

What's Going On In The Holy Land?

Today, we're going to take a look at some prophecy describing what's going on in the Holy Land. The reason for doing this is for the very same reason God gave us these prophecies: that by seeing the prophecies perfectly describe what's happening today, the existence of the invisible omnipresent God is proven, and through this we humans will believe, return to God, and follow the prescribed path to safety:

Isaiah 55:10-12;

¹⁰ **As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish,
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,
¹¹ so is *my word* that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but *will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.*
¹² *You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace...*"**

Before we go any further, all glory goes to God. If anything here is of value, that's where the credit goes. Now, let's proceed... In order to make sense of prophecies, it's necessary to understand some of the allegorical coding, because the prophecies contain a lot of figurative language. Jesus said this...

John 16:25, Jesus;

**"Though I have been speaking figuratively,
a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language
but will tell you plainly about my Father."**

and this...

Matthew 13:34;

**Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables;
he did not say anything to them without using a parable."**

OK, we've established that Jesus was using figurative, allegorical language.

Why? Why not speak plainly? Let's hear Jesus, Isaiah, Paul and Daniel explain...

Matthew 13:10, 13;

¹⁰ **The disciples came to him and asked,
"Why do you speak to the people in parables?"
¹³ This is why I [*Jesus*] speak to them in parables:
"Though seeing, they do not see;
though hearing, they do not hear or understand."**

and this...

Isaiah 29:9-14;

⁹ **Be stunned and amazed, blind yourselves and be sightless;
be drunk, but not from wine, stagger, but not from beer.
¹⁰ The LORD has brought over you a deep sleep:
He has sealed your eyes (the prophets);
he has covered your heads (the seers).
¹¹ For you this whole vision is nothing but words sealed in a scroll.
And if you give the scroll to someone who can read, and say, "Read this, please,"
they will answer, "I can't; it is sealed."
¹² Or if you give the scroll to someone who cannot read, and say, "Read this, please,"
they will answer, "I don't know how to read."
¹³ The Lord says:
"These people come near to me with their mouth
and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.
Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.
¹⁴ Therefore once more I will astound these people with wonder upon wonder;
the wisdom of the wise will perish, the intelligence of the intelligent will vanish."**

and this...

1 Corinthians 2:13-14, Paul;

¹³ **This is what we [the Apostles] speak,
not in words taught us by human wisdom [conventional definitions]
but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in [figurative] spiritual words."**

¹⁴ **The [out-of-Jesus-context-literalist] man without the Spirit
does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God,
for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them,
because they are spiritually discerned."**

and this...

Daniel 12:4, Gabriel;

⁴ **But you, Daniel, roll up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end."**

So, the prophecies are deliberately "sealed" until the time of the end, when they're to be used to amaze us. But, the code must be readily apparent to everyone when the veil is lifted if the words are going to amaze us. Matthew 18:2-3;

² **He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. ³ And he said:
"Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children,
you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."**

and Matthew 11:25;

**At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned,
and revealed them to little children."**

Simple as little children. Wisdom of wise foiled. The code is very simple. A word (#1) completely unrelated to another word (#2) is defined as allegorically being that other word (#2). Put differently, word #1 is substituted for word #2, thus concealing the meaning of a sentence in which it is used if the reader uses the standard dictionary definition. Here's an example: A prophecy means to say, "A man will be destroyed." Somewhere else in scripture there's a verse which says, "A man is like an oak tree." "Oak tree" becomes the code-word for "man", so when the prophecy is sealed, it becomes, "An oak tree will be destroyed." To understand the prophecy rightly, all the reader need do is substitute "man" for "oak tree" to unseal the prophecy. There's a great example of this found in the book of Jude where several allegorically definitions are used to represent people, in this case, false religious leaders and teachers. Here it is...

Jude 1:12-13;

¹² **These people are blemishes at your love feasts, eating with you without the slightest qualm—shepherds who feed only themselves.**

**They are *clouds* without rain, blown along by the wind;
autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted—twice dead.**

¹³ **They are *wild waves of the sea*, foaming up their shame;
wandering stars, for whom blackest darkness has been reserved forever."**

Jude 1:12-13 allegorically defines people as being "*clouds*", "*trees*", "*waves of the sea*", and "*stars*". Consequently, when one encounters any of these terms in a prophecy, they may be code for "people". Oftentimes, when Jesus made prophecies, he'd make a reference back to an earlier verse from the Old Testament. Here's one example.

In Matthew 10:34-36, Jesus says the following...

