

# THE COMING FINAL CONFLICT: THE EPIC BATTLE FOR THE KINGDOM

## **Introduction**

The clouds of war are gathering all over the world, as the world in most part is oblivious to the coming conflict as well as the parties to the confrontation. The outcome to this conflict has already been decided. It was decided 2000 years ago on an execution stake in Judah. Nor has this conflict just begun. It began in the Garden of Eden with a decision between the fruit of two trees. But, because the conflict has been decided and is of ancient beginnings, it will nevertheless be more violent than any the world has ever seen.

An article was recently posted on this web site that was said to be an end time message to the Israel of God. In that article, a chronology was fleshed out with scripture for the last week of years in this age. It was also pointed out that we are currently in the final week of the current Jubilee cycle, with the Jubilee coming at Tabernacles 2015. Astronomical events coinciding with the feast days in years 6 and 7 of this week of years were also noted. The article was brought to hopefully help awaken God's Israel to the times and seasons in which we find ourselves and become vigilant and watchful. That the world is oblivious to the coming conflict is likely an understatement. In particular, the Christian world has allowed tradition and flawed theology to shape its mindset to render it generally "blind, poor and naked"(Rev. 3). Neither party to the conflict has come into view by the many, although with clear vision they are obvious and pervasive throughout the world and our society and institutions.

## **Searching for the light**

Since most evangelical Christians have allowed themselves to be convinced that a pre-tribulation rapture is going to lift them from the final week and that the Jews will be left to face the anti-messiah alone, they are non responsive to the most significant signs on the horizon. This pervasive notion is based on one verse of scripture, Rev. 4:1: "*After this I looked, and, behold, a door [was] opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard [was] as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.*" It is generally taught that the "come up hither" is the rapture. Not only is this very thin evidence of the pre-tribulation rapture, it completely ignores the true meaning of the verse. In chapter 1 of Revelation, John sees Messiah walking among the lampstands. It should be apparent that John has found himself in the heavenly temple (of which Moses was given the pattern) and in the Holy Place. This is evidenced by the lampstands. It is also the place of the table of shewbread where we meet Messiah as we break bread with Him. As the Holy of Holies (the throne room) is slightly elevated above the Holy place one must step up in order to enter. There was formerly a veil between the two, but this veil was rent two thousand years ago as Messiah died on the execution stake. In this verse, John sees the open door and is simply invited to enter the Holy of Holies where he could witness the things around the throne.

They are also generally ignorant of the coming Kingdom of God, because Kingdom theology is not taught nor is it a very popular subject. Unfortunately, many Christians

when asked will respond that they are happy with things as they are, but in any event will one day die and go to heaven. It is apparent that the coming of Messiah will not be convenient for many, so they will shape their theology around their wishes. Another myth that prevails in Christianity is that we are not to concern ourselves with the timing of His return. That somehow this may lead to “date setting” which is taboo and discredited by failed “prophets” of the past. While this idea has some merit, it should not cause us to become blind and fall asleep. Many point out that the LORD comes as a “thief in the night”. But a full understanding of these scriptures paints a completely different picture.

*“But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, “Peace” and “safety”; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober”(1 Thessalonians 5:1-6).*

Paul says here that there is no need to write to us regarding the “times and seasons”. These are the daily, weekly, monthly, yearly and Jubilee cycles of GOD as described in Leviticus 23 and is a template to interpreting scripture, particularly prophecy. Paul had no need to write to the Thessalonians of the times and seasons, because they lived their lives by them. By living in the rhythms of God they and we shall not be living in darkness. Therefore he exhorts us to be sober and watchful.

As with the web site article cited above, this work has been prepared to shine light in the darkest place. Toward this end, the players in the final drama of the ages should be identified. The first player is the LORD GOD of Israel (Messiah) as HE prepares the Israel of GOD and brings in the Kingdom of MESSIAH YAHSHUA, an everlasting Kingdom over all the earth ruled by the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The second, is the god of this present world as he strives to bring in the Kingdom of Man.

### **The Kingdom Of Messiah Yahshua**

Scripture is replete with Kingdom theology. Messiah is coming back to rule and rein for a thousand years. As described by the Angel in Acts 1:11 “*Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.*” His magnificent return is described in Chapters 19 & 20 in the book of Revelation, which also chronicles the wedding feast of the Lamb as He receives His bride “Israel” and the birth of the nation that shall inherit the Kingdom “the Israel of God”. Rev. 20:4 –*“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and [I saw] the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received [his] mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”* Rev. 20:6 –*“Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.”*

