation to the "marriage supper" which is thought to take place in Jerusalem.

This marriage supper of the lamb is **NOT** however the "SUPPER OF THE GREAT GOD" described in Rev. 19:17 and Eze. 39:17-20.

#### **The "SUPPER of the GREAT GOD"**

- *REV 19:17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;*
- *REV 19:21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.*

Here the "fowls" (nations) are commanded with a "loud voice" to the "Supper of the Great God", and those nations that do not come, will be gobbled up (verse 21). The language is grotesque and leaves no doubt what will happen to those nations that still opposed Jesus. Eze. 39:17 is a parallel account, however its Rev. 19:19 that details WHO the final opposition, namely: "beast" and "false prophet."

#### **The "SUPPER of the GREAT GOD":**

- *EZE 39:17 And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood..*
- *REV 19:17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;*
- *REV 19:19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.*

So the "Supper of the Great God" is very different from the "Marriage of the Lamb" that happens before the hour of God's judgment (Rev. 18:10).

Once these three keys are seen, the many, many Bible prophecies that describe the period between Christ's return and the beginning of the Millennium can be sequenced. This in turn is the key to seeing Joel's vision explained along with many other Bible prophecies thus providing exhortation and hope from which faith is built.

This can be illustrated by referencing Luke 12:35-37.

#### **When Jesus returns from the wedding"**

- *LUKE 12:35 Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; 36 And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from <1537> the wedding<1062>; that*

*when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. 37 Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.*

- 1537 "ek" prep. denoting origin (the point whence motion or action proceeds)
- 1062 "gamos" from 1060 "gameo" to wed. Used in Lk.14:8; Jn.2:1,2; Heb. 13:4

Today, with Jesus' return so close, it is most important to have OUR lamps burning brightly, but to really burn brightly we need to be able to answer the basic questions in this parable. For example, what about the phrase: *"when he will return from the wedding"*? Doesn't the wedding include the *"men that wait for their Lord"* as the bride, and would not the saints be with Christ when he returns from the wedding? Who are these men who wait for their Lord?

In checking this phrase, it does support the theory that Jesus has departed from the wedding, for the Greek preposition is "ek", meaning coming from the point of origin, which in this verse is "gamos" the wedding which includes the marriage supper.

Yes this is a parable, and the lesson is being ready, but that being said, -- our lights don't shine as bright when the details don't quite fit. If, however, we make the prime dimension of this parable to apply within the context of AFTER *"Armageddon"* and BEFORE the *"great and terrible day of the LORD"*, this parable immediately lights up! Also notice Lk.12:37 that these servants are invited to sit down to meat, which has the spiritual meaning of being given understanding of God's word, Heb. 5:14. This fits well Joel 2:23 when the *"former and latter rain"* is given, but we are getting ahead of our self. Coming back to our suggested sequence of Bible prophecies lets see what is ahead.

### **SUGGESTED PROPHETIC SEQUENCE:**

This begins a major section involving many Bible prophecies that when all fit together gives an amazing detailed picture of what is to come upon Jesus' return.

- Items labeled "a" through "d" have started or may start before Jesus' return as a thief.

#### **(a) The rebirth of the Israeli Nation:**

- *EZE. 36:22 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. 23 And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes. 24 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.*
- *EZE. 37:22 And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:*

The rebirth of the Israeli nation in 1948 is the number one sign to our generation that Jesus is about to return. Jesus in his Olivet prophecy drew the parable of the fig tree to illustrate this and make the

point that the generation that witnessed the fig tree put on leaves (symbolic of Israel becoming a nation) would also witness his coming.

**(b) Zarephath in Lebanon!**

- *OBADIAH 1:20,21 And the captivity of this host of the children of Israel shall possess that of the Canaanites, even unto Zarephath; and the captivity of Jerusalem, which is in Sepharad, shall possess the cities of the south. And saviours shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the LORD'S.*

On June 6, 1982 sixty thousand Israeli troops invaded Lebanon and took control of Southern Lebanon. On May 17, 1983 a peace treaty was made and Israel withdrew their forces to a special security zone just south of Sur (Tyre). The Prophecy of Obadiah says, when the exiled Jews possess Israel, they would do so unto Zarephath which is between Tyre and Sidon. Today we see signs of this prophecy being fulfilled but like Ezekiel's prophecy of Tyre, the full fulfillment comes when the "saviours" (Jesus with his saints) shall come and Mt. Zion is elevated.

