

THE BOOK OF ACTS WILL PALE IN  
COMPARISON TO THE LAST DAYS REVIVAL.

*Get Ready!*

# THE COMING END-TIME AWAKENING

WRITTEN BY  
RON CANTOR

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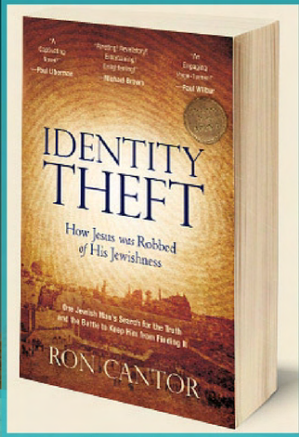


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## Acknowledgements

I wrote this book in less than a week. I am not saying that to impress you. I am saying that to express my gratitude for having had the privilege of sitting under two men for the past three decades, whose understanding of Israel, the Church, the Last Days, Restoration, Messianic Judaism and so much more, have been woven into me—so much so, that when I began to write, I could hear their voices in my soul.

I can remember Asher Intrater teaching some of the truths in this book at Messiah Biblical Institute 30 years ago. I gleaned others from his most recent book, *Alignment*. With Dan Juster, sometimes I can't figure out what I have learned from him, gleaned from him or simply discovered through my own reading of the Scriptures, because of how he has taught me to view and discern the word of God.

I do believe that these gentlemen are two of the greatest thinkers today, when it comes to Israel, the Church and the Last Days. Interestingly, they co-wrote a book by the same name, and have individually written many other books on this subject. I would encourage you to avail yourselves of them at <http://tikkunministries.org/bookstall.htm>

I want to also thank a woman I have never met. She just reached out to me via email and offered her proofing skills. I am not sure of her age, but she refers to her younger days as what she did in her fifties. As a former court reporter, Carrie Northcutt understands that a typo can mean the difference between life and death—literally. With great care, she went through this book and corrected my many typos. She told me that errors jump off the page. In that case, this manuscript must have been like a rollercoaster.

## Introduction

Do the scriptures predict a major awakening in the end times? I think yes. But first, what do I mean by awakening—or revival? Revival is not something you can plan in your yearly schedule, as many try to do. “In March, we will have three days of revival.” No! We can pray for revival, but only God can send a revival. Revival is when God visits—when His Spirit comes down in power and brings salvation to the lost, draws His people closer to Himself and convicts the ecclesia of her sin.

I had the great privilege of teaching at the Brownsville Revival School of Ministry during its latter years. I had visited multiple times during its peak. It was amazing. Of course, there were critics. My guess is that there has never been a move of God—from Azusa Street to the Jesus Revolution of the sixties and seventies—that some folks didn’t claim was from the enemy. Was not Jesus Himself accused of being a messenger of Satan?

The scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “He casts out the demons by the ruler of the demons” (Mark 3:22).

Yeshua’s reply was simple. He said, “How can Satan cast out Satan?” In other words, if I am healing the sick, casting out demons, preaching the good news, challenging people to live holy and love God, *and* people are responding with brokenness and humility—how can this be Satan?” In the same way, as a first-hand witness of the Brownsville Revival, we saw millions of people have their love relationship with Jesus revitalized and thousands make fresh professions of faith. Rarely a day goes by where I am on Facebook that I don’t see one of them posting who is now serving God full-time.

The fruit is the method by which we are supposed to test ministry (“By their fruit you will recognize them.” [Matthew 7:16]). And it has been proven to be good over a more-than-20-year span. But sadly, whenever and wherever God chooses to pour out His Spirit next, there will surely be well-intentioned believers saying it is of the devil. We don’t judge by style of ministry, but by the fruit it produces. We think that God has to work in a way that we are used to or with which we are comfortable. Not so. Imagine you were hanging out with Yeshua when he suddenly began to spit in the dirt and make mud. Then he put it on the dude’s eyes. Some may have thought he was mocking the blind man—after all, he could not see. Of course, in the end, he healed him.

Often God will test our hearts by especially asking us to do things that make us uncomfortable to prove our trust. No? How about Abraham being told to sacrifice his son? Moses leading the people of Israel to a sure death with the Red Sea before them and the Egyptian army chasing them. Ananias being told to go to the murdering Saul after Saul’s revelation of Yeshua. Mike Bickle has been quoted as saying, “God offends the mind to reveal the heart.” Just as Naaman’s pride was revealed when God had him dip in the muddy Jordan river. We test a move of God, not by what is comfortable or known to us, but by the Word of God, the witness in our spirit and by the fruit produced.

Ever since I was a new believer, reading books of the great revivals under Charles Finney, John Wesley and George Whitefield, I have had a longing for a true visitation from heaven. Now that I live in Israel and hold on to passages like Romans 11:26 which says, “all Israel will be saved,” and Zechariah 12:10 and 13:1, which speak of mass salvations in the Promised Land, I am even more hungry for such a move amongst my own people.

I am convinced we are living in the end of days. I will share why later. But if we are, I wanted to see what the Bible says about end times revival. In fact, this all started when a pastor friend of mine

asked in a public setting, “Where does the Bible promise an end times revival?” He wasn’t being mean or rude, but he had subscribed to a theology that things would get worse and worse in the ecclesia before Yeshua returned. He cited Yeshua’s words about a great failing away from Matthew 24. His question lingered in my spirit and so I sat down and wrote. The following is what came forth.

## Antichrist?

One more point before we begin. When someone mentions *the book of Revelation*, what is the first image that comes to mind? My guess it is the Great Tribulation, the antichrist or the Mark of the Beast—or all three! *This is a wrong emphasis*. Clearly the emphasis is on the Lamb. But we have other non-deity figures of whom the antichrist is afraid.

The two witnesses of Revelation 11 are far more powerful than the antichrist. They drive the antichrist out of Jerusalem, consume their attacks with fire from their mouth, prophesy for three-and-a-half years, calling the world to repentance, they can shut the heavens and turn the waters to blood; and during the time of their prophesying, the enemy can’t touch them. My point is simple. The end-times will be difficult, but glorious. There will be a *massive end-times awakening!*

## Chapter 1: The Best for Last

One of the strangest passages in the Bible is Yeshua's first miracle, where He turns water into wine. Wine is very controversial—at least in parts of the United States. Why would God not only include this miracle, but highlight it as the very first supernatural act after Yeshua is immersed in water? It seems he could have left this out and highlighted a resurrection or healing. Unless, there is a deeper prophetic message here.

In John 2 Yeshua and disciples are invited to a wedding. His Mom is there as well. Sometime early in the evening, they run out of wine. I am sure that Miriam (actual name of Mary), as she approaches her Messiah-son, is concerned for the reputation of the family of the groom. A wedding is a festive time with not only several meals, but lots of wine. For them to run out of wine so early—well, let's just say the family would have been the target for gossip for some time into the future. This would have been a great embarrassment.

She turns to Yeshua and says, "They have no more wine." (v. 3) He seems frustrated and basically says, don't involve me in this; I am not ready to reveal myself as Messiah.

Nevertheless, she persists and Yeshua consents by telling the servant to fill up six jars with water. He then instructs them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." (v. 8) Sometime after the jars were filled, the water supernaturally became wine—and good wine. When the master of the ceremonies tasted it, he exclaimed to the bridegroom:

"Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." (v. 10)

I believe there is a prophecy here. For me, it is the only way this story makes sense—how it became Yeshua's first and unexpected,

unplanned miracle. We know that Yeshua did many miracles that did not make it into Scripture (John 21:25) but this one made it. What can we see here?

Yeshua is our bridegroom. He saves the best for last. While this is an interpretation, not the clear intent of the passage, I think that maybe God is saying that a great move of His is coming before He returns. It is time to ask ourselves, *“Has Yeshua saved the best for last? Are we going to see a time even greater than the book of Acts?”*

For those coming from the west, it may be hard to fathom, but we are already seeing a great move of God that has swept more people than Paul ever dreamed existed into the kingdom. In China alone there are as many as 160 million believers and that number is growing like wildfire. One Chinese believer was quoted as saying,

“Everything you read about in the book of Acts is happening in China right now. The Spirit of God is at work mightily. Everything you read about in the book of Acts—God is doing today.” ([source](#))

I have been to Africa with Reinhard Bonnke and Daniel Kolenda and have seen hundreds of thousands of hungry Africans make professions of faith in one meeting. They have reported over 50 million such declarations of faith in Yeshua. In the world’s largest Hindu nation, India, there are reports of tens of millions turning to Jesus. I read one report of a man who died on his way to a mass outreach event. The organizers heard about it and prayed for the corpse, *which came back to life*.

“They told me, ‘You were dead but now you are alive!’” His wife, Laxmi, said people in their village who heard about the resurrection spread the news. “For 10 days, they came to see him. They treated him like Lazarus in the Bible,” she

says. “They told us, ‘Your God is the true God.’”  
([source](#))

My colleague, Asher Intrater, recently quoted a trusted source from Egypt that over 3,000,000 Muslims have turned to the Lord since the Arab Spring. My point is that while we are waiting for a move of God in many parts of the world, a great outpouring is already taking place in other areas that rival the book of Acts. Is this the beginning of “best wine for last” outpouring?

In the John 2 story we have good wine and the best wine. The bridegroom serves the good wine first and then, contrary to culture, brings out the best wine later. I believe Yeshua is going to send massive revival that will outshine the Book of Acts—and, as we will see, it is intertwined with the restoration of Israel and the salvation of the Jewish people.

### **In fact, 2 Days is like 2,000 Years**

In John 4, Yeshua leaves the Jews of Jerusalem to go reach the Jews of the Galilee. Yet, on the way, he purposely goes through gentile Samaria. Now I know some people teach that Samaritans were half Jews, but they were not. Yes, some intermarried with Israelites, but they came from the Assyrian kingdom after the 10 northern tribes were conquered.

Yeshua leaves the Israelite population—brings revival to a Samaritan town and stays with them for *two days*—and then returns to the Jews in the Galilee.

Peter tells us that, “With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.” (2 Pet. 3:8) The Lord spent two days with the gentiles, *or symbolically 2,000 years*. But then, He returns to the Galilee, and while they had rejected Him in the past, it says they welcomed Him (Jn. 4:45).

Could this be foreshadowing that Yeshua would begin with the Jews, but then focus on the gospel going forth into all nations for

2,000 years, and then come back to the Jewish people, who will welcome Him? Yes, because this is exactly what Scripture says—as we will see in the coming pages.

## Chapter 2: What are the “Greater Riches”

In Romans 11, Paul desperately seeks to warn the Romans against being blinded to God’s providential hand on Israel, telling them not to turn against the Jews for their rejection of the Gospel. (We will go deeper into this later.)

Do not consider yourself to be superior to those other branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you. You will say then, “Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in.” Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but tremble. For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either. (Romans 11:18-21)

As part of his treatise, he explains how God will use the Jewish people to bring about a glorious end-times revival. In verse 12 he explains a great mystery that we are seeing unfolding in our days in real time.

But if [Israel’s] transgression means riches for the world, and [Israel’s] loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their full inclusion bring! For if [Israel’s] rejection brought reconciliation to the world, what will [Israel’s] acceptance be but life from the dead? (Romans 11:12, 15)

What Rabbi Saul is saying here is amazing. The Jews were called from the time of father Abraham to bless the whole world. Isaiah, and Paul quoting him in Acts 13:47, speaks of the Jewish people as “a light for the nations.” However, when the Messiah appeared, the majority of our nation and certainly the continuing Jewish

leadership rejected him. One might assume that the Jewish rejection would hinder the spread of the Gospel, as the Jews were called to be an evangelistic nation, this rejection actually *caused* revival in other nations. How could this be?

We can see it played out in the death of Stephen. The religious communities' rejection of Stephen, to the point of killing him, caused the believers to run for their lives. If not for this rejection, Philip would never have ended up in Samaria. And what happened there?

Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there. When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said. For with shrieks, impure spirits came out of many, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. So there was great joy in that city.  
(Acts 8:5-8)

A great revival broke out. The more the believers were persecuted, the more they spread out, fulfilling the words of Yeshua to start in Jerusalem, and then go to the ends of the Earth (Acts 1:8). As Luke reports, "Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went" (Acts 8:4).

Paul is saying that while the Jewish people were supposed to accept the Gospel, their rejection actually caused "riches for the world." Rarely does doing the opposite of what you were tasked to do result in a positive outcome. When the servant in the Matthew 25 story of the talents, buried one talent of gold, over one hundred pounds, it did not produce a profit. But imagine that he buried it and then came back with more than the other servants. It is not natural. It's extremely unlikely, if not downright impossible. But that is what happened with Israel and the nations. Someone could say, "Wow! That servant buried his talent of gold and still made a

ton of money. *Imagine what he could do if he actually tried to make a profit!*"

That is the second part of both verses:

- how much greater riches will [Israel's] full inclusion bring! (v. 12)
- what will [Israel's] acceptance be but life from the dead? (v. 15)

In other words, if Israel's failure 2,000 years ago led to a good result, how much more blessing will come to the world when they get it right and accept the Gospel?

- Jewish rejection of Jesus = resulted in *riches*
- Jewish acceptance of Jesus = will result in *greater riches*

Charles Simeon, who was one of the founders of the London-based *Church's Ministry Among Jewish People* in the early 1800s, once got into a theological discussion regarding what some felt was too much emphasis on Jewish evangelism. Simeon had seemed so carried away with the future of the Jews that a friend passed him a slip of paper with a question, **"Six millions of Jews and six hundred millions of Gentiles—which is the most important?"** Simeon had the answer already. He wrote back, **"If the conversion of the six is to be life from the dead to the six hundred, what then?"**

Simeon understood that the final revival—the "Greater Riches" revival or "Life from the Dead" awakening *depended* on Jewish acceptance of Jesus. It is the Jewish acceptance that will release the greater riches that Paul speaks of.

Before we can know what the greater riches are, we must ask, 'what does Paul mean by riches?' If I am going to give you greater x, you have no idea what that will look like until you define x. It would appear that riches represent the prosperity of the Gospel message amongst the Gentiles between the Shavuot (Pentecost)

outpouring and the time of the writing of Romans in 57-58 AD. The greatest outpouring of grace, power and love was poured out on the world through the Apostles and their disciples. In the Book of Acts we see:

- The dead raised (Acts 20)
- The lame walk (Acts 3)
- Powerful, convicting preaching of the Gospel (Acts 2)
- Speaking in tongues (Acts 2, 10, 19)
- Holy Spirit Outpouring (Acts 2, 4, 10)
- Judgments against sin (Acts 5, 8, 12)
- Casting out demons (Acts 16)
- Miraculous escapes from jail (Acts 12, 16)
- Martyrdom (Acts 7, 12)
- Congregations planted all over southern Europe, Asia and the Middle East (Acts 13-19)
- A sizable remnant of Jewish believers who continued to live as Jews (Acts 21:20)
- Philip was transported from one place to the other (Acts 8)

(I recently heard a teacher saying he was translated from one place to another. My first reaction was skepticism. Why? Because this has never happened to me or anyone I know. But then I thought, it happened to an evangelist in the New Covenant!)

Wow! What I would give to have been alive and part of the growing body of Messiah at that time. And yet, Paul refers to that as *riches* and through him God promises to us *greater riches*. In other words, there's a coming revival on planet Earth—even in the

midst of great darkness and tribulation—that will overshadow the book of Acts. And as I noted earlier, it has started in many places like China, Africa and India.

How do we know it has started?

## Chapter 3: The Big Three

We know the awakening has begun because of the evidence and the prophecies being fulfilled.

1. The fruit of what is happening in those nations.
2. Israel is a restored nation with Jerusalem as her capital, as foretold by the Hebrew prophets. The word *Zion*, which is synonymous for Jerusalem or Israel, means signpost. God will use Zion as a timepiece for the end times.
3. The Bible clearly promises a revival greater than the Book of Acts to begin when *the Jewish people come to their Messiah*. By all accounts, that has started. But I see it as gradual. Meaning, the greater the Jewish acceptance, the greater the move of God will be on the nations.

We can trace the history. There is a connection between these three prophetic events.

1. The physical restoration of Israel to her land.
2. The spiritual restoration of Israel to her Messiah.
3. The evangelization of world.

*All these things must happen before Yeshua returns.*

Physical restoration of Israel:

For I will take you (the Jewish people) out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. (Ez. 36:24)

This is what the LORD Almighty says: "I will save my people from the countries of the east and the west. I will bring them back to live in Jerusalem;

they will be my people, and I will be faithful and righteous to them as their God.” (Zech. 8:7-8)

Hear the word of the LORD, you nations;  
proclaim it in distant coastlands:  
“He who scattered Israel will gather them  
and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.”  
(Jer. 31:10)

### Spiritual Restoration:

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. (Ez. 36:25-27)

Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days. (Hosea 3:5)

### The Gospel going to the Nations:

It is too small a thing for you to be my servant  
to restore the tribes of Jacob  
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.  
I will also make you *a light for the Gentiles*,  
that my salvation may reach to *the ends of the Earth*. (Is. 49:6)

May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face shine on us—  
so that your ways may be known on Earth,  
your salvation among all nations. (Ps. 67:1-2)

And multiple times to Abraham he told him that he would use his seed to reach the nations:

All peoples on Earth will be blessed through you.  
(Gen. 12:3)

In your seed all the nations of the Earth shall be  
blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.  
(Gen. 22:18)

These three prophetic events are intertwined.

If we needed further proof from Romans 11 that there is going to be a great outpouring on the nations, we can look to verses 25 and 26.

“I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, and in this way all Israel will be saved.” (Romans 11:25-26a)

As one who is really excited about the second part of that passage, all Israel being saved, I have to ask, what leads to this massive outpouring on the Jewish people? The end result is a parallel verse to Zechariah 13:1, which says, “On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity.”

But in Zechariah it is a worldwide war against Jerusalem that leads us to this day. In Romans 11:25 it is an outpouring on the Gentiles that leads to it. “Israel has experienced a hardening in part *until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.*” While I like this wording, it is probably better to translate it: *until the fullness of the Gentiles comes in.* It seems like contradiction: war or revival? We will get to that.

Yeshua uses this language when speaking about Jerusalem being under the dominion of the Gentiles until she is restored. And it says that her restoration will come when “the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled” (Luke 21:24).

Personally, I do not see these things are cut and dry dates, but more as seasons. Since 1967, when Jerusalem was returned to Jewish sovereignty for the first time since the Romans took over, we have been seeing the times of the Gentiles come to an end. The end will be what Paul calls in Romans 11:25, “the fullness of the Gentiles.” The fullness of the Gentiles could mean, *when the Gospel has touched every nation.* We could easily see that in the next decade and this is prerequisite for Yeshua to return.

And this Gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. (Matt. 24:14)

## Big Gap

In the Hosea scripture above, we need to look back a verse to verse four. It says that “the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods.” So, Israel would go through a long period without a government or Temple—without national sovereignty. Just yesterday someone posted on Facebook in response to an article I wrote on replacement theology, “Pretty clear who runs Israel, people who deny the Son of God.”

His point was that because Israel is mostly in unbelief, they are no longer chosen. (By the way, most nations are largely in unbelief.) But God has kept covenant with Israel despite her unbelief. Paul declares that her unbelief cannot nullify the faithfulness of God.

What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision? Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God.

What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness? Not at all! Let God be true, and every human being a liar. (Rom. 3:1-4)

There is *the principle of the remnant*. God is always desirous of blessing. The Lord led Abraham to bargain with Him over judging Sodom. God would hold back His judgment on the wicked city if there were just 10 righteous people. The crippled Mephibosheth, someone who would be considered cursed in ancient times, was honored to sit at King David's table, because his father was David's best friend, Jonathan. God can bless Israel based on the faithfulness of a remnant. And God has always made sure there is a remnant of faithful Jewish believers so that he can keep His covenant with the *whole*, based on the obedience of a few.

This continued call despite Israel's unfaithfulness is repeated in Romans 11:29 where the rabbi proclaims that "God's gifts and his call are irrevocable." This whole passage is about Israel and God's plan to open her eyes in the end of times.

What my friend on Facebook could not see is that this is exactly what Hosea prophesied. But now that she has returned to the land and has a functioning government, we can expect to see the second part of the passage come to pass in verse five, "Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David

their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days.”

“Afterward” .... After what? After this long exile that began in the year 130, when Emperor Hadrian utterly destroyed Jerusalem, turning it into a Roman colony. While the Church Fathers turned against Israel, assuming their demise meant they would never again be restored, they missed Hosea’s prophecy, that after this time, they would, “return and seek the Lord their God and David their king.”

The reference to David is an obvious reference to the Messiah. As Peter said in Acts 2:29, “I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day.” So many of the prophecies about David, refer to the “son of David,” the Messiah.

The period between the exile of Israel and God’s regathering of her back to her homeland was the time that the Gospel has been going to the nations. Asher Intrater, in his book *Alignment* ([get it free here!](#)) argues that God took Israel out of the way for a season, so that the Gospel could be preached to the whole world. Now, as we enter into the final chapter before Yeshua returns, it is time for Israel’s full restoration.

## Miraculous Survival

Josephus reported that after the 70 AD destruction, “Jerusalem ... was so thoroughly razed to the ground by those that demolished it to its foundations, that nothing was left that could ever persuade visitors that it had once been a place of habitation.” This was a far cry from her destiny to be “the praise of all the Earth.” (Is. 62:7)

However, in 130 AD Emperor Hadrian decided to rebuild the city and thought it would be a nice gift for the Jewish people. But then he was advised that rebuilding the Temple would fuel subversion and instead he rebuilt the city as a Roman colony and renamed the city after Jupiter—ironically, causing the subversion he feared.

The Jews revolted and were crushed by Hadrian. He became obsessed with ridding the territory from any Jewish influence. He changed the name of the region from Judea to *Palestine*. (That's right, the word Palestine goes back to Rome, not to any Arab entity. There has never been an Arab nation called Palestine and Jerusalem was never the capital of any Arab nation.)

Through Hadrian, the rage of the enemy against the Jewish people was unleashed. Jews were forbidden to enter their holy city under the threat of death. They were exiled and the goal was clear: Destroy the Jewish people completely through assimilation, exile and death.

Johnny Enlow, author and speaker and co-leader of Restore7, wrote, "There is a reason Jerusalem and its destruction is the desire of every principality. Destruction of Jerusalem destroys the master plan, and it is the master plan of our God that will guarantee Jerusalem's future."

## Life times two

And here we are nearly 2,000 years later with Israel restored and Jerusalem as her capital. You have to be somewhat blind to believe Replacement Theology—that God is finished with the nation of Israel and the Church has replaced her. That would mean that by massive coincidence, Israel was rebirthed in 1948, Jerusalem was restored through the miraculous victory in the Six-Day-War, millions of Jewish exiles came back to Zion just as the prophet's predicted and all this while being the most persecuted people in world history, having suffered 52 attempted genocides. No nation has ever lost her geographical homeland for more than a short time and remained an identifiable people. Israel wandered for two millennia and survived! Only God could have done that.

What's more is something I discovered by accident. And when I posted it online, someone pointed out that the date was 1/18/18. That will be significant in a minute. I was writing an article for

Charisma March 2018 addition on the Trump recognition of Jerusalem. I wanted to state the exact amount of years of the exile. What was the difference between 130 AD when Hadrian changed the name of Jerusalem and 1948. It was 1,818.