Who is this Israel of God that shall inherit the Kingdom as a nation of Priests and shall reign with Messiah? In Hebrews chapter 8, the LORD describes with whom he would make a new (renewed) covenant. The writer of Hebrews very plainly states that it is with the house of Judah and with the house of Israel. Since we trust that through Messiah we have become partakers of this covenant, we must be or have been a part of one of these houses. Many people have come to recognize that these passages referring to two houses of Israel are describing the historical houses following Solomon's Kingdom, the Southern Kingdom (House of Judah) and the Northern Kingdom (House of Ephraim or Israel). Other Scripture refer to a single group brought about by the renewed covenant through the blood of Messiah from the two groups as "the Israel of GOD". In Ephesians chapter 2, Paul speaks of the gentiles by birth who have been estranged from the national life of Israel. He also says beginning in verse 13; *"But now, you who were far off have been brought near through the shedding of the Messiah's blood. For He himself is our shalom (peace) – He has made us both one and broken down the m'chitzah which divided us by destroying in His own body the enmity occasioned by the Torah, with it's commands set forth in the form of ordinances. He did this in order to create in union with himself from the two groups a single new humanity and thus make shalom, and in order to reconcile to GOD both in a single body by being executed on a stake as a criminal, and thus killing in himself that enmity."*

One of the houses of Israel, "Judah", is easily identifiable today. The Jewish people have been and are the identifiable representatives and offspring of Judah. The Jewish people have been preserved and kept by Yahweh so that in turn they might preserve the Torah, the Feasts, the Shabbat and the Hebrew language and be restored in the last days. The national salvation of the Jewish people will be the most glorious event in the redemption of mankind. The Apostle Paul in the Book of Romans equates this event to life from the dead (Romans 11:15). He also talks about their present condition in Romans 11:25-26 *"For brothers I want you to understand this truth which God formerly concealed but has now revealed, so that you won't imagine you know more than you actually do. It is that stoniness, to a degree, has come upon Israel, until the Gentile world enters it's fullness; and that it is in this way that **all** Israel (Judah and Ephraim) will be saved."*

The above scripture referring to the Gentile world entering into its fullness is the key to identifying the other house of Israel. It is obviously contained within the Gentiles and has something to do with the Gentile world coming into its fullness. The book of Genesis also contains a prophesy related to the Gentiles or nations (goyim) coming into their fullness. In Genesis 48:19, Jacob prays a blessing over Ephraim, the son of Joseph, and says that his seed will become the fullness of the nations or gentiles (melo ha goyim). Other prophesies in scripture state that the Northern Kingdom of Ephraim (Israel) would become "*lo-ami*" (not a people), but would be restored in the last days. While God preserved the Southern Kingdom of Judah (present day Jews) intact even until the present time, the ten tribes of the Northern Kingdom, through the judgments of Yahweh, were defeated and assimilated by the Assyrians and disappeared as a separate people from the face of the earth. Much has been written and said regarding the ultimate fate of this people, but it is generally accepted that they were assimilated into the Assyrian

population and ultimately migrated to all the nations. Many believe that the journeys of the Apostle Paul was designed by GOD to follow the migratory path of the Ephraimites as he searched for the “lost sheep of the tribe of Israel”. In summary, through scripture Yahweh said that the Ephraimites would become not a people, but that they would become the fullness of the nations (or Gentiles) and that they would be restored as a people in the last days. From scripture, we can now say that the other house of Israel today is hidden within the gentile world (nations).

Just as Judah has a present purpose, Ephraim also has a present purpose. The book of Romans says that the Gentiles (Ephraim), as the “wild olive branch”, are to stimulate Judah to want what they have, which is a personal relationship with Yahweh through Yahshua and His grace, as well as the availability of the abundant life and freedom of obedience to the commandments of GOD.

The book of Ezekiel chapter 37 speaks of two sticks with the names of the houses of Israel written on each becoming one in the hand of Yahweh. Yahweh promises that *“I will take the people of Israel from among the nations where they have gone and gather them from every side and bring them back to their own land. I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one King will be King for all of them. They will no longer be two nations, and they will never again be divided into two Kingdoms.”* (Ezekiel 37:21-22) This is the Israel of GOD!

Romans 11:25 and Isaiah 8:14 says that all Israel (both houses) has been partially blinded by GOD. The house of Judah - Israel as presently manifested by the Jewish people in or out of the land, is blind to the Messiah Yahshua and HIS work of atonement, while Ephraim- Israel is blind to their Hebrew heritage and their identity as Israel. GOD speaks throughout scripture regarding this partial blindness that He has placed upon His people. Everything that GOD does is in accordance with His own word and law, and this blindness is no exception. This law is given in Exodus 21:26 and is called the law of blind servants. A Master that causes blindness to one of His servants, must allow that servant to go free as compensation for the loss. This partial blindness is all within the purposes of GOD and it appears that we may be living during the time that the blindness is being lifted and freedom is coming. The Jewish people have returned to the land and are turning to Messiah in large numbers for the first time in history; and the called out ones from among the Gentiles are turning to the ancient paths of the Hebrews. A tremendous movement within the Christian religion in recent years is resulting in millions of people recognizing their Hebrew roots and being blessed by GOD because of it. Has the call gone out to the people of GOD to return to Zion (Jeremiah 50:4), weeping as they come? I think maybe it has. The Kingdom of God is at hand.