**(c) Isaiah chapter 19 – A MODERN PROPHECY AGAINST EGYPT:**

- Verse 2 Civil War
- Verse 4 A "cruel Lord" to rule
- Verse 17 Israel a terror unto Egypt
- Verse 18 Five cities to speak the language of Israel
- Verse 20 Delivered by Christ
- Verse 23 One with Israel and Syria in the Kingdom

Egypt has yet to experience the full fulfillment of the prophecy contained in Isaiah 19. Today it is easy to see that this prophecy could be fulfilled in a way similar to what occurred in Iran in 1979 when the Shah (Mohammad Reza Pahlavi) and his Pahlavi Dynasty was replaced by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and Iran became a Shiite Islamic republic.

Egypt today has a strong Shiite Islamic group that could try to gain control. This could cause civil war and a "*cruel*" Shiite "*lord*" taking control of part of Egypt. This in turn could easily involve Israel fulfilling Isaiah 19 where she controls five cities of Egypt. This state would continue until Christ and the saints delivered Egypt from the "*cruel Lord*".

**(d) Syria – DAMASCUS DESTROYED BY ISRAEL:**

*ISA 17:1 The burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap. V.3 The fortress also shall cease from Ephraim, and the kingdom from Damascus, and the remnant of Syria: they shall be as the glory of the children of Israel, saith the LORD of hosts. V.7 At that day shall a man look to his Maker, and his eyes shall have respect to the Holy One of Israel. V.9 In that day shall his strong cities be as a forsaken bough, and an uppermost*



*branch, which they left because of the children of Israel: and there shall be desolation. 13 The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters: but God shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.*

Isaiah chapter 17 has both a partial and full fulfillment. There is a partial fulfillment when Damascus fell to the Assyrians under Tiglathpileser III in 732 BC and its populous carried captive to Elam and the famous orchards of Damascus destroyed. But there is a full fulfillment coming “*in that day*”... “*because of the children of Israel.*” The phrase “*in that day*”, verses 7,9,11, precedes the “*harvest*” when the nations in verse 13 become as the “*chaff of the mountains*”.

When and how “*the children of Israel*” will cause Damascus to be made a “*ruinous heap*” and if this happens before or after Jesus’ return as a “*thief*” isn’t given. Scripture is so designed that one can’t say. There is a good reason for if this could be established to happen before Jesus’ return, it could cause delay in people making their decision to serve God until after Damascus was made a “*ruinous heap*”.

The book, The Samson Option, by Seymour M. Hersh, Ed. 1, pages 216-217 has a paragraph that may give insight to how Damascus will be made “*a ruinous heap*”.

*“The Israelis also had contracted with Dr. Gerald Bull, a controversial Canadian arms designer, for the supply of specially configured artillery shells whose range was extended as much as 25%. There were some American weapons experts who understood what Israel’s real goal had to be, given the inaccuracy of an artillery shell fired at such long range. ‘If you’re going forty-five miles and precision is 3% of range, explained one expert, ‘what would you hit with the HE (high explosive) shell? Nothing much. You’d need a nuclear weapon.’ This American, who was senior official at one of the U.S. Army’s weapon testing facilities, had visited Israel in 1973 and had been told of the intended use of the long-range cannons, information he dutifully reported to U.S. intelligence. There also were suggestions, added the American, that Israel had targeted Damascus, Syria’s capital, with the special cannons during the Yom Kippur War. Washington got the message. A senior state department intelligence official recalled widespread concern in the early 1970’s over the ambitious Israeli artillery program. ‘Our supposition was that they’d developed a miniaturized (nuclear) artillery shell and wanted to test it,’ the official said.”*

Jesus in his Olivet prophecy echoes the language of Isaiah 17:12,13, warning in Luke 21 “*in that day*” there would be “*distress of nations with perplexity*” the “*sea and waves roaring*”, “*men’s hearts failing them for fear*”. V.28 says “*when these things begin to come to pass to pray “that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these thing”, (Luke 21:24-27,36).*

Jesus’ statement, “*that ye may be accounted worthy to escape these things*” may give a clue that Damascus will be laid heaps after his return but we can’t be sure for we don’t know if Damascus is included in Luke 21:36, “*all of these things*”. An interesting aside that helps us to be awake and watching is, Jesus returns as a “*thief*” when “*these things begin*” to come to pass.

### **A 50 year sequence of events upon Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming:**

The following section begins with Jesus' return as a "thief" and covers up until the millennium begins. This section is divided into eighteen events covering a space of fifty years. Why fifty years, the answer is based on Lev. 25:9; Micah 7:15; and Rev. 18:10.