In Hebrew the letters ו and ח together equal 18. Every Hebrew letter has a number equivalent. Thus, chapter וח in any book of the bible would be chapter 18. In Hebrew the number 18 is synonymous with life. The word for life in Hebrew *chai*, spelled, וחי! People wear the וח symbol on their necklaces and often give gifts in multiples of 18. It would seem that God had hidden a symbol of hope in the exile.

## Welcome Home

Another passage that speaks of a mass Jewish awakening is in Matthew. Yeshua has just rebuked the Orthodox Jews of Jerusalem in what can only be described as a verbal smack-down! But He loves these people. So, after issuing His “seven woes,” he prophesies.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” (Matt. 23:37-39)

Now here is what is not known to most. The phrase *baruch haba* means blessed is he who comes, which is short for the entire phrase. When you land in Israel you see this words in Hebrew and English outside your window at the airport. It is a greeting. Whenever someone comes to my house, I would say to them, “Come in, welcome! Baruch haba!” The words are a greeting.

Yeshua is saying to the future Orthodox Jews of Jerusalem, “You will not see me again until you welcome me!”

In addition, at a Jewish wedding, the cantor sings out the words as the bridegroom enters, “Baruch haba b’shem Adonai,” which means, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” So, Yeshua is not only saying, “I will come when you welcome me,” but also, “I will come I will come when you recognize that I am the bridegroom!”

In the same way that Joseph’s brothers, who were once his jealous enemies, came to recognize him as their brother and savior, only *after* the nations received him, Yeshua will be received by Israel as their brother and savior en masse, *after* the Gospel has gone to the nations or what Paul calls, “the fullness of nations” (Rom. 11:25).

Here is a possible timeline:

- 1967: The times of the Gentiles begins to come to an end (Luke 21:24) as Jerusalem is restored to Israel.
- 1967 began the acceleration restoration of the saved remnant of Messianic Jews. It was through the Jesus Revolution which began in 1967, that most of today’s Messianic leaders came into the kingdom. And it was around this time that Hebrew Christians began to refer to themselves as Messianic Jews. In other words, it’s not just that we are Christians from Jewish background, we are Jews who have found the Jewish Messiah!
- More Jewish acceptance of Yeshua leads to “greater riches” in the nations (Romans 11:12, 15) as we are seeing.
- The Gospel touches every nation—the fullness of the Gentiles (Romans 11:25).

- The blinders are removed from all Israel and all Israel is saved (Romans 11:26, Zech. 12:10, 13:1). They will then call of the name of the Lord and be saved (Joel 2:32).
- Yeshua returns to Jerusalem as the city cries out with one voice, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord” (Matt. 23:39).

But what about the seeming contradiction between Zechariah’s prophecies and Paul’s? Paul speaks of revival in the nations before the Jewish awakening and Zechariah speaks of war against Israel from the nations. How can the nations attack Jerusalem in the midst of revival?

During this time, the light will be getting lighter, but so will the darkness begin to increase. Even as many in the nations will come to faith, many will deny the Lord. Yeshua spoke of this turning away in Matthew 24:

At that time *many will turn away from the faith* and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, *the love of most will grow cold*, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. (Matt. 24:10-13)

The antichrist will rule the world during this time. Most will follow him and take the Mark of the Beast. But nowhere does the Bible teach that the Gospel will not prosper at that time. As we have shown you, it is quite the contrary. And in the coming pages, as we focus on the Book of Revelation, it will be made ever clearer, that there will be a massive awakening during the Great Tribulation.

So, it is reasonable to say that Scripture teaches that there will be wars (I see at least two) against Israel in the last season before Yeshua comes and simultaneously, a great harvest amongst the nations.

## Chapter 4: All Flesh

Joel speaks of an end time outpouring that has more than one fulfillment. Daniel mentions “the Abomination of desolation” three times (Daniel 9:27, 11:31 and 12:11) and Yeshua mentions it in Matthew 24:15-16. We saw this fulfilled in Antiochus Epiphanes before Yeshua gave His prophecy, when the Greek Syrian King defiled the Temple. Then we see it again in the years leading up to the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD.

At that time, Messianic Jews fled Jerusalem and took refuge in Pella, just over the Jordan river, in adherence to Yeshua’s words:

So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.  
(Mark 13:14 NKJV)

And yet, it will be fulfilled a third time when the antichrist desecrates the third Temple:

He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God’s temple, proclaiming himself to be God. (2 Thess. 2:4)

I am merely establishing the fact that biblical prophecy can have more than one fulfillment and even establish a prophetic pattern. Yeshua was the fulfillment of Isaiah 7:14, but there was also a fulfillment in the time of Isaiah. Many of the restoration promises to Israel were fulfilled when the captives came back from Babylon. But the greater fulfillment was in the wave of Aliyah (Jewish immigration to Israel) that began in the late eighteen hundreds and continues today.

With that, let's turn to Joel. He prophesied hundreds of years before Shavuot 30 AD (Pentecost) that God would pour out his Spirit on all flesh. Peter says that was fulfilled in 30 AD when the Holy Spirit fell on Jerusalem during Shavuot.

“These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

“In the last days,” God says,  
“I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your young men will see visions,  
your old men will dream dreams.  
Even on my servants, both men and women,  
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
and they will prophesy.  
I will show wonders in the heavens above  
and signs on the Earth below,  
blood and fire and billows of smoke.  
The sun will be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood  
before the coming of the great and glorious day  
of the Lord.  
And everyone who calls  
on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (Acts  
2:15-21)

I am not going to argue with Peter. But we can clearly see that this was only a partial fulfillment. The sun did not turn to darkness nor the moon to blood. This is clearly an end times prophecy that found meaning as well in the day of the great Jerusalem outpouring. A greater fulfillment awaits us that will lead to the, “great and glorious day of the Lord.”

But what was fulfilled back then? God poured out His spirit on all flesh. All flesh, to me, doesn't mean all flesh. Certainly, we didn't see cows begin to prophesy. It doesn't even mean all people, as most of the world remained in darkness. It meant that the veil was torn from top to bottom, opening up the way for man to come to God. The door was opened for all to receive. In times past, only a certain few could walk in Spirit-empowered authority.

There was the prophet, the priest and the king. There were the Levites and the descendants of Aaron. There was a hierarchy. Under the New Covenant, any person, despite gender (Your sons and daughters will prophesy), age (your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams), status (Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days), race or any other distinction, can come boldly to the Lord and, "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

This is what Paul means in Galatians 3:28-29, one of the most misused passages in the Bible.

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Messiah, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Paul is not saying that there is literally no longer any Jews or Gentiles any more than he is saying that he is no longer a man. We still have distinctions and roles, as the same Paul says that God's gifts and calling to Israel are irrevocable (Rom. 11:29). What he is saying is that God does not place inherent value on one person above another, whether Jew or Gentile, male or female, etc. God is not a racist. As Peter said after seeing the Spirit given to Gentiles:

I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.

(Acts 10:34-35)

Peter does not deny that he himself is still a Jew or a male, but rather that the door is open to anyone to experience salvation no matter what their background. We are all made clean, not by anything other than the blood of the Lamb of God. Sadly, those who embrace Replacement Theology misuse this Scripture to say there is no longer Jewish people in God's eyes. He is done with Israel. I will believe that when people are born genderless!

With that in mind, it would appear that there is a powerful outpouring that is going to come on all who call on the name of the Lord that will overshadow Shavuot 30 AD. Some might say, "But this is an end times prophecy to Israel." Amen. I agree. But often prophecies find fulfillment in Jews and Gentiles. The greatest example of this is in "Abraham's seed." Are the Jewish people Abraham's seed? Yes. Are Gentiles who come to Yeshua Abraham's seed? Yes.

There is a dual fulfillment. Abraham has physical descendants and spiritual ones as well. So, this passage can have fulfillment in Acts 2 and also in the end times. It can find fulfillment in the Jewish people who are under attack just before the Lord returns, and then in Gentiles around the world who are threatened from the antichrist.

Quoting this passage in Joel, Paul applies this to Gentiles coming to faith:

For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."  
(Rom. 1:12-13)

Again, when Paul says there is no difference, he means in terms of coming into the Kingdom. It would be like me saying, "I want to eat fruit in the morning. Apple or orange, it doesn't matter, I love all fruit. They are all the same to me." Well, an apple is still an apple, which is distinct from an orange, but they are both clearly edible fruits. In the same way, the end times awakening will bring all kinds of people from all kinds of backgrounds.

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. (Rev. 7:9)

## Chapter 5: Willing to Die

When we talk about revival in the end times, we are not saying that life will be easy. From my reading of Scripture, the Great Tribulation consists of two three-and-a-half-year periods. It begins with a worldwide peace agreement that includes an agreement to rebuild the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. And then, three and half years into this agreement he, the antichrist, will break the agreement and persecute Israel and the body of believers worldwide.

He (the antichrist) will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him. (Dan. 9:27)

Paul describes this further in 2 Thessalonians 2:4.

[The antichrist] will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

It would appear that he suffers a fatal wound, but, like Yeshua, rises from the dead.

One of the heads of the beast (the antichrist, we assume) seemed to have had a fatal wound, but the fatal wound had been healed. The whole world was filled with wonder and followed the beast. (Rev. 13:3-4)

A fatal wound being healed means he was raised from the dead. A fatal wound is one that kills. Another version is clearer: "and his

deadly wound was healed” (NKJV). After this, it would seem that he believes he is God and then goes to *his* (he negotiated the deal) rebuilt Temple and sets up his own image to be worshiped. He reigns in this capacity for 42 months (Rev. 13:5). He will attack believers (Rev. 13:7) and even overcome them.

This will be a difficult time for the saints of God, but I think it will also be glorious. In his book, *Revelation: The Passover Key*, Dan Juster makes several amazing comparisons between the Exodus story, where God delivered Israel from Pharaoh and believers who have to stand against the antichrist. In both stories, you have:

- Plagues
- Evil ruler who hates God’s people
- Prophets who challenge evil dictator: Moses and Aaron and the two witnesses of Revelation 11
- Deliverance in the end
- Entering in the Promise Land and entering into the Messianic age

So, it would be safe to assume that believers, during the Great Tribulation, will have some sort of protection from the plagues. The Jews lived in an area called Goshen that a former Pharaoh, during the time of Joseph, gave to them. Goshen is protected from the plagues.

But on that day, I will deal differently with the land of Goshen, where my people live; no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know that I, the LORD, am in this land. *I will make a distinction between my people and your people.* This sign will occur tomorrow. (Ex. 8:22-23)

But the LORD will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and that of Egypt, so that no animal belonging to the Israelites will die...Pharaoh investigated and found that not even one of the animals of the Israelites had died. (Ex. 9:4, 7)

God makes a distinction between His people and Pharaoh's people. God was speaking through Moses to Pharaoh. Can we believe that this is a theological statement about God's character? If so, then we can assume there will be "Goshens" for believers during the Great Tribulation. There could be entire cities that don't give in to the antichrist. Or as someone once said, *every believer will be Goshen.*

However, we are not protected from persecution. Yeshua never promised us this, but the opposite:

Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another... (Matt. 10:21-23)

Truly I tell you, no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the Gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—***along with persecutions***—and in the age to come eternal life. (Mark 10:29-30)

Yeshua is clear—He will bless us in so many ways, but suffering persecution for the Gospel is also promised. It is possibly the most

amazing way of expressing our love for Yeshua. Hebrews 11 speaks of the “Hall of Faith,” as some call it, and highlights those who suffered for their faith.

There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated—the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.  
(Hebrews 11:35-38)

This persecution doesn't come because of a lack of faith as some faith teachers might teach, but it comes to prove and test their faith. They are honored for what they suffered for the kingdom of God. And the book of Revelation is very clear that the antichrist will persecute the saints.