³⁴ **"Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth.**

I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵ **For I have come to turn**

"a man against his father,

a daughter against her mother,

a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

³⁶ **a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.'...**

This was a direct reference to a passage in Micah, chapter 7 verse 6;

⁶ **For a son dishonors his father,**

a daughter rises up against her mother,

a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

a man's enemies are the members of his own household."

If you look a couple of verses earlier in Micah 7, you'd find...

³ **Both hands are skilled in doing evil; the ruler demands gifts, the judge accepts bribes, the powerful dictate what they desire—they all conspire together.**

⁴ **The best of them is like a brier, the most upright worse than a thorn hedge."**

So, if you look up the passages that Jesus cites from earlier books of the Bible, a lot of the time you'll find that he's pointing out an allegorical definition that will be found in prophecies elsewhere. In this case, he's letting Christians know that allegorical "briers" and "thorns" represent people. Another example of this particular allegory is also found in Ezekiel 28:24, where we find...

²⁴ **"No longer will the people of Israel have malicious neighbors who are painful briers and sharp thorns. Then they will know that I am the Sovereign LORD."**

Recognizing that "briers" and "thorns" allegorically represent people is necessary in order to see what's really being said in Isaiah 9. They will show up in verse 21 in the prophecy. Now, here's the prophecy with commentary added...

Isaiah 9:8-21;

⁸ **The Lord has sent a message against Jacob; it will fall on Israel."**

[Once you've read chapters 2 & 3 of "God's Peace Plan for the Holy Land", you'll know that Jacob's heirs consist of both Israelis and Palestinians, not one or the other. "Israel" in verse 8 applies to both peoples—the modern-day state of Israel (primarily Israeli Jews, but including Arab Israelis) as well as the ancient northern kingdom of Israel, which was primarily the tribes Ephraim & Manasseh, i.e., Palestinians.]

⁹ **All the people will know it— Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria—"**

[Samaria is the north half of the West Bank. Since Ephraim/Palestinians have always inhabited Samaria, referring to them as "the inhabitants of Samaria" is redundant. Instead, "the inhabitants of Samaria" refers to Israeli settlers.]

^{9, cont.} **"who [Israeli settlers] say with pride and arrogance of heart,**

¹⁰ **"The bricks have fallen down, but we will rebuild with dressed stone; the fig trees have been felled, but we will replace them with cedars."**

[This describes Israeli settlers saying Palestinian villages pre-dating Judah's return from exile have been destroyed along with their fig and olive orchards. replaced by Israeli settlements with stucco walls (dressed stone) and ornamental cedar trees.]

¹¹ **But the LORD has strengthened Rezin's foes against them and has spurred their enemies on."**

[Rezin was a Syrian king way back in antiquity. Today, he represents Bashar al-Assad. Nothing happens in this world that God doesn't have power over. For His own purposes, whether to test us through our use of free will, or some other reason. If He permits something bad to happen, He's passively supported it. I say this because Assad's foes include "ISIS", or "IS", the new "Islamic State"/"Caliphate" which has swept across Iraq & eastern Syria. The "them" in verse 11 refers to Israel, as this message is falling on Israel, not Syria. This is why Israel's leader, Benjamin Netanyahu, recently stated that any final peace agreement must leave Israeli troops in control of the eastern boundaries of the West Bank—because of the threat of the expanding Caliphate.]

¹² **Arameans from the east and Philistines from the west have devoured Israel with open mouth."**

[This verse is not talking about mass cannibalism. It's talking about allegorically "eating someone alive in the press" or public opinion. Philistines lived on the Mediterranean coast in the Gaza area. So, Hamas is the "Philistines from the west". They are defeating Israel in the battle of international opinion through constant photographic images of dead and wounded children and anguished parents. Israel is losing international support rapidly. The "Arameans from the east", i.e., ISIS, are radical Muslims who portray themselves as leaders of a Caliphate whose destiny is to remove Israel from the Holy Land.]

^{12, cont.} **Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised."**

[This means the trouble isn't over, not by a long way.]