#### **The JUBILEE:**

- *Lev. 25:8 And thou shalt number seven sabbaths of years unto thee, seven times seven years; and the space of the seven sabbaths of years shall be unto thee forty and nine years. 9 Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. 10 And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubilee unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family. 11 A jubile shall that fiftieth year be unto you: Ye shall not sow, neither reap that which groweth of itself in it, nor gather the grapes in it of thy vine undressed.*

Because of Leviticus 25 with the "seven sabbaths of years" (v.8), and "a jubilee shall be that fiftieth year" (v.11), it suggests God works using Jubilee cycles. Verification is found in Israel's history (Isa. 61:2) and in the future in Eze. 46:17 for, in the kingdom age, the "year of liberty" (Jubilee) is used.

- *Isaiah 61:2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;*
- The "acceptable year of the LORD" is interpreted as the jubilee.
- *Ezekiel 46:17 But if he give a gift of his inheritance to one of his servants, then it shall be his to the year of liberty; after it shall return to the prince: but his inheritance shall be his sons' for them. (The "year of liberty" is interpreted as the jubilee.)*

Next, in answering the question, why fifty years, Micah 7:14,15 is referenced to support forty of the fifty years.

Micah 7:15 the phrase "according to the days" is translated "in the days" in v.14. This helps to establish this includes the forty years in the wilderness. This Stephen further qualifies in Acts 7:36 to also include the signs and wonders in the land of Egypt.

#### **"According to the DAYS of thy coming out of Egypt"**

- *MIC 7:14 Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old. 15 According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I show unto him marvellous things. 16 The nations shall see and be confounded at all their might: they shall lay their hand upon their mouth, their ears shall be deaf.*
- Rod is a symbol of Jesus as seen in Isaiah 11:1,4, as the "rod of Jesse".

- Ezekiel 20:35,37 is a future prophecy where Israel is brought into the "wilderness of the people" and passed under the "rod".
- The number "forty" in scripture is the number of probation, Jonah.3:4.
- Acts 7:36 He brought them out, after that he had showed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red Sea, and in the wilderness forty years.
  - The "forty years" includes the wonders and signs in Egypt and the years wandering in the wilderness.

### **SUGGESTED SEQUENCE UPON CHRIST'S 2<sup>ND</sup> COMING:**

#### **(1) The return of Jesus as a "THIEF"!**

- *REV 16:15 Behold, I come as a thief <2812>. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.*
- *1TH 5:2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief <2812> in the night.*
- *2 PETER 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief <2812> in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. \* 2812 "kleptes"; n m AV – thief 16; 16*

The seven fold warning in the New Testament of Jesus' return using the analogy of a "thief" is designed to keep his elect awake and ready. How better to do this than an analogy which Christ's brethren and sisters would have difficulty with, not that they don't understand that a thief comes when one is unaware, but the linking of Jesus and a thief! The two just don't go together and if there were any other better analogy to alert, it would have been used. This shows how important this message is, for Christ's brethren must not get sleepy or "lose their garments" (Rev. 16:15) during the long Gentile night. Jesus returns as a thief when he is not expected by the world.

Jesus' disciples just before his crucifixion got sleepy and couldn't stay awake. Yes they had just eaten a big meal and it was late but if they had understood their Old Testament prophecies of what was about to happen they would have been wide awake. The same holds for Jesus' disciples at his return. Here God's prophetic word is like a "light that shineth in a dark place" and the clearer this light is seen, the wider awake his disciples will be.

#### **(2) The Resurrection and Judgment of the Responsible:**

Upon Jesus' return, there will be the resurrection and judgment of the responsible. The responsible are those who know the revealed will of God, and have been called upon to submit to it. Those who are faithful, having obeyed God, will be exalted to reign with Jesus as joint heirs in the kingdom of God to come upon earth.

- *John 12:48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.*
- *1Pe.4:5 Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead. 6 For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.*
- *2 Cor. 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad..*
- *Acts 24:15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.*
- *2 Timothy 4:1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;*
- *Daniel 12:2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.*
  - There are three classifications of people: (1) those not responsible (Psalms 49:20) who will not awake, (2) those of the “*many*” (Dan 12:2) who awake and are blessed with “*everlasting life*”, (3) those responsible who awake and found “*unjust*” (Acts 24:15).

The responsible dead (“*in Christ*”) from 1Thes 4:15,16 “*arise first*” to proceed those who are alive at Jesus’ return as a thief. Here some think that the awakened responsible dead will be the messengers sent to call the responsible living to the judgment seat.