I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of *those who had been beheaded* because of their testimony about Yeshua and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.  
(Rev. 20:4)

There is a lot here, but I want to focus on one thing: During the Great Tribulation, there will be millions of believers willing to die for their faith. You don't find this kind of devotion when the body of believers is living in defeat. I can't believe that these martyrs come out of a lukewarm church. Their sacrifice will lead to growth in the body of believers worldwide.

The early church theologian Tertullian once said, "the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church." We mentioned earlier about how Stephen's brave stand caused growth amongst the first believers. And no doubt that there will be a revival that leads up to their brave decision to reject the Mark of the Beast and embrace martyrdom. The result of these martyrdoms will be greater grace of the body of believers.

And look at the grace of God on Stephen as he delivers his final message before his executioners. Luke tells us that the Sanhedrin witnessed this glory.

All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel. (Acts 6:15)

As Stephen finishes, they are furious and prepare to stone him. But Stephen seems oblivious to the danger. It would only be natural for him to panic. The idea of a mob throwing massive stones at you—and I live in Israel, where this took place, where the stones are still being thrown, but now at soldiers, and believe me, they can cause much damage with sharp edges—could be terrifying. But Stephen is preoccupied.

But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." (Acts 7:55-56)

The glory of God is upon him and Yeshua honors him with a standing ovation. We know that Yeshua went to sit at the right hand of the father (Ps. 110:1, Mark 14:62), but he rises as one is willing to pay the ultimate price in expressing his devotion to Him and His cause. The Son of God is moved by Stephen and all those who are willing to give their lives for the Gospel. The “great cloud of witnesses” that we read about in Hebrews 12, is referring to those who have gone before us (Hebrews 11) and are watching us, cheering us on. I believe that when Stephen left his body, he witnessed that great cloud of witnesses, as if in a stadium, giving him a standing ovation.

One of the things I like to ask, is why did God allow a certain passage to be included—like He did with the John 2 wedding story? I believe that the account of Stephen is here for obvious reasons.

- He was the first martyr amongst the believers.
- It was a turning point for the Messianic community, as they scattered to other places to preach the Gospel (see Philip in Chapter 8).

But I also think it is there to encourage us. God was there for Stephen. His martyrdom was far from a gloomy testimony of defeat. He saw the glory of God and Yeshua standing up to receive him. We too may be called to give our lives like this. Certainly, we know from the book of Revelation that those who refuse the Mark of the Beast, if caught, are beheaded. Stephen’s witness of grace under pressure encourages me, that despite my natural tendency to be afraid, God will not leave me alone. Sometimes he will rescue you, such as was the case with the three Hebrew young men in Daniel and Peter being released from jail, and other times He will allow you to give your life—like James (Acts 12)—but at no time will He leave you alone! Take courage.

There is a reason that *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*, published in 1563, is one of the most famous Christian books ever written. It inspires us when we see or hear of someone paying the ultimate price, because they love Yeshua. It is one of the things I love about my Palestinian or Iranian brothers who preach the Gospel in Muslim dominated cultures, where life is cheap and radicals would gladly put a bullet in them.

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Rami Ayyad was martyred in Gaza. He was a Christian bookstore manager. He was stabbed multiple times and shot. "Ayyad had received regular death threats for his work as the public face of the [Christian] bookshop." ([Source](#)) This will be common place in the second half of the Great Tribulation. The Bible speaks of these martyrs: "they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death." (Rev. 12:11)

We also know there will be a great harvest because of what is written in Revelation 14. We will get there in a minute. But first, Matthew 24 speaks of a falling away in the end times. So, in the midst of tribulation, judgment on Earth and pressure to take the Mark of the Beast (upon the threat of death), there will be both a move of God that emboldens believers and a great falling away: "many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other." (Matt. 24:10)

There are two groups here, however:

- The *many* who will turn away
- The *ones* whom they betray.

In other words, yes there will be an unfaithful group that turns away, but they will turn against the faithful ones, which tells me that there will be a strong, vibrant, bold group of believers on Earth at the same time as the falling away, that does not give in to fear. In other words, the *great apostasy* doesn't negate or contradict the *great revival*.

## Who will fall away?

Who are these who fall away? For years, I didn't think one's view of when the rapture took place was important. Eventually we *will* be raptured. Personally, I think that in order to come to the point of view that we will be caught up into heaven seven years before the return of Yeshua, you must be taught that. I have only met one person in my life who claims to have come to a pre-tribulation rapture view on his own.

If someone locked you in a room and gave you all the pertinent books of the end times (Daniel, Joel, Zechariah, Revelation, parts of the epistles and Yeshua's discourses on the end times) and you have no prior knowledge of end times prophecy, what are the chances that you would come out of that room with a pre-tribulation view? Slim, in my opinion.

On the other hand, I have met dozens of former pre-tribulation folks, who through *reading the Bible*, became convinced that the Second Coming and the Rapture are one event. If you like to read my short ebook on the subject, [\[click\]](#)

I first heard this 30 years ago from my dear friend and colleague Asher Intrater. He asked, *could it be that many of those who fall away are those who were expecting to leave planet Earth in a rapture before things got hairy?* Many do not have the idea of suffering in their theology. But Paul suffered greatly for the Gospel as Ananias told him he would when he came to faith.

“Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.” (Acts 9:15-16)

There are two types of sufferings we must embrace:

1. Persecution.
2. The physical hardships we go through in getting the Gospel to others.

Paul speaks about both these types of suffering:

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you. (2 Cor. 4:7-12)

He calls this type of suffering “carry[ing] around the death of Yeshua.” And the fruit is the people we reach. And yet, there is deep benefit for us as well.

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and *participation in his sufferings*, becoming like him in his death. (Phil. 3:10)

Paul understood that there was a knowledge of God and intimacy with him that only could be obtained by, “*participation in his sufferings*.” Those who have not suffered with Yeshua are missing out on intimate knowledge of our bridegroom. No, don't go out and look to suffer. I don't think it works that way. And yet, there is an intimacy with Yeshua that can only be experienced when we suffer for Him.

My point here is simple. If you are pre-tribulation, fine, but just make sure that you are prepared to suffer for the kingdom, lest you fall away when it comes. It could easily be those who had no theology for suffering that crumble under pressure and take the Mark of the Beast. By the way, there are Christian prisoners in China, Iran and Cuba who would tell you that they are already suffering and we are not yet in the Great Tribulation.

## Chapter 6: 144,000 Jewish Evangelists

Revelation 7 introduces us to the 144,000. Who are these? It says that:

1. They receive a seal on their forehead (7:3) which seems to protect from natural disasters and judgments (but not from persecution).
2. They are from the tribes of Israel. (7:4)
3. This sealing takes place on Mount Zion in Jerusalem when they receive the Father's name written on their forehead. (14:1)
4. They sing a special song that only they can sing. (14:3)
5. They follow Yeshua. (14:4)
6. They are the firstfruits of what is to come. (14:4)
7. They live blameless lives. (14:5)

There is more information on them, but I don't want to go too much in depth here. The fact is, much of the book of Revelation is symbolic, but we don't always know what is and what is not. For instance, is the Father's name literally on their heads or does it just mean they are chosen? We don't know. Or the special song they sing—is it really a song or is it an anointing or gifting that is just for them?

As I read over the passage, what seems true to me is that God chooses 144,000 Jews or Hebrews. He makes sure that the natural disasters of the Great Tribulation does not begin until they are sealed. It seems this sealing could be some kind of protection, like we said earlier of Goshen. We see this same term used in Ezekiel 9,

when certain men who are grieved over Israel's sin are protected from judgment:

Go throughout the city of Jerusalem and put a mark on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament over all the detestable things that are done in it. (Ezek. 9:4)

I believe that this seal, the Father's name on their forehead, has more than one purpose:

1. Protection from calamities during the Tribulation.
2. Anointing to preach the Gospel in a most powerful way—that is the *new song* that only they can sing.
3. It is the opposite of taking the Mark of the Beast and Revelation 20:4 may be referring to these 144,000 (in addition to others).

It would seem that these 144,000 Jews preach the Gospel. What we read in Revelation 14 at the beginning is a view of what is happening on the ground here on Earth—the sealing of the 144,000 by Yeshua on Mount Zion. But then beginning in verse 6, we see what is simultaneously happening in the spirit realm:

Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal Gospel to proclaim to those who live on the Earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the Earth, the sea and the springs of water.” (Rev. 14:6-7)

You say, this is about judgment. Well, yes and no. It seems that this is the beginning of two harvests: One for the Gospel and one of judgment for those who take the Mark of the Beast. We see this later in the chapter, in verses 14 and 17, where two different

angels with sickles reap two different harvests. In the verse 17 reaping, it is clearly bloody judgment. From this passage, we get the phrase “grapes of wrath,” referring to the blood of the slain.

But let’s look at the first reaping and reaper.

I looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one like a son of man with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. Then another angel came out of the temple and called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, “Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the Earth is ripe.” So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the Earth, and the Earth was harvested.

(Rev. 14:14-16)

What an awesome passage! Again, it is my contention that this is what is happening in the spirit realm, unseen by people here, and it is played out on Earth through the ministry of the new song in the mouths of the 144,000 Jewish prophetic evangelists.

## Chapter 7: Clouds Equal God's Presence

Yeshua is sitting on a cloud. In the scriptures, clouds represent the presence or glory of God.

- When the law was first given, a cloud covered the mountain (Exodus 19:16)
- When the law was given a second time, a cloud again appeared (Exodus 34:5)
- Upon its completion, a cloud covered the tabernacle (Exodus 40:34)
- Whenever the Israelites were to break camp on their journey to the Promised Land, a cloud led the way (Numbers 9:17)
- When the temple was dedicated, a cloud filled the holy of holies (1 Kings 8:10)
- In Ezekiel's vision of the Temple, a cloud filled the inner court and then the temple and it was the glory of the Lord (Ezek. 10:3-4)
- When Jesus was on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:5)
- When Jesus ascended into Heaven (Acts 1:9)

Let's take a look at that last one because it fits into the themes of restoration and last days revival. Yeshua is talking with disciples when suddenly he is caught up.

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the

sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:9-11)

There is an *obvious* meaning and possibly, a *symbolic* meaning as well. The obvious meaning is that 2,000 years ago he went up into heaven and when He returns he will come down from heaven. But I have to also wonder if there was not a double meaning.

It was just after Yeshua left that there was a great outpouring on Jerusalem. Tens of thousands of Jews came into the kingdom. There were signs, wonders and miracles. The revival spread to what we now call the Greater Tel Aviv area between Lod and Sharon. When Peter raised Tabitha from the dead it says, “This became known all over Yafo (Tel Aviv), and many people believed in the Lord” (Acts 9:42). Before that he heals Aeneas, who had been paralyzed and bedridden for eight years. The result was that “all those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord” (v. 35). It had already spread to Samaria, and then Peter has his encounter with Cornelius which opened the flood gates to the nations.

And what did Yeshua say just before being taken up?

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the Earth.” (Acts 1:8)

This is a fulfillment of Isaiah 49:6 that says Israel will be a light for the nations and that his salvation will go to the “ends of the Earth.”

And you have to take in the context. The apostles were talking to him about the restoration of Israel. “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1:6) They were asking about restoration. Some teachers have criticized the

apostles here. John Calvin chided them by saying that there are as many problems as there are words in this question. Not so, John!

This was the most logical question any student of the prophets could ask. The cry of the Hebrew prophets was for *tikkun haolam*—world restoration. They prophesied that Israel would be restored, that God would make Jerusalem, “the praise of all the Earth” (Is. 62:7). Zechariah 14 speaks of the king setting up his kingdom in Jerusalem and there are dozens of verses in Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel that speak of Israel’s restoration. Zechariah 8 is very clear:

This is what the LORD Almighty says: “I am very jealous for Zion; I am burning with jealousy for her.” This is what the LORD says: “I will return to Zion and dwell in Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the Faithful City, and the mountain of the LORD Almighty will be called the Holy Mountain.” (Zech. 8:2-3)

As they stood on the Mount of Olives with Him, they had to be thinking of verses like this one.