### **The Kingdom of Man**

Almost unrecognized for what was really occurring, the mid- nineteenth to the early twentieth centuries brought about numerous writers, thinkers, philosophers, lecturers and others all touting a very similar idea: That mankind through proper governance could bring about a utopian world of social justice and riches for everyone. In other words, it was within reach of mankind to create “the Kingdom”. These ideas were similar but

varied and all revolutionary to the existing societal norms. Nevertheless, they gathered tremendous support that has prevailed and grown even to the present. History has labeled these ideas as “Progressive”, and while they were all revolutionary to the norms, the means to the end appears to have taken two distinct paths. One, was actually violent revolutionary as witnessed by the Russian Revolution in 1917 and by the rise of Nazi Germany in the 1930’s and by many others since (such as communist Cuba). It is interesting to note that the goal of Nazi Germany was to establish a 1000 year Reich (sounds a lot like the millennium rein of Messiah) and whose arch enemy was the people of Israel (was Hitler an anti-Messiah?). The other path was one of evolution and slow erosion of existing national values that has been in place in the United States, Europe and elsewhere. While it is not the intent of this paper to become a historical commentary, a brief summary of the Progressive movement, particularly in this country will be helpful in our understanding of the times we find ourselves.

The following is excerpts from an internet article entitled “The Progressive Era, the United States, 1900-1920”, written by Henry J. Sage, (History 122 part 1) <http://www.sagehistory.net/progressive/topics/progressive.html>

“As modern capitalism grew stronger, often wielding tremendous influence over governments and populations, reactions began to emerge, at the heart of which was publication of Karl Marx’s Communist Manifesto in 1848 and his huge work, *Das Kapital*, written with Friedrich Engels. Thus by the turn of the century capitalism, aided by conservative political forces, was marching ahead on the right, while anti-capitalist forces, supported by political liberals and defined by both socialism and communism, advanced on the left. Caught in between were those who, while not quite ready to condemn capitalism, certainly were sympathetic to the plight of the working class. President Theodore Roosevelt to a great extent personified that divide. (*TR’s political foes accused him of being a Socialist.*)”

“The Progressive Movement, which gained substantial strength after 1900, can be defined in part as a protective reaction against the growing threat of communism or socialism in American economic and political life. The Progressives were behind many reforms aimed at cleaning up capitalism and protecting workers’ rights. But because the Progressive Movement did not move fast enough for some, the Socialist Party in United States gained a bit of traction. In 1912 the Socialist party under Eugene Debs won almost a million votes. The Populist Party in 1892 had had similar success, and though the Populists were not explicitly communists or socialists, their interests certainly lay in the same direction.”

“Although the Progressive Movement is considered to have ended with the outbreak of the First World War, the Progressive Party continued to thrive, and many liberal politicians were—and still are—comfortable being identified as Progressives. Wisconsin’s Robert LaFollette garnered almost 5 million votes as the Progressive Party candidate for president in the election of 1924. When the Great Depression hit and American capitalism seemed to be crumbling, those who had embraced communism and socialism seemed vindicated. Intellectuals flocked to the

Socialist camp, led by men such as Lincoln Steffens who, having visited Soviet Russia, said, "I have seen the future and it works."

"The Communist and Socialist Parties was quite visible during the election of 1936. The Communists held their convention in Madison Square Garden to rally behind their presidential candidate, Earl Browder. (He got 80,000 votes.) In 1948 Henry Wallace ran as a Socialist against Thomas Dewey, Harry Truman, and J. Strom Thurmond, the nominee of the States' Right Democrats or "Dixiecrat" Party. Wallace came in third."

"With the Cold War tensions on the rise, and with the rise of McCarthyism in the early 1950s, the Socialist movement began to die out. Being labeled a communist or socialist ceased to be respectable except to the fringe on the very far left of America's political spectrum. That fringe emerged once again in the 1960s as part of the protest movement against the Vietnam War and the excesses of American capitalism—a few old Socialists became darlings of the "New" Left."