- *1THES. 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent <5348> them which are asleep. 16 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:*
  - 5348 "phthano" {fthan'-o} apparently a primary verb; v. AV - come 4, already attain 1, attain 1, attain 1, prevent 1; 7. ( 1) to come before, precede, anticipate

### **(3) The Judgment Seat AT MOUNT SINAI?**

The judgment seat of Christ is thought to take place in the area of Mt. Sinai, following in type, Israel coming out of Egypt and God making a marriage covenant with them at Mt. Sinai before they entered the promise land. This type is supported with several passages showing Jesus with his saints coming from the wilderness to deliver Jerusalem. (See **Appendix #2** for location of Mt. Sinai in Arabia)

#### **(3a) Jesus arises with his saints from Sinai:**

- *DEU 33:2 And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them.*

- *PSA 68:17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place.*
- *HAB 3:3 God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.*
  - *See also Hab. 3:3-7: Song of Solomon 8:5-7*
  - *Mt. Sinai may be in Arabia, Gal. 4:25.*

Upon Jesus' return, the modern nations will echo the ancient nations when Israel fled Egypt. They will have heard that people have been raised and miraculous power is being used and that a judgment of some type taking place in the Sinai area, but because of major world problems these events will recede to the back pages. God often uses the past to foreshadow the future but the Rahab's of our world will see! (Joshua 2:10) This will help them in their acceptance of Jesus' when he later sits upon the "*throne of his father David*, (Luke 1:32).

#### **(4) The MARRIAGE of Christ and his ecclesia:**

- *Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.*
- *Ephesians 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*

Another marriage took place in Mt. Sinai many years ago between God and the nation of Israel. Exodus 19:5-8 speaks of the covenant made between God and Israel where they were made a special treasure unto Him, to become a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. Israel unfortunately broke this covenant. God first put her away (Isa. 50:1) and when this didn't work He divorced her, (Jer.3:8). Israel during the exile and to this day no longer embraced other gods like Baal, and although she has continued unfaithful to God, she didn't become another man's wife (Deu. 24:1-4). In the future she will be brought back under a new covenant, (Jer. 31:31-33).

#### **(4a) The marriage covenant between God and Israel:**

- *Exo. 19:5-8 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: 6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel. 7 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him. 8 And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.*
- *Isaiah 50:1 Thus saith the LORD, Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement (3748), whom I have put away (7971)? or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, and for your transgressions is your mother put away.*
- *Jeremiah 3:8 And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed*

*adultery I had put her away (7971), and given her a bill of divorce (3748); yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also.*

- *Jeremiah 31:31 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: 32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: 33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

In the marriage of Christ and his ecclesia, unfaithfulness of the bride will not be a problem, for she will have made herself ready and been arrayed with immortality before the marriage. The nations will not be invited to the marriage. They will be invited however to the marriage supper which it thought to take place after Armageddon in Jerusalem.

#### **(5) ELIJAH sent to the nation of Israel:**

The future work of Elijah, in type was foreshadowed by John the Baptist, (Mal.3:1; Mt.11:10,14; Lk.7:27) in preparing the way for Jesus' 1<sup>st</sup> coming, but John was not Elijah. Elijah's future ministry is to prepare the Jews in Israel today for Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming (Mal.3:1). This is when Israel has "*gotten cattle and goods*" and " *dwell safely*", (Eze. 38:12-14). Israel has yet to dwell without "*bars*" or "*gates*" but today is rapidly developing the means to becoming rich. (See **Appendix #5**)

#### **(5a) Elijah foreshadowed by John the Baptist:**

- *MAL 3:1 Behold, I (God) will send my messenger, and he (Elijah) shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord (Christ), whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple (ecclesia), even the messenger of the (New) covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.*
- *MAT 11:10 For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.*
- *MAT 11:14 And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come.*
- *LK 7:27 This is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.*

#### **(5b) Israel has yet to dwell confidently:**

- *Ezekiel 38:12 To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land. 13 Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil? 14 Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth*

*safely*, (983 from 982 “batach” = “trust”, “confident”, “bold”) shalt thou not know it?

This description of Israel dwelling safely has yet to happen. Using a jubilee period, the timing of Gog’s invasion is thought to be about ten years after Jesus returns as a thief.

#### **(6) "Time of TROUBLE such as never was"**

*Daniel 12:1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.*

- The chapter epitome in Dan. 12:1 is detailed by several events that proceed, for example the resurrection, v.2, "many shall run to and fro" and "knowledge" increase, v.4. This order is very common in many Bible prophecies.
- *Luke 21:25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring;*

There are a number of Bible prophecies describing the events just before Armageddon. Ezekiel chapter 38 speaks of a confederacy of nations led by “Gog” that comes into the Middle East as a “cloud to cover the land”. The prophet Zechariah says that “Gog” will take Jerusalem and two thirds of Israel destroyed, (Zec.14:2; 13:8,9). The prophet Daniel says that “the king of the North” (Gog) will set his headquarters in Jerusalem and there shall be a “time of trouble, such as never was” (Dan.11:45;12:1) which in Rev. 16:16 is called “Armageddon”.