And if Yeshua was so outraged by their stupidity for asking, why does He confirm the restoration? For he answers, “it is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority” (Acts 1:7). He corrects them on the timing, but not on whether or not it will happen.

My good friend and colleague, Dr. Michael Brown makes a very obvious point:

“For example, if the disciples had said to Jesus, ‘Lord, is this the time for us to take up swords and behead our enemies?’ He would not have replied, ‘It’s not for you to know the time for

beheading that the Father has determined. You just concentrate on preaching the Gospel.”

No, he would have said, “What are you talking about? Who said anything about beheading? No, no, no! Never!”

All that is to say that the angels who told them that Yeshua would be returning the same way in which he left, were capping off a conversation that centered on *when Yeshua would restore the kingdom to Israel*.

The piece the disciples didn’t get, was that before Yeshua would restore the kingdom to Israel, there was another prophecy that would be fulfilled—and it would take a long time. They would be tasked with taking the Gospel message to the ends of the Earth. We have already noted that this is a fulfillment of several Old Testament prophecies that speak of the nations being brought into God’s salvation:

It is too small a thing for you to be my servant  
to restore the tribes of Jacob  
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.  
I will also make you *a light for the Gentiles*,  
that my salvation may reach to *the ends of the Earth*. (Is. 49:6)

May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face shine on us—  
so that your ways may be known on Earth,  
your salvation among all nations. (Ps. 67:1-2)

All peoples on Earth will be blessed through you.  
(Gen. 12:3)

In your seed all the nations of the Earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.  
(Gen. 22:18)

Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the Earth your possession. (Ps. 2:8)

I love how He phrases Isaiah 49:6. It is like God is saying, “What? You think I am only interested in one tiny nation? No! I want the whole world!” Psalm 67 was fulfilled in the apostles. God’s face shone upon them in Acts 2 and multiple times going forward, and the nations were brought into God’s glorious plan of salvation. Isaiah 49 is virtually repeated in Acts 1:8. And the promises to Abraham, that God would bless the world through his seed, was obviously fulfilled in Yeshua, but also through the apostles, Jews who carried Yeshua’s message to the nations.

The disciples could not see this at the beginning of book of Acts and then only partially saw it in Acts 2. It wasn’t until Peter was commissioned to go to the home of a Gentile—something he had never done before—in Acts 10, and then, to his shock witnessed that the Holy Spirit was also given to Gentiles, that the early Messianic community understood that their commission was not merely to Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, but to the ends of the Earth!

## Chapter 8: The Restoration of All Things

How long will this last before Yeshua returns? Peter addresses this.

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Yeshua. Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets. (Acts 3:19-21)

We see here:

1. Jewish people repenting,
2. Enjoying “times of refreshing,”
3. Yeshua returning,
4. After He is in Heaven for a season,
5. Until the time comes for the restoration all things,
6. Just as the prophets of Israel promised.

Is this an end times prophecy? Clearly, he was speaking to people 2,000 years ago in Jerusalem. But is there a greater application? While many Jewish people did repent, many more did not. And as we have established, there will be a greater Jewish awakening in the end times culminating in Romans 11:26—“and so, all Israel shall be saved.” And *Yeshua is still in heaven*, so we are still awaiting its greatest fulfillment.

The apostles asked him if He would restore Israel at that time. He said, eventually, but not now. God knows the timing. But the *new and improved* Simon Peter, after having the Spirit of God poured out upon him, causing him to preach and prophesy at such a powerful level that the foundations of Jerusalem were shaken,

prophecies again in Acts 3, saying that Israel's full restoration is connected to Jewish repentance and revival. And we know that Jewish repentance and revival or what Paul calls, "acceptance" (Rom. 11:12) will result in *greater riches* for the nations.

Now what the prophets could not see, and Peter did not know, is that restoration for the worldwide ecclesia would be needed. This is not strange; the prophets often did not understand their own prophecies (1 Peter 1:10-12). Speaking of the prophetic, Paul says, "For now we see in a mirror, dimly..." (1 Cor. 13:12). But we can assume that this restoration includes the ecclesia walking in her fullness just based on Romans 11:12, 15, as previously discussed. End time Jewish acceptance of Jesus leads to "greater riches" on the nations and "life from the dead."

This is what Peter was referring to when he said, "the restoration of all things"!

- The Ecclesia will be restored to Book of Acts power and anointing.
- Jewish people will turn to Yeshua en masse.
- Israel will be restored as a nation with Jerusalem as its capital.
- The Jewish exiles will return to Israel.
- The Earth will be "liberated from its bondage" (Rom. 8:21) and restored to something like its pre-fall state.
- Believers will be given glorious new bodies that are incorruptible (1 Cor. 15:51-52).

I left one area out because I wanted to unpack it a bit. And that is Gentile/Jewish relations. Or in other words, how the worldwide ecclesia views Israel. The early church had a proper appreciation for the Jewish people. They understood that their faith was from the Jews. Paul writes to the Corinthians about Passover, without

explaining it, showing that they had an understanding about Jewish life and culture. They also knew that the Gospel came from Jerusalem and that the apostolic council was in Jerusalem, under the leadership of Jacob (James), the brother of Yeshua.

They had a healthy respect for the Jewish people, not as being superior in and of themselves, but recognizing that God had an order of how he would reveal Himself to the nations and it started with Israel. Without Israel, they would not have heard the Gospel. They understood this. All the first teachers were Jews who understood the Scriptures. These first believers understood God's order. This is what my mentor and coworker, Asher Intrater, calls "Alignment". There is an alignment that is biblical and healthy and based on God's order between the Church and the Jewish people.

## Chapter 9: Somebody call a Chiropractor!

However, we began to see a crack in this alignment in the year 49, ironically the same year of the Jerusalem Council, where they declared that Gentiles did not have to become Jewish to receive salvation. The crack began in Rome and continues to this day. We know from the Greek historian Suetonius, that the Jews were exiled from Rome over the issue of *Chrestus*. This was during the reign of Emperor Claudius and is backed up by the New Testament.

After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, *who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome.* (Acts 18:1-2)

Many scholars are convinced that this Chrestus was actually Christos and that the reason for the expulsion was the growing division between Messianic Jews and Jews who rejected Yeshua. Translating from Latin, Suetonius says, "Since the Jews constantly make disturbances at the instigation of Chrestus, [Claudius] expelled them from Rome."

When the Jews left Rome, they took with them, no doubt, the Bible. At the time, there was no New Testament. New Testament teaching was based on Old Testament prophecy. There is nothing in the New Covenant that is not at least hinted upon in the Old. The New Testament is a revelatory, God-inspired commentary of the Old Covenant. There were no books in Jewish culture, only scrolls. The only way to hear the Scriptures was in the Synagogue. No iPads with bibles existed! Gasp!

Without a Bible or their Jewish leaders who birthed the congregation, it appears that the Roman congregation developed new, anti-Semitic theologies. The well-respected English Bible

teacher David Pawson agrees. In his commentary of Romans, he writes:

When the Jewish believers came back to the Roman church by permission of Nero, the Gentile church would not receive them. They were not welcomed back because a belief had arisen, which we now call replacement theology. It is everywhere in the churches in my country. It was the belief that when the Jews were banished under Claudius, the hand of God was in that. He was punishing them for the rejection of Jesus. The Jews were no longer his chosen people and had been replaced by the church. That idea had got a deep hole in the church of Rome.

It's probable that Paul's dear friends, Priscilla and Aquila informed him of this horrible division. Paul didn't write letters to congregations he did not birth. He speaks about not building on another's foundation. However, this was an emergency, and no one else was at the theological depth to address it.

With this history in mind, we see now why in Romans 11, Paul is adamant that God is not finished with the Jewish people.

I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew ... Again I ask: Did [Israel] stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of [Israel's] transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious. (Rom. 11:1-2, 11)

If this were not an issue in the Roman church, it would be sorely out of place. Paul never goes into this much depth in his other

writings. He explains that the household of God, the One New Man, has Jewish roots. And, that against the laws of nature, they, being a wild olive branch are grafted into the Jewish olive tree. It would be a mistake to begin to turn against the natural branches, even if some of them (not all) have been broken off.

Do not consider yourself to be superior to those other branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you. You will say then, “Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in.” Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but tremble. For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either. (Rom. 11:18-21)

Paul actually says that their pride against Israel could be their destruction: *He will not spare you either*. It is a somber warning and he repeats himself:

Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. *Otherwise, you also will be cut off.* (Romans 11:22)

And this is exactly what happened to the Roman congregation that grew into the Roman Catholic Church. They became the thing they judged. They look down on Judaism as a religion of dead tradition and works righteousness. And that is exactly what the Roman church became—everything in a Catholic service is scripted. There is no spontaneity, just like in the Synagogue. The Roman Catholic church is to the New Testament what Rabbinic Judaism is to the Old.

In fact, for centuries not only was the common man forbidden to read the Scriptures, but even most priests were not given such a

privilege. The printing press was the greatest enemy of the cardinals and popes.

Paul then reminds them of the coming Jewish revival.

And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again.  
(Romans 11:23)

This was the beginning of the downfall of the Church. From this time forward we see a dramatic decline in power, conviction, holiness and the study of His word. By the middle of the second century the Church had fully embraced replacement theology. History speaks little of people walking in the power of God after the book of Acts. The Church became a political institution, fought wars and persecuted minorities. Jews were blamed for the death of Yeshua and persecuted on that basis. We were accused of deicide, the killing of God. Listen to these Church fathers.

The true image of the Hebrew is Judas Iscariot, who sells the Lord for silver. The Jew can never understand the Scriptures and forever will bear the guilt for the death of Jesus...they bear the guilt for the death of the Savior, for through their fathers they have killed Christ. —Augustine

The blood of Jesus falls not only on the Jews of that time, but on all generations of Jews up to the end of the world. —Origen

And this is a mere drop in the bucket. (Read my article [Did the Jews Kill Jesus?](#))

We do recognize that there are many Catholics who have found true faith in Yeshua. I have met many of them. But as an institution, it became a hindrance to the Gospel.

When we talk about reconciliation ministry, we must recognize that this has been the greatest wound of all—between the Church and the Jewish people. To underscore it, let me share with you a story. Years ago, Promise Keepers held a large pastors conference in Atlanta. The theme of at least one of the meetings was reconciliation. It seemed every possible division was brought: black/white, Native Americans, Hispanics, etc. However, one group was left out. When it was brought to their attention that the greatest wound of all was between the Church and Israel, there was acknowledgement and then massive changes in Promise Keepers. Former President “Coach” Bill McCartney and present President Raleigh Washington dedicated themselves to the Jewish/Christian reconciliation. Together they birthed an organization called *Road to Jerusalem*.

As I’ve said, we are living in the days of restoration that Peter spoke of in Acts 3. There has never been a time when more Christians are praying for and loving the Jewish people since the first century. The Great Chiropractor bringing us back into alignment. Most of our congregations in Israel would not survive without the help of Gentile believers around the world. More believers have an Israel consciousness than ever before. There is a Global Day of Prayer for the Peace of Jerusalem, tens of thousands of Christians come to Israel every Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles) to worship the Lord and millions of Christians pray for Israel every day.

Church restoration began 500 years ago when Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg Church.

- 1517—restoration of proper theology of salvation through Martin Luther.
- 1700s—restoration of powerful salvation experience through preachers like John Wesley and George Whitefield during the First Great Awakening.