Since the 1960's, the progressive movement has once again come "out of the closet" and now a majority of both major political parties in the United States actively support or has supported the progressive agenda. Most European countries have now evolved into Socialist Democracies. It appears that the evolutionary path of the progressive movement in the world is more successful than the failed Revolutionary path and has prevailed, although much slower in the United States. Why is that? The answer is a simple one....The American Constitution. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century progressives such as Woodrow Wilson and many since openly denounced the constitution as being a hindrance to society's progression into a better world. When truthfully informed of the true character of America's founders and the many miraculous events surrounding the founding of this country and the writing of the constitution, one could have little doubt that God had a mighty hand in America's founding and its constitution. One could write volumes on the wisdom of the framework established by this document. From this, one could also conclude that the American constitution is a divine blueprint for man's human governance, although the founders believed that it was suitable only for a Godly nation. Unfortunately, one could also conclude that this country's founders would have great difficulty in recognizing the American society of today, because the evolution away from the constitutional framework has done its work.

Evolutionary progressives detest the American constitution, but love democracies. Complete democracy leads to the majority of the people voting themselves entitlements, thus promoting the progressive agenda. Logic would tell us that this path ultimately leads to disaster, but the elitist progressives believe that reason will prevail, that the masses can be controlled and a utopian society with social justice for all can be created by mankind. These people by human standards are not an "evil empire". On the contrary, most are "humanist", compassionate for the downtrodden of the world and passionate for the feeding of the poor, healing of the sick and finding solutions to the perceived ills of the world. Many profess a belief in God and to being "spiritual", but their righteous morality and sense of social justice often finds itself at odds with God's word, which in those

cases is ignored or reasoned away. Many Christian circles, organizations and denominations consider themselves to be progressives.

Most prophecy teachers paint a picture of end time events featuring the rising to prominence of a dark, evil society (by the world's standards) led by the anti-Messiah and his false prophet or spiritual leader. It is more likely that the movement coming to prominence will emerge as an "angel of light", taking the moral high ground and full of righteous indignation over the ills and injustices of society. Its leader will be charismatic and promise the world that he will lead humanity into a utopian world of social justice and reform. Volumes have been written over the centuries about the number 666 attributed to the anti-Messiah in the book of Revelation. The number has been dissected, decoded and interpreted every way imaginable to determine the identity of the man of sin. There is almost an endless list of candidates that have been proposed over the years. While there could be others, it could very well be that one solution to this puzzle is very simple. The number of man in scripture is 6. Could it be possible that 666 is the indication of carnal man coming to fullness in his desire to usurp the Kingdom of GOD? In the final week of years, GOD will steadily remove the constraints that have prevented this from happening and at the midst of the week allow the adversary to empower mankind and it's charismatic leader to make that final attempt to reach for equality with GOD and establish the Kingdom of Man on earth.

### **The Confrontation**

The battle lines have been drawn and the opposing camps identified. Both camps are in the world and rapidly coming to fullness. Now we wait for the GOD decreed passage of time and conformation to the template of times and seasons established in scripture. We find ourselves in the second year of the last week of years in the current Jubilee cycle. We heard the shofar blast in September 2008 as we began the final week. We have trimmed our lamps and filled them with oil, so that we would not be in the dark when the Bridegroom approaches. What is left? Continue to be watchful and vigilant. Understand that Messiah will not leave us as orphans. Be mindful that Messiah desires that we are aware of HIS presence and purpose. Do not be deceived by things of this world. Remember that HE said that unless the time had not been shortened, even the elect would be deceived. Stay in the word of GOD, particularly the Tabernacles books of James through Revelation ( see the "End Time Message to the Lost Sheep of the Israel of God" on this web site). Prayerfully contemplate the letters to the Churches found in Revelation, this is Messiah's final exhortation to HIS people. Remember that the Israel of GOD camps under the tree of life and with complete trust, eats of the fruit of this tree. He will feed and care for us if we trust HIM and dwell with HIM continuously.

The prophet Daniel, as he interpreted the dream of the King was given a vision of the last days and the coming confrontation. In Daniel 2:32-2:35 the King's dream was shown to him as a gigantic and frightening image:

*"This image's head [was] of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, his legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet [that were] of*

*iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.”*

In Daniel 2:38 – 2:44 Daniel was given the interpretation of the dream:

*“And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou [art] this head of gold. And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all [things]: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. And [as] the toes of the feet [were] part of iron, and part of clay, [so] the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, [but] it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.”*

In the scriptures above the stone not cut with human hands is the Messiah Yahshua who is both the cornerstone and capstone of the Kingdom. The feet and toes of the image because they are partly clay have been identified by most biblical scholars as a group of democracies that constitute the last great civilization in the age of man. They are immediately descended from the legs of iron, which represents the Roman Empire. Messiah destroys this image by striking its feet and establishes HIS kingdom, which lasts forever.

Revelation 19:11 – 19:22 provides a vivid description of the final confrontation in the battle for the Kingdom of the world:

*“And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on [his] vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings,*

*and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all [men, both] free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which [sword] proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.”*

Nevertheless, come quickly Messiah Yahshua.

Amen