#### **(7) Gog, of the land of Russia to invade Israel!**

*Ezekiel 38:2 Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, 16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.*

- “Magog founded those that from him were named Magogites, but who by the Greeks are called Scythians.” (Quote from The Life and Works of Flavius Josephus, translated by W. Whiston, pub. Holt, Rinehart & Winston, book 1, chapter VI, p.40)
- Tracing the ancient Scythians as they moved from Asia to Europe helps to identify that Gog, "the land of Magog" describes the nation of Russia today. (**Appendix #4**, map from World of Herodotus)

#### **(7a) ARMAGEDDON – “heap of sheaves in the valley of judgment”**

- *Revelation 16:16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.*
- In the Hebrew language “**Armageddon**” is a composite of three Hebrew words:
  - (6194) “**armemah**” means “heap of sheaves” as translated in Ruth 3:7.

- (1516) “**gay**” means “gorge, valley” as translated in Zech. 14:4.
- (1777) “**duwn**” means judge as translated in Psa. 9:8.
- *Zechariah 14:2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.*
- *Zechariah 13:8 And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. 9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.*
- *Daniel 11:45 And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him*

Armageddon ends God’s 6<sup>th</sup> vial judgment poured out upon the Goggian confederacy which will come as “*a cloud*” destroying two thirds of Israel and setting its headquarters in Jerusalem. God then will judge this confederacy and destroy it. This judgment is called Armageddon for Gog is made a heap of sheaves in the valley of judgment. The details of this are found in several Bible prophecies including: Eze. 38:1-23; 39:1-16; Dan 11:45; Joel 2:1-11.

**(7b) God draws the Goggian confederacy into invading Israel.**

- *EZE 38:4 And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords:*
- Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal is drawn by God into the Middle East and once there with his confederate army decides to attack Israel, Eze. 38:9-13.
- *DAN 11:45 And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.*
- The “*king of the North*” (Gog) will make Jerusalem his headquarters but then God intervenes and the Goggian confederacy is destroyed.

**(7c) DIVINE Intervention at Armageddon:**

When the nations gathered “*against Jerusalem to battle*” (Zec. 14:2) and God’s earth is being destroyed (Rev. 11:18), the prophet Ezekiel in Eze. 38:18,19 describes God’s reaction and Joel 2:1-11 details His intervention.

**(7d) GOD will not allow MAN to destroy HIS earth!**

- *Zec. 14:2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, ... 3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought*



*in the day of battle. 12 Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet.*

- *Rev. 11:18 ... and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.*
- *Ezekiel 38:18 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. 19 For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;*
- *Joel 2:5 Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. 8 Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword they shall not be wounded.*

## **8. JESUS CHRIST REVEALED TO THE WORLD!**

When Jesus reveals himself to the world it will be with great power and authority. This side of Jesus as the “lion” compared to the “lamb” will cause the world great concern. The prophet Isaiah in his prophecy has counseled the nations to accept Jesus but his actions will be so different from his first coming that many will be troubled with his claim to be Jesus Christ.

### **(8a) Jesus manifested to the world with great power and authority!**

*ZEC 14:4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof ...*

- *MAT 24:27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. (See **Appendix 6** Olivet prophecy comparison of Matthew, Mark and Luke accounts which is necessary to divide the three questions, namely: when not one stone upon another, the sign of Jesus coming and the end of the age.)*
- *ISA 5:26 And he will lift up an ensign <5251> to the nations from far, and will hiss unto them from the end of the earth: and, behold, they shall come with speed swiftly:*
  - 5251 "nec" {nace} AV - standard 7, ensign 6, pole 2, banner 2, sail 2, sign 1; 20.
  - It is thought the "sign" that Jesus uses to make the claim that he is the Messiah is *the "wounds in his hands"* and his "pierced" side, (Zech. 13:7;12:10).
- *ISA 11:12 And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, ...*
- *ISA 18:3 All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye.*
- *ISA 11:10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, (Jesus) which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.*

### **(9) Jesus Christ makes JERUSALEM his capital:**

The nations will have difficulty recognizing the new leader of Israel as the “great king” (Psalms 48:2) of the earth, the “Son of the Highest” (Lk.1:32). They will go to Jerusalem and marvel seeing

Ezekiel's temple (Eze. 40-43) being built with "*the towers thereof*" (Psalms 48:12,13) but they will be "*troubled*" (Psalms 48:5) and "*haste away*". The reason they will be troubled is there will be a "*strong delusion*" (2Th.2:11) throughout the world that this world leader that sits upon David's throne is the Antichrist. This will be an especially strong delusion for many today look for such a world leader. In fact there are many books that promote this doctrine of a future Antichrist. (i.e. the *Left Behind* series.)