- 1906—restoration of speaking in tongues and gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- 1946—great healing revivals of the 40s and 50s.
- 1947—the birth of the Billy Graham Crusades, the greatest evangelistic movement until that time.
- 1967—Jesus Revolution that brought in hundreds of thousands of new believers and much of the present Messianic Jewish leadership.
- 1974—Reinhard Bonnke starts his mission to Africa that results in more than 50 million professions of faith. Demons are cast out, millions are healed and the dead are raised.
- 1980s—Apostolic and Prophetic movements.
- 1990s—Worldwide outpouring of renewal and evangelistic revival in Pensacola, Florida.
- 2010s—Believers are being empowered for personal, prophetic, healing evangelism.

As you can see things began to rapidly pick up in the nineteen hundreds. And not by accident, many of the dates correspond with the restoration of Israel.

- 1882—Jews began to return to Israel in large numbers.
- 1885—Joseph Rabinowitz refuses to join a church, but starts independent Messianic Congregation in Kishinev, Moldova. That same year, the first Hebrew Christian congregation was established in New York.
- 1897—The First World Zionist Congress, where Jews and Christians began to call for a Jewish homeland in ancient Israel.
- 1915—The Hebrew Christian Alliance of America (HCAA) was founded.

- 1917—Great Britain issues the [Balfour Declaration](#).
- 1947—The U.N. authorizes a Jewish Homeland.
- 1948—Israel becomes a nation.
- 1967—Jerusalem is reunited. Modern Messianic movement takes off.
- 1,990-2,000—Jeremiah’s prophecy of the Jews coming out of the land of the north comes to pass (Jer. 16:14-15) as 1,000,000 Russian speaking Jews came out of the Former Soviet Union and back to Israel.

Lastly, let me say that it was 400 years from the Reformation to the Balfour Declaration. It was fifty years from Balfour to Jerusalem. And exactly 50 years from Jerusalem to President Trump’s declaration recognizing Jerusalem as Israel’s capital. Every fiftieth year in the Torah was to be a year of Jubilee. We do not know when the year of Jubilee should be, but it seems interesting to me that the four prophetic historical events happened within fifty years of each other.

### **Dead Sea Scrolls and the UN**

And if you didn’t think God was completely in control of History when it comes to Israel, you will after this. A Bedouin goatherd discovered the Dead Sea scrolls by accident in 1947. I imagine when the Qumran Jewish community hid them, as Jerusalem was about to be destroyed in the late 60’s CE, they wondered who would one day find them. What they didn’t know—not the goatherd, nor the Essene Jews—was that God had planned it out from the beginning!

In late 1947 the United Nations was set to vote on what was called Partition. They would take the remaining 20% percent of the land that Great Britain had promised to the Jewish people in the Balfour declaration of 1917—80% had already been given to create the new Arab country of Jordan—and create another state for Arabs

and one tiny state for the Jews. (By the way, if anyone tells you that there needs to be a homeland for Palestinians, you can tell them it was created in 1921 and it is called Jordan!) Anyway...the vote was set for November 29.

Getting back to the scrolls, the goatherd had no idea what he had stumbled upon. He was put in touch with an antiquities dealer in Jerusalem named Kando. When Hebrew University Professor Eliezer Sukenik heard of the discovery, he was intrigued. Risking his life because of the Jewish/Arab tensions over the U.N. vote, he arranges a meeting with Kando, and after a brief inspection, he goes to Bethlehem to see the other scrolls. He is overwhelmed as he realizes what he might be reading.

“My hands shook as I started to unwrap one of them. I read a few sentences. It was written in beautiful biblical Hebrew. The language was like that of the Psalms, but the text was unknown to me. I looked and looked, and I suddenly had the feeling that I was privileged by destiny to gaze upon a Hebrew Scroll which had not been read for more than 2,000 years.”

After some negotiations he leaves with scrolls. He catches the bus back to Jerusalem. He was surrounded by Arabs and was quite nervous. Would he actually ever get home with his precious cargo? Yes, and as soon as he arrived home he poured over the scrolls only to become more convinced of his historic discovery.

And here is where it gets crazy! I'll just quote the professor:

“While I was examining these precious documents in my study, the late news on the radio announced that the United Nations would be voting on the resolution that night—whether or not Israel would be allowed to become a nation—My youngest son Mati, was in the next

room, twiddling radio knobs in an effort to get New York ... From time to time, he would give me a brief commentary on what had been said. It was past midnight when the voting was announced. And I was engrossed in a particularly absorbing passage in one of the scrolls when my son rushed in with the shout that the vote on the Jewish State had passed. This great event in Jewish history was thus combined in my home in Jerusalem with another event, no less historic, the one political, and the other cultural.”

The timing of this is clearly prophetic. The scrolls remained hidden for anyone to find for nearly 2000 years. And on the very day, *the very day*, that Israel’s rebirth was confirmed, a Jewish professor confirms the existence of ancient Israel. You really have to be intellectually dishonest, if you are going to claim that God was not behind Israel’s dramatic rebirth.

The Dead Sea Scrolls are thought to be the greatest archaeological find in history because fragments from every book of the Bible, save Esther, were found and there are virtually no discrepancies—only minor grammatical issues. The next oldest manuscript was from 1,000 years later.

Before the goatherd *accidentally* stumbled upon the Dead Sea Scrolls, critical scholars had a very low estimate of the Bible’s accuracy. However, seeing that there were now scrolls that dated back to just a few hundred years after they were written that match the next oldest manuscript, changed everything.

God was watching over his word! And He is watching over history and very well knows “the times or dates that [He] has set by his own authority” (Acts 1:7). Revival is coming!

## Chapter 10: Back to Revelation

Just to refresh your memory, we were speaking about Revelation 14, but had to take a little detour and explain the purpose of restoration in these end times. And Revelation 14 is another *jump* in Jewish revival. We have several levels of Jewish harvest that we will look at soon. Let's review this verse again:

I looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one like a son of man with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. Then another angel came out of the temple and called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, "Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the Earth is ripe." So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the Earth, and the Earth was harvested.  
(Rev. 14:14-16)

This is a picture of what is happening in the spirit through the ministry of the 144,000 Jewish prophetic evangelists. They are on Earth, sealed by Yeshua, singing a new song that only they can sing. The name of the Father is written on their foreheads. In the spirit, we see Yeshua on a cloud and he has a sharp sickle. He takes the sickle and reaps the harvest.

As I said earlier, we believe this to be an evangelistic harvest before a harvest of judgment, which comes next. We don't know how long this first harvest takes—it could be moments or three and half years—but we do know it is followed by awesome and terrible judgment upon those who have taken the Mark of the Beast.

Still another angel, who had charge of the fire, came from the altar and called in a loud voice to

him who had the sharp sickle, “Take your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the Earth’s vine, because its grapes are ripe.” The angel swung his sickle on the Earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God’s wrath. They were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed out of the press, rising as high as the horses’ bridles for a distance of 1,600 stadia. (Rev. 14:18-20)

We connect this to the passage above it, where it speaks specifically about the Mark of the Beast.

A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: “If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives its mark on their forehead or on their hand, they, too, will drink the wine of God’s fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. They will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment will rise for ever and ever. There will be no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and its image, or for anyone who receives the mark of its name.” (Rev. 14:9-11)

Another clue that these are evangelists is found in verses six and seven. Let’s refresh our memories.

Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal Gospel to proclaim to those who live on the Earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who

made the heavens, the Earth, the sea and the springs of water.” (Rev. 14:6-7)

This too seems to be a picture that confirms verses 14-16, that the Gospel is going out through the mouths or *new song* of these 144,000. As this most likely comes just after Revelation 13, where we see the antichrist die and rise again, and then take over the third Temple, claiming to be God, it is reasonable to hypothesize that this takes place during the three and half years leading up to the rapture and return of Yeshua.

So, Yeshua calls 144,000 Jewish men (because it says they did not lie with women) to Mount Zion and anoints them for book of Acts type of ministry. They then take the Gospel to Israel and the nations, doing signs, wonders and miracles and no doubt (just as Yeshua said all believers could do [John 14:12]) exhorting people not to take the Mark of the Beast. It is going to be amazing! It may be the greatest harvest in history. Revelation 14 should encourage even the gloomiest gloom and doom preacher. Yes, it is going to be hard. It was hard on Moses to confront Pharaoh and lead the children of Israel out of Egypt, but it was glorious on the other side of the Red Sea!

We are warned of the need for patience in the midst of persecution as he says, “This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of God who keep his commands and remain faithful to Jesus” (Rev. 14:12). Yet, it can be difficult and awesome at the same time. Some of the most glorious acts in the Bible came in the midst of great pressure and turmoil.

- The Exodus, particularly, the moments of intense pressure leading up to the parting of the Red Sea. The Israelites were terrified and suddenly they saw something that would go down as arguably the most famous miracle of the Bible.
- Daniel and the Lion’s den. The law passed that you could not pray to the God of Israel. He counted the cost and went

to pray. You don't think he was a little concerned? We don't see Daniel's response to being arrested and thrown into the Lion's den, but it would seem that he may have endured some stress before the miracle. (The Lions didn't eat him, if you don't know the story.)

- The three Hebrew young men thrown in the furnace. Same with these guys. They were bold, but there definitely was some spiritual warfare taking place.
- How about when Yeshua calms the storm. The disciples thought they were going to die. But then, they were amazed!
- And the greatest one of all is Yeshua in the garden dreading the cross. But he utters those awe-inspiring words that we should repeat every day. "Not my will, but yours be done."
- It was just after Stephen was martyred that there was explosive growth in the Messianic community.

My point is that just because the book of Revelation is intense, with people giving their lives as martyrs, doesn't mean it will not also be glorious.

But Jewish revival does not end with the 144,000. They are just the firstfruits of the harvest. Of them it says, "They were purchased from among mankind and offered as *firstfruits* to God and the Lamb." Firstfruits are the first agricultural yield of the farming season. There was the firstfruits offering that set the timing of when Shavuot—the Feast of Weeks—would be.

At the very least, we can conclude that these 144,000 are the firstfruits of a greater harvest that will come in. Paul says, "Greet Epenetus whom I dearly love, who is the first fruit in Asia for Messiah." (Rom. 16:5) He refers to Epenetus, the first believer in Asia, as a firstfruit of more that came in. In the same way, these 144,000 are just the beginning of a much greater influx of souls.

And maybe there is a deeper meaning? The firstfruits offering is also known as Raysheet Hakatzir ראשית הקציר or *head of the harvest* (Lev. 23:10). It is given on the first day after the first Sabbath after Passover. This means it is always on a Sunday (the first day of the week). It starts the seven-week countdown to Shavuot (or Pentecost). This firstfruits offering would have been given on the very day Yeshua rose from the dead!

But Messiah has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. (1 Cor. 15:20)

So, if Yeshua was the firstfruits and He literally rose from the dead on the day of the firstfruits offering, and the full harvest began 50 days later on the feast of Shavuot, then maybe there is something in that connected to Revelation 14? In calling these 144,000 the firstfruits, could it mean that their ministry will lead to a more powerful Shavuot-like outpouring? I can't say for sure, but I do believe that their ministry will be the most fruitful that planet Earth has ever seen. And it is interesting that there were 120 Jews that were considered disciples when Yeshua rose from the dead, and these were waiting on the Holy Spirit on Shavuot and their number rose in one day to over 3,000 men, plus women and children. 144,000 is 120 x 1,200 strengthening the case that there is a connection between the Shavuot/Pentecost 30 outpouring and the culmination of the ministry of the 144,000.

One final point about firstfruits. When a firstfruits offering was given to the High Priest, they became his property. These belong to "God and the Lamb." (v. 4) I understand that every believer becomes the property of Jesus. "You are not your own; you were bought at a price" (1 Cor. 6:19-20). But if it were not something special, why is it mentioned? Why does it say that the 144,000 were purchased for God and the Lamb? Maybe because they are unique in their calling. God specifically chooses them and then anoints them in a way other evangelists have not been.

And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the Earth. (Rev. 14:3)

As I wrote earlier, I don't think the new song is a song, but a message or anointing. They preach the Gospel with such power, precision and boldness that even the apostles may become envious.

Let me be clear, this is theory, not a proven theological fact. We will know, when we see it. But God has put this information in the Bible for our edification. It is there to encourage us to stand strong in the face of persecution.

## Chapter 11: The Champions of Revelation

Living in Israel, we encounter a clinical condition called *Jerusalem Syndrome*. It is not uncommon for someone to visit the Holy Land and start having wild *revelations* that they are Elijah, John the Baptist or even the Messiah. A popular deception is thinking you are one of the two witnesses from Revelation 11. I have joked, that the schizophrenic ones think that they are both of the two witnesses.

One reason that people are drawn to the two witnesses is because they have a powerful ministry here in Israel during the last three and a half years, before Yeshua returns. Personally, I am fascinated by their testimony on Earth. During the time of their ministry, no one on Earth will be more powerful than them—including the antichrist. Let's take a look. Read it all, straight through.

And I will appoint my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth." They are "the two olive trees" and the two lampstands, and "they stand before the Lord of the Earth." If anyone tries to harm them, fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies. This is how anyone who wants to harm them must die. They have power to shut up the heavens so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying; and they have power to turn the waters into blood and to strike the Earth with every kind of plague as often as they want.

Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them. Their bodies will lie in the public square of the great city—which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt—where also their Lord was crucified. For

three and a half days some from every people, tribe, language and nation will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial. The inhabitants of the Earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the Earth.

But after the three and a half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and terror struck those who saw them. Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies looked on. (Rev. 11:3-12)

When does this take place? As I said, in my view, it is the last three and a half years of the Great Tribulation. Others think it is the first three and a half years. I believe they come on the scene just as the antichrist reveals his true colors and declares himself to be God (1 Thess. 2:4). They drive him and his forces out of Jerusalem.

This is why it makes sense that this takes place in the second half of the Great Tribulation, because if the antichrist is in Jerusalem, then why would the nations under his control attack Jerusalem? The two witnesses are more powerful than he and his armies. So let's take a look at their ministry using an outline.

1. They are not merely witnesses, they are prophets.
  - i. "they will prophesy."
2. They are not merely prophets, but repentance preachers, as they are dressed in sackcloth, calling people to follow Yeshua.

3. They are Jewish, as their ministry is in Israel and are from the tribes of Israel.
4. They are prophesied of in Zechariah 4:12-14.
  - i. They are the two olive trees or branches (Rev. 11:4) lending credence that they are Jewish.
  - ii. “These are the two who are anointed to serve the Lord of all the Earth.” (Zech. 4:14)
    1. They have a special anointing as symbolized in Zechariah 4:12 where it speaks of golden oil next to the olive branches. Verse 14 clearly says they will be *anointed*.
5. They breathe fire and devour their enemies. This is how they drive the antichrist out of Jerusalem.
  - i. Not just that, but they can call down plagues, cause draughts and turn waters to blood. The antichrist has no such power.

So, imagine this. The antichrist, before he is revealed as such, brokers what President Trump calls the ultimate deal: Peace between Israel and the Arab nations, which includes the rebuilding of the third Temple. It seems impossible that the Muslim nations would ever agree to such a thing. But what if they were weakened after a failed attack against Israel?

Ezekiel 38-39 and Zechariah 10 both predict wars against Israel that not only result in the sound defeat of the invaders, but it appears, Israel is not harmed. However, in the last war, Zechariah tells us of horrible judgment against Israel and Jerusalem on “the day of the Lord” that clearly results in the second coming (Zech. 14:3-4, 9, 16). However, the Ezekiel war never makes it to Jerusalem.

Then I will strike your bow from your left hand and make your arrows drop from your right hand. *On the mountains of Israel you will fall, you and all your troops and the nations with you.* I will give you as food to all kinds of carrion birds and to the wild animals. You will fall in the open field, for I have spoken, declares the Sovereign LORD. (Ezek. 39:3-5)

So this is a different war than the Zechariah 14 Day of the Lord war. And then there is this:

Then those who live in the towns of Israel will go out and use the weapons for fuel and burn them up—the small and large shields, the bows and arrows, the war clubs and spears. **For seven years** they will use them for fuel. (Ezek. 39:9)

Seven just happens to be the exact number of years during the Great Tribulation. You burn weapons for fuel when you are desperate—when you are living in tribulation! So, with a weakened Arab world and their armies dead on the mountains of Israel, they make a deal that gives the Temple Mount back to the Jews.

After three and half years, the antichrist is killed, but rises (Rev. 13:3-4), and then sets up his image in the Temple (2 Thess. 2:4), and the Jews freak out. At this point, He makes plans to persecute the Jews. But the two witnesses—these anointed prophetic evangelists—resist him. First, they prophecy. What are they prophesying? I imagine they are urging people not to align themselves with the antichrist or take his mark. They will call the people of Israel to repentance and preach salvation to the nations.

*Wait a minute Ron, how can they preach to the nations if they are near the Temple in Jerusalem?* Have you heard of YouTube or Facebook? Or whatever type of social media or television will be used then. In Iran, they use a messaging system called *Telegram* to

circumvent the government. I imagine technology is only going to increase in the coming years, so it is safe to assume that during the Great Tribulation believers will have their own private networks and be able to communicate. In fact, language is even becoming less and less a barrier with sites like Google Translate. I can imagine in the near future having a phone call conversation with someone that speaks another language, where the conversation is translated in real time.

## Babel

And this, for me, is a clue that we are in the end times. Why did God separate the nations? They were building a tower to make a name for themselves. God did not see this as healthy for his creation and so he scattered and gave them different languages.

But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

So the LORD scattered them from there over all the Earth, and they stopped building the city. That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole Earth. (Gen. 11:5-9)

We are entering into a Babel-like time where and because of technology, it will be as if there are no language barriers. I see this as a hint that the end is near. Of course, for us, the end is the

beginning of something wonderful—the 1,000-year reign  
Messianic age.

We are assuming that believers all over the world and unbelievers can see the preaching of the two prophets. They will witness fire coming from their mouths consuming their enemies. Hallelujah! No, I am not rejoicing that people will die—I am rejoicing because the church has long focused on the power of the antichrist, but I am telling you, these two preachers of righteousness will be greater, more powerful than the antichrist! They are Moses and Aaron (not literally)—the antichrist is Pharaoh.

Are you hearing what I am saying? We have built the antichrist into this scary figure, and he is, but we have minimized the men who force him out of Jerusalem and wage war against anyone and anything he sends against them. This will infuriate him. He has only recently risen from the dead and declared himself God. Now his credibility is suffering in a big way. Everyone on Earth is supposed to bow down to him and declare their allegiance to him and here are two evangelists/prophets boldly and successfully resisting “God”. To his chagrin, they are on television, computers and cellphones, telling the whole world to serve Yeshua and reject the antichrist. It is no wonder this egomaniac narcissist will “wage war against God’s holy people. (Rev. 13:7)

Of course, there will be revival in the world at this point. Their witness will be powerful; their testimony true. I can imagine millions coming to faith. Of course, many won’t. As the Bible says, many hearts will grow cold. Others will melt with fear. But still others—God knows how many—will take their stand for the Messiah and “love not their lives unto death” (Rev. 12:11).

If there is not massive awakening, then who is the great multitude that no one could number?

After this I looked, and there before me was  
a great multitude that no one could count, from

every nation, tribe, people and language,  
standing before the throne and before the Lamb.  
They were wearing white robes and were  
holding palm branches in their hands. (Rev. 7:9)

Who are these?

Then one of the elders asked me, “These in  
white robes—who are they, and where did they  
come from?”

I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have *come out*  
*of* the great tribulation; they have washed their  
robes and made them white in the blood of the  
Lamb. (Rev. 7:12-14)

Some might claim this is referring to the Church being raptured. We have a few problems with that. First, if this is the Church in heaven that was raptured out before the Great Tribulation, where is the rest of the Church who died before the rapture? Secondly, it says that they *came out* of the Great Tribulation, not they were *taken out before* the Great Tribulation. These people experienced the Tribulation. And third, according to one of the foremost Greek scholars, the verb indicates continuous action:

Dr. A. T. Robertson who has been regarded as  
the foremost Greek scholar of America in the  
twentieth century, talking about the significance  
of the present tense of this exact verb here  
in Revelation 7:14 says it's indicating *continuous*  
*action*. And again, what it's stating is, these  
saints are coming out of the Great Tribulation  
one by one by one by one...(source)

In other words, it would be better translated, “These are they who had been *coming out of* the great tribulation.” It was an event, but an ongoing process of departure from Earth and arrival in heaven, as they were martyred.

To support this we look to the previous chapter.

I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained. They called out in a loud voice, “How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the Earth and avenge our blood?” Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the full number of their fellow servants, their brothers and sisters, were killed just as they had been. (Rev. 6:9-11)

The “full number” in chapter 6 is believed by many scholars and at least one non-scholar, me, to be the *great multitude* in chapter 7. As opposed to being a gloom and doom episode in history, it is one of great triumph, as captured here.

In the passage which stands as the text, we have one of our glimpses of the victory which in those days of tribulation and anguish must have seemed so very remote and hard to believe. The innumerable throng in white robes, with palms in their hands, wear and bear the symbols of triumph. They stand forth in the din and clash of the contending forces depicted in this book, the happy participants in the glory and the purity of the victorious Lamb. Their white robes mean holiness. Their waving palms mean victory. The two symbols standing together set forth the triumph of holiness. That is the burden of the

whole book. It is the glorious message which shines down to us from all these stormy pictures. The victory of the good, the end of strife in the purification of the world—this is the great thought poured out of the heart of that mystic utterance of the beloved Apostle. Victory through struggle and tribulation—that is the outcome of the world and the creation, prophesied in this vision of the multitude in white robes. (The Great Texts of the Bible—James Hastings)

My point is that there is lots of people embracing Yeshua as the 144,000 share the Gospel and the two prophets stand against the antichrist. This book is meant to encourage you to stand strong no matter what. That is the message of the Book of Revelation. We fail when we only see this book as a mystic road map for the end times. It is also meant to encourage us to get heaven's view of things. If you are captured and you know the word of God, then you can mediate on the fact that if you are martyred you will be joining that Great Multitude of victorious martyrs in heaven. Of them, and maybe you, it is written.

“they are before the throne of God  
and serve him day and night in his temple;  
and he who sits on the throne  
will shelter them with his presence.  
'Never again will they hunger;  
never again will they thirst.  
The sun will not beat down on them,'  
nor any scorching heat.  
For the Lamb at the center of the throne  
will be their shepherd;  
'he will lead them to springs of living water.  
'And God will wipe away every tear from their

eyes.” (Rev. 7:15-17)

If that passage doesn't make you stop and shout praise to God or pray in the Spirit, please check your pulse and head to the nearest hospital. Read it again! Praise God, what a glorious future we have ahead of us!

This is why it is so urgent to know the word of God; to have it hidden in your heart as David said. When your life is on the line, these passages—knowing what is waiting for you on the other side—will give you the strength and courage you need to stand.

I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Yeshua, was on the island of Patmos because of the Word of God and the testimony of Yeshua. (Rev. 1:9)

Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, *even to the point of death*, and I will give you life as your victor's crown. (Rev. 2:10)

To the one who is victorious and *does my will to the end*, I will give authority over the nations. (Rev. 2:26)

They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; *they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death*. (Rev. 12:11)

“If anyone is to go into captivity, into captivity they will go. If anyone is to be killed with the

sword, with the sword they will be killed.” This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of God’s people. (Rev. 13:10)

This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of God who keep his commands and remain faithful to Yeshua. (Rev. 14:12)

## Chapter 12: Caesar is not God!

Don't be discouraged, but encouraged. The antichrist is not the hero of Revelation, but the loser. He will be defeated. Yet the Lord will purify his Body through martyrdom. Not like in Islam, where you seek to murder as you commit suicide, but by not confessing allegiance to the antichrist.