**(9a) Who is this world leader in Jerusalem?**

This "*great King*" isn't the Antichrist but the real Christ, who has returned to "*inherit the throne of his father David*". The nations will marvel but because of the strong delusion will be "*troubled*".

- *Psalm 48:2 Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.*
- *Psalm 48:5 They saw it, and so they marvelled; they were troubled, and hasted away.*
- *Psalm 48:12 Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof.*
- *Luke 1:32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him (Jesus Christ) the throne of his father David.*
- *Act 2:30 ... of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;*

**(10) The GOSPEL preached to the world:**

The good news of God's millennial kingdom will be proclaimed world wide (Rev. 14:6) and His holy spirit power will be poured out upon all flesh, (Joel 2:28). This will cause great joy paralleling that in Samaria many years ago (Acts 8:5-8). The resurrected saints will be directly involved in preaching the gospel to the world. This will echo Jesus' apostles in the 1<sup>st</sup> century.

**(10a) Good News for the World:**

- *REV 14:6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,*
- *Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:*

**(11) World Jewry gathered and brought under the new covenant:**

During the gospel proclamation, there will be a second exodus of world Jewry to the "*wilderness of the people*" (Eze. 20:34) echoing the Jews leaving Egypt under Moses. Here in the land of Bashan and Gilead (Mic.7:14,15; Psa.68:22) they will be brought under a new covenant (Jer.31:31) where God's law will be written "*in their heart*" and they will finally become the kingdom of priest as God intended in Exo. 19:6.

- *Ezekiel 20:34 And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out. 35 And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there*

*will I plead with you face to face. 37 And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant:*

- *Micah 7:14 Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old. 15 According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvellous things.*
- *Psalm 68:22 The Lord said, I will bring again from Bashan, I will bring my people again from the depths of the sea:*
- *Jeremiah 31:31 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: 32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: 33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

### **(12) Further invitation to the MARRIAGE SUPPER of Christ and his saints:**

During this period of joy there will go out an invitation to the marriage supper of Jesus and his saints Luke 14:22-23. As in the past the invitation isn't taken seriously as seen by the man without a wedding garment. The change from the past is seen in Mt. 22:13 in how this indifference will be dealt with! The people of the world will have difficulty with the authoritarian style of this new power in Jerusalem and resistance to it will grow.

- *Luke 14:22 And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. <sup>23</sup> And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.*
- *Matthew 22:13 <sup>13</sup> Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

### **(12a) Blessed are they which are called unto the Marriage Supper:**

- *Revelation 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.*

### **(13) Jesus upon David's throne judges the image nations:**

As this new power in Jerusalem grows throughout the earth, the nations are commanded to "the valley of Jehoshaphat" and divided between "sheep" and "goats" (Joel 3:2; Mt. 25:32). Many nations making up the image in Daniel 2 will resent this new authority in Jerusalem and have great difficulty with its solutions to world problems, i.e. the Palestinian problem, (see notes Joel 3:8). This will first prompt the ten finger nations in the image in Daniel 2 to take "crafty counsel" (Psa. 83:6-8)

against Israel and the “*hidden ones*” (saints) to drive Israel into the sea, (Psalms 83:3,4). This resistance will usher in the day of God’s vengeance (7<sup>th</sup> vial made up of 7 thunders) upon the image nations (Isa. 34:2-8; 63:1-4) for Jesus will be ruling in “*midst*” of “*enemies*”, (Psalms 110:2).

**(14) Jesus rules in the midst of enemies:**

- *Psalm 110:2 The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.*
- *Joel 3:2 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.*
- *Joel 3:8 And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they shall sell them to the Sabeans, to a people far off: for the LORD hath spoken it.*
- *Matthew 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

As the image in Daniel 2 had ten fingers, there is also another group of ten nations (Psa. 2:2) which also will take “*counsel*” against “*the LORD and against his anointed*” (Jesus). These ten toe nations of the image will see God’s judgments upon the nations that surround Israel as well as the destruction of their seven hill city (Rev. 18:8). This will cause them to “*rage*” and being deceived by a “*strong delusion*” (2Thes.2:11) will believe the “*lie*” that “*Jesus who has returned in the flesh*” is the Antichrist, (1Jn.4:3). At this point the image in Daniel 2 begins to rise “*together*” taking crafty *counsel against the LORD and His anointed*.