In the first chapter of Revelation, John says:

*On The Lord's Day I was in the Spirit...*  
(Revelation 1:10, *emphasis mine*)

This is also one of the most misused verses in the New Testament. John is not referring to Sunday and instituting or confirming that Sunday is the God-ordained day of worship. I do not get hung up on days and do not care when you worship, as long as you do. We have our services on Friday afternoons, just before the Sabbath. Seems to be working. The reason, however, that I am bringing this up is because John's true meaning here is fascinating when looking at the theme of Revelation.

Many Christians have wrongly assumed that John was referring to Sunday when he said that he was in the Spirit "on the Lord's Day." While I understand why people might assume that since Yeshua rose from the dead on a Sunday, also referred to by many as *The Lord's Day*, John was actually referring to *a specific day of the year* in the Roman calendar.

The one religion that covered the entire Roman Empire was *Caesar worship*. Every emperor after Caesar was thought to be divine. Those who didn't worship Caesar were considered atheists. The punishment for this depended on the current ruling Caesar. During the time of John's imprisonment on the island of Patmos, Domitian was emperor of Rome. He was referred to in public documents as *Our Lord and God*. In the year 96, he put to death his own cousin for being an *atheist*. It is widely believed he

was actually a believer and the accusation of atheism was for denying that Caesar was God. Domitian was the emperor who exiled John after he was unsuccessful on boiling him alive in a vat of oil.

Domitian took the idea that he was deity very seriously.

He informed all governors that government announcements and proclamations must begin, “Our Lord and God, Domitian commands” ... They must call Domitian God—or die. Thus the issue was clear. It was a matter of gods. Either the Lord Jesus Christ or the emperor of Rome was Lord-God. It was Jesus or Caesar. (*Revelations From Revelations*, Patrick M. Jones, 2008, Teach Services, Ringgold, Georgia, pg. 19)

Other religions were tolerated, as long as they did not conflict with Caesar worship. This became a problem for the believers as well as for religious Jews who did not believe in Yeshua.

Once a year, everyone in the empire had to appear before the magistrates in order to burn a pinch of incense to the godhead Caesar and to say: “Caesar is Lord.” ... to refuse to say “Caesar is Lord,” was treason. (ibid)

This yearly event was known to be *The Lord’s Day*. This was the day John was referring to, not Sunday. This also fits the theme of the early chapters of Revelation, which encourages the believers to stand strong, even to the death, in the face of persecution. John himself had been exiled because of his faith.

I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of

Patmos because of the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus. (Revelation 1:9)

He had suffered greatly for the Gospel, having been boiled in oil—only to survive. It is no accident that God chose to give this revelation to John on the day that virtually every believer would have a crucial decision to make: Caesar or Yeshua?

Those believers understood both the reference and its implication:

Many Christians were thrown to the lions, charged with atheism for refusing to sacrifice to the Emperor who claimed to be God. (ibid)

Let me also note that this understanding—to publicly confess, “Jesus is Lord”—put one’s life and family in serious peril. For many years, I thought that Romans 10:9 appeared just too simplistic:

If you declare with your mouth, “Yeshua is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9)

That’s it? Really? Just confess Him and believe?

However, once you understand the background of Caesar worship and the persecution it entailed, you realize that to do this was to say in essence, “I am willing to die for my faith in Yeshua.” What Paul is doing here is indirectly confronting the issue of commitment, because to confess that you are serving Yeshua was equivalent to confessing that Caesar is, in fact, *not* your Lord. And that could get you a lunch meeting with a hungry lion in a Roman coliseum.

In the final days the antichrist is “Caesar” just as he is a “Pharaoh” and he will demand that people confess that he is indeed God. When we don’t, we will suffer a glorious death that lead us right into the presence of the Lamb, “he will lead [us] to springs of living water. ‘And God will wipe away every tear from [our] eyes’” (Rev.

7:17).

## Chapter 13: Final Thoughts—Stages of Jewish Awakening

One of the purposes of this book was to show that there will be a massive Jewish awakening in the end times. But it comes in stages. The first stage is the gathering of the remnant. There has always been a remnant chosen by grace, (Rom. 11:5), but in the last century-plus, we have seen that remnant grow significantly. The earliest congregation of Jewish believers goes back to 1813 when a group of 41 Jews formed *B'nei Avraham* (the Sons of Abraham). In 1882 a Moldavian man named Joseph Rabinowitz had a revelation while reading the New Testament on the Mount of Olives. He returned home to Kishinev and birthed a congregation called, "Israelites of the New Covenant," which grew in number and prominence. Rabinowitz was under the firm conviction that he must worship Yeshua as a Jew and resisted the overtures from mission organizations to cover his work. He would not join a church—though the Lutherans and the Russian Church sought him out. No, he established a synagogue of Jesus-believing Jews.

There were several attempts to birth Jewish fellowships in the late eighteenth hundreds in the U.S. and 1895 the term Messianic Judaism was coined, though it was not until the late nineteen sixties that it was popularized. It was on the heels of the Jesus Revolution that Messianic Judaism really took off. Most of the leadership of the Messianic movement today came to faith between 1967 and the mid-seventies.

Today the remnant is undeniable, but still small compared to the rest of the Jewish community. We estimate that there is somewhere between 15 and 20 million Jews—depending on how you define a Jewish person. Some have estimated that there are 350,000 Jewish believers worldwide. In Israel, we think that the Body of Messiah is around 15,000, possibly as high as 20,000 compared to over six million Jewish Israelis. We have around 150 congregations and growing.

The point is that the remnant, though small, has consistently grown since the early eighteenth hundreds.

As the remnant grows, we will take a significant leap when Yeshua chooses the 144,000 and seals and sends them. I believe they will be successful in bringing many Jews and non-Jews to faith. Remember, that the more Jewish “acceptance” we see the more “greater riches” we will enjoy (Romans. 11:12).

Then there is another awakening in Israel at the revelation that Yeshua is the Messiah.

And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son. (Zech. 12:10)

This is a remarkable passage that speaks of Jewish recognition of the fact that we rejected the one God sent and even delivered Him to death. The Jewish people will mourn as they see their mistake. And “what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?” (Rom. 11:15)

This seems to come at the end of the age. It is a parallel to Revelation 1:7, which says, “every eye will see him, *even those who pierced him.*” While the Jewish people did not carry out the crucifixion, we did cause it. To be clear, this is not an indictment against the Jewish people, but rather the revelation that Israel will one day, en masse, understand that the one they rejected is indeed their elder brother, Yeshua the Messiah. The verse continues “...and all peoples on Earth ‘will mourn because of him.’” The NIV puts this in quotes because they assume that John is quoting the Zechariah.

This passage uses the same two key words that we see in Zechariah: *pierced* and *mourn*. They will see that the one they delivered to be crucified is their *moshiah* (savior) and they will mourn and weep in repentance. God will forgive them as a few verses later it says: “On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity.” (Romans 13:1)

In both Zechariah 12:10 and 13:1, it speaks of the same group: *the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem*. So there is no confusion, the Jewish people will:

1. Recognize Yeshua
2. Repent for rejecting him.
3. Receive forgiveness.

It is interesting to note that while most translations are close to the NIV, when translating Revelation 1:7, “all people on Earth will mourn because of him,” there is an alternative interpretation. The word in Greek translated people actually means “tribes” and the world for Earth, just as in Hebrew, can also mean “land”. Israel in Hebrew is often simply referred to as “the Land.” Just yesterday someone wanted to know if I was in the country, because I travel a lot. It would be normal for him to ask, אתה בארץ? Are you in the Land?

Messianic Jewish scholar, David Stern, translates Revelation 1:7:

Look! He is coming with the clouds! Every eye will see him, including those who pierced him; and ***all the tribes of the Land*** will mourn him. Yes! *Amen!* (CJB)

The phrase “tribes of the Land” could easily mean the tribes of Israel. So maybe John is saying exactly what Zechariah was saying. The tribes of Jacob or “*the house of David and the inhabitants of*

*Jerusalem,*” (i.e. All Israel) will see Him, mourn for Him and receive Him.

Often, just as in the promises to Abraham, there is a dual meaning. When God made covenant with Abraham it was for both his physical seed and his spiritual seed. Maybe here too, there is a specific application to the Jewish people and the nations. Either way it will lead to the salvation of Israel and the nations and the birthing of the Messianic age and it will be said that, “All Israel shall be saved.” (Romans 11:26)

The LORD will be king over the whole Earth. On that day there will be one LORD, and his name the only name. (Zech. 14:9)

יְהוָה! יְהוָה! לְמֶלֶךְ עַל־כָּל־הָאָרֶץ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יְהוָה! יְהוָה! אֶחָד וְשֵׁמוֹ אֶחָד:

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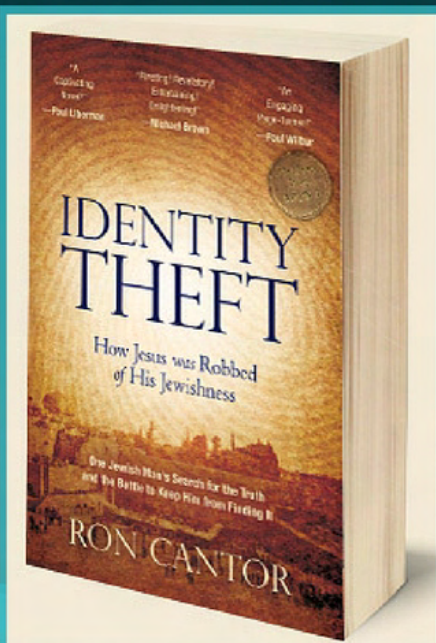


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## About the author

Ron Cantor hosts the daily TV show "Out of Zion" on GODTV.

He was born into a Jewish home, circumcised and Bar Mitzvah'd, but did not know God! He realized at age 17, *there must be more*. This led him on a journey where he discovered that Yeshua (Jesus), whom he thought was just for the *Gentiles*, was in fact, the Jewish Messiah.

Ron served as the Associate Rabbi at Beth Messiah Messianic congregation in Rockville, MD until moving to Odessa, Ukraine to work in the Messianic Jewish Bible Institute. In Ukraine he birthed a congregation in the city upon which *Fiddler on the Roof* was based, Berdichev. The Cantors spent the next year ministering in Budapest, Hungary.

In 1999 he accepted an invitation to teach Jewish Roots at the Brownsville Revival School of Ministry. In 2003 Ron and his wife, Elana, a native Israeli, along with their young girls, made *aliyah* (moved to Israel). Ron served as the co-pastor and interim senior pastor of King of Kings Community in Jerusalem.

During this time he birthed the Isaiah 2 Initiative, taking Israeli young adults to third world nations to preach the message of Yeshua. In Nigeria they saw many miracles and tens of thousands profess faith in Yeshua.

In 2013 Ron agreed to become the lead pastor of Tiferet Yeshua, a Hebrew-speaking congregation in Tel Aviv. In 2016 Ron turned over the congregation to a native-born Israeli and while still functioning as an elder there. Now Ron serve with his close mentor, Asher Intrater, in guiding Tikkun International, a Messianic global family with 40 plus congregations and ministries in the US, Israel and beyond, including our own congregation, Tiferet Yeshua.

Ron and Asher, and Cody Archer, host a weekly Facebook live talk show called *Revive Live*. Ron blogs at [www.messiahsmandate.org](http://www.messiahsmandate.org) and [www.reviveisrael.tv](http://www.reviveisrael.tv).

Ron has written several books including the popular novels on the Jewish Roots of the New Testament, Identity Theft and The Jerusalem Secret.