**(14a) TWO groups of ten nations troubled by the new king/judge in Jerusalem:**

The **TEN FINGER nations** of the image troubled by the new king/judge in Jerusalem.

- *Psalm 83:6 The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; 7 Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; 8 Assur ....*
- *Psalm 83:3 They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones. 4 They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.*
- *Isaiah 34:2 For the indignation of the LORD is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies: ... 5 For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. 6 The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, ...: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea ... 8 For it is the day of the LORD’S vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion.*
- Verses 2-8 establishes the context as “*the day of the LORD’s vengeance*” and the “*controversy of Zion*”. Jeremiah 25:31 shows this is the time of the grape harvest. This is confirmed in Isa. 63:1-4 by the phrases “*treadeth in the winefat*” and “*of the people there was*”

none with me."

- *Isaiah 63:1 Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. 2 Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? 3 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.*
- None of the surrounding nations will be with Christ as the fingers of the image in Daniel are dealt with beginning the hour of God's judgment.

The **TEN TOE nations** of the image troubled by the new KING/JUDGE in Jerusalem. As already mentioned this group of ten nations will be drunk by a "*strong delusion*" into thinking that Israel's "*great king*" reigning in Jerusalem is the Antichrist, the incarnation of Satan. Unfortunately these lies today are well entrenched dating back at least to the Reformation when the historical interpretation of the Revelation was gradually replaced with a future interpretation of the Revelation. This interpretation includes the coming of a future world leader known as the Antichrist. Today this future Antichrist delusion is widely believed therefore it is not difficult to interpret the Psalmist, that many nations will "*take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed*". The anointed here is the Lord Jesus Christ who has returned with an immortal flesh spirit body as compared to our mortal body of flesh and blood.

- *1 John 4:2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.*
- *Psalms 2:1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,*
- *2Thes. 2:11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:*

### **(15) The SUPPER of the GREAT GOD:**

The "*supper of the great God*" is a war counsel and the nations which come, will consume the nations (Rev.19:16-18; Eze. 39:17) that oppose Jesus being "*king of kings and Lord of Lords*". This takes place towards the end of the hour of God's judgment, Rev. 17:12.

- *Revelation 19:16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. 17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.*

- *EZE 39:17 And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood.*
- *Revelation 17:12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.*

### **(16) “Christ ROARS out of Zion”**

For the LORD to roar *out of Zion* he must previously have been established there, therefore this occurs **after** Armageddon. Alone the same line in order for the LORD to *sit to judge*, he must have been previously established there.

After the “*supper of the great God*”, Jesus will “*roar out of Zion*” (Joel 3:16; Jer.25:30) against all of the inhabitation of the earth.” Jesus now commands allegiance from Jerusalem, for the inhabitation of the earth will have been given every opportunity to accept him as Messiah and still they will take counsel against his Father and himself, (Psa. 2:2; Rev. 19:19). This will infuriate the “*lion*” of the tribe of Judah (Gen.49:9-11), and as he overthrew the money changers, he will go forth to overthrow all political opposition that his Father’s will might “*be done in earth as in heaven*”, (Mat. 6:10).

- *JOEL 3:16 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.*
- *JER 25:30 Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth.*
- *Joel 3:12 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.*
- *Psalm 2:2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,*
- *Revelation 19:19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.*
- *Genesis 49:9 Judah is a lion’s whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? 10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be. 11 Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass’s colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes.*

### **(17) The “GREAT AND TERRIBLE DAY OF THE LORD” ( winepress judgment):**

This “*winepress*” judgment (Rev. 19:15) will be poured (Rev. 16:17-21) upon “*great Babylon*”. This will encompass the whole image in Daniel 2 including its ecclesiastical and political systems throughout the world. All will be completely destroyed in the “*lake of fire*” (Revelation19:20)

- *Revelation 19:15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God..*
- *Revelation 16:17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. 18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. 20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.*
- *Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.*
  - *Daniel 2:35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.*



- This "beast" has seven heads made up as seen in Rev. 13:2 of a Babylonian lion head, a Medo-Persian bear head, four Greek leopard heads, and a Roman head.
- This ties this beast with Dan.7 which parallels the image in Daniel 2.
- Daniel 2:35 shows the image falls "together", therefore it must stand all together against Jesus.

### **(18) ALL NATIONS SUBMIT TO JESUS CHRIST - the millennium begins!**

At the beginning of the millennium there will be no political opposition to Jesus. All nations will serve him and obey his laws.

- *ISA 2:2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.*

- *JER 3:17 At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart.*
- *PSA.72:11 Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.*

### **(19) The MILLENNIAL kingdom:**

#### **THE KING – The Lord Jesus Christ:**

- *Luke 1:32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:*
- *John 18:37 Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.*

#### **THE MILLENNIAL RULERS – the saints:**

- *Revelation 5:10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.*
- *Matthew 19:28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel .*

#### **THE MILLENNIAL SUBJECTS – “the remnant”:**

- *Joel 2:32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.*
- *Zechariah 14:16 And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles .*

#### **THE MILLENNIAL PRIESTS – immortal and mortal:**

- *Ezekiel 44:15 But the priests the Levites, the sons of Zadok, that kept the charge of my sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from me, they shall come near to me to minister unto me, and they shall stand before me to offer unto me the fat and the blood, saith the Lord GOD:*
- *Ezekiel 44:10 And the Levites that are gone away far from me, when Israel went astray, which went astray away from me after their idols; they shall even bear their iniquity. 11 Yet they shall be ministers in my sanctuary, having charge at the gates of the house, and ministering to the house: they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister unto them.*

#### **THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM – the laws:**



- *Micah 4:3 And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*
- *Jeremiah 31:33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

**THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM - the territory:**

- *Matthew 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.*
- *Psalms 72:8 He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.*

Here referenced are many Bible prophecies which when placed in sequence give an amazingly detailed, important picture of what is to come. The clearer this vision becomes the stronger our faith and the brighter our lamps burn. This sequence is also very helpful in finishing Joel chapter 2 and interpreting Joel chapter 3.

**Pages 40-54 in chart form**

Sequence	Scripture	Event
<b>1</b>	Revelations 16:15; 1Thessalonians 5:2; 2Peter 3:10	Return of Jesus as a thief
<b>2</b>	2Corinthians 5:10; Daniel 12:2; 1Thessalonians 4:15	Resurrection and Judgment of the responsible
<b>3</b>	?	Judgment seat at mount Sinai
3a	Deuteronomy 33:2; Psalm 68:17; Habakkuk 3:3	Jesus arises with his saints from Sinai
<b>4</b>	Revelations 19:7; Ephesians 5:26-27	Marriage of Christ and his ecclesia
<b>5</b>	Malachi 4:5-6; Matthew 11:10-14; Luke 7:27	Elijah sent to the nation of Israel
5a	Ezekiel 38:2; Luke 17:26,27,30; Matthew 24:37-39	Israel dwells confidently eating, drinking etc.
<b>6</b>	Daniel 12:1; Luke 21:25	Time of trouble such as never was
<b>7</b>	Ezekiel 38:2	Gog to invade Israel
7a	Revelation 16:16; Zechariah 13:8; 14:2	Armageddon
7b	Ezekiel 38:4; Daniel 11:45	God draws Gogian confederacy into Israel
7c	Zechariah 14:2; Ezekiel 38:18-19	Divine intervention at Armageddon
<b>8a</b>	Zechariah 14:4; Matthew 24:27; Isaiah 11:10	Jesus manifested with great power & authority
<b>9</b>	Psalms 48:2; Luke 1:32	Jesus makes Jerusalem his capital

<b>10</b>	Revelation 10:11; 14:10; Joel 2:28	Gospel preached to the world
<b>11</b>	Jeremiah 31:31-33; Ezekiel 20:34	World Jewry brought under new covenant
<b>12</b>	Luke 14:23	Further invitation to the Marriage Supper
12a	Revelation 19:9	Marriage Supper of the Lamb
<b>13</b>	Joel 3:2; Matthew 25:32	Judgment of the nations
<b>14</b>	Psalms 110:2	Jesus rules in the midst of his enemies
14a	Psalms 83:3-6; Daniel 7:24; Revelation 17:12	Two groups of ten nations
<b>15</b>	Revelation 19:16-18; Ezekiel 39:17	Supper of the great God
<b>16</b>	Joel 3:16; Jeremiah 25:30; Psalm 2:2	Christ roars out of Zion
<b>17</b>	Revelation 19:15; 16:17; Joel 2:31	Great and terrible day of the LORD
<b>18</b>	Isaiah 2:2; Psalm 72:11	The millennium begins – the laws
<b>19</b>	John 18:37; Zechariah 14:6; Micah 4:3; Psalm 72:8	The kingdom age – the territory