¹³ **But the people have not returned to him who struck them,
nor have they sought the LORD Almighty."**

[*The "LORD Almighty" and "him who struck them" are two different persons. Who is "him who struck them"? If those who have been struck refers to Palestinians (and judging by photos of Gaza it appears Palestinians fit this role better than Israelis), then "him who struck them" would refer to Israel's leader, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. If so, how have Palestinians "not returned" to P.M. Netanyahu? Here's how: the Palestinian Authority ("PA"), also known as "Fatah", runs the present-day Palestinian portion of the West Bank. Its leader, Mahmoud Abbas, recently formed a unity government with Hamas against Netanyahu's wishes, and even more recently backed Hamas' demand that the siege of Gaza be fully lifted in exchange for a ceasefire. Meanwhile, Israel is looking for a ceasefire that does nothing to better the lot of Palestinians, so essentially, that means that all the Palestinian lives lost would be in vain.*

Both sides are insincere. Netanyahu offers a "peace" that Hamas can't accept. Hamas offers a ceasefire of undetermined length if Israel will end the siege of Gaza. The catch is, that under the present situation, Israel will see this as an open invitation for Hamas to re-arm with even more powerful weapons. From Israel's perspective, after the previous ceasefire Hamas' arsenal was expanded to include long range missiles that can hit any part of Israel from Gaza. Furthermore, in this latest round of fighting, missiles were fired at Israel's nuclear facility at Dimona, which opens up the can of worms of possible nuclear contamination of southern Israel--not to mention endangering all neighboring nations. Hamas has also demonstrated it has drones which can elude Israel's defenses--one flew from Gaza to Israel's military headquarters in Tel Aviv, took videos (no missiles this time) and safely returned home. Israel has also learned how extensive the tunnel network under Gaza has grown during the past two years. It's quite likely if there's a next time, Israel will face tremendous devastation. One nuke on a missile will do that, and that's just what may happen if the siege of Gaza is lifted without first reaching a genuine peace agreement. So, there's little chance Israel will ever accept Hamas' demand to open borders to Gaza as a precondition to a ceasefire. Meanwhile, Mr. Abbas and the PA must separate themselves from cooperating with Israel if they wish to retain political support from their now-enraged populace. Abbas and the PA simply can't return to a relationship of close cooperation with Israel (and P.M. Netanyahu) --not at this time. That fulfills the first part of verse 13.

As for seeking the "LORD Almighty", Palestinians have not followed the guidance of either the Qur'an, nor the Torah and Prophets, which the Qur'an affirms. And just to be sure no one takes this to mean that Hamas is totally to blame and Israel is innocent as a dove, if Israel were innocent no settlers would ever have been sent into the West Bank--Samaria--which according to the Tanach (Old Testament) is Palestinian land. You'll find specific guidance from all these sacred books describing how the land is to be shared in "God's Peace Plan for the Holy Land". Sorry about the lengthy description, but it's a complicated subject.]

¹⁴ **So the LORD will cut off from Israel both head and tail,
both palm branch and reed in a single day;**
¹⁵ **the elders and dignitaries are the head,
the prophets who teach lies are the tail.**
¹⁶ **Those who guide this people mislead them,
and those who are guided are led astray.**
¹⁷ **Therefore the Lord will take no pleasure in the young men,
nor will he pity the fatherless and widows,
for everyone is ungodly and wicked,
every mouth speaks folly."...**

[*"palm branch" and "reed" are allegorical terms representing people. See Psalms 92:12 and Song of Songs 7:7-8 for "palm branch" and 2 Kings 18:21 for "reed". God has permitted both sides to split apart, all the while telling self-serving lies to justify their positions, and underneath it all, both sides denying the birthright of the other as fellow Israelites. Because both Israelis and Palestinians refuse to acknowledge that God sees them as Israelites who must share the land, God has let this headstrong people make a painful example of themselves in front of the entire world demonstrating what happens if God is excluded from our decision-making. Since both sides and their supporters are denying the other's rights, telling only one side of the story, "everyone is ungodly and wicked, every mouth speaks folly".]*

^{17, cont.} **Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away,
his hand is still upraised."**

[*As of now, while this is being written, tragically, there is more to come.*]

¹⁸ **Surely wickedness burns like a fire; it consumes briars and thorns, it sets the forest thickets ablaze, so that it rolls upward in a column of smoke."**

[We know from what was written earlier that "briars" and "thorns" allegorically represent people. "Forest thickets" represent densely populated areas. Look at photos of the bombing of Gaza. Verse 18 fulfilled right before our eyes.]

¹⁹ **By the wrath of the LORD Almighty the land will be scorched and the people will be fuel for the fire; they will not spare one another."**

[Gaza, again.]

²⁰ **On the right they will devour, but still be hungry; on the left they will eat, but not be satisfied."**

[On the political "right", we have Israel continuously devouring the West Bank with more settlements. On the political "left", i.e., Palestinians, they have not accepting any of Israel's concessions, based largely on the underlying belief that Ashkenazi Jews have no indigenous right to be anywhere in the Holy Land to begin with. That's why chapter three of "God's Peace Plan for the Holy Land" is so needed to educate the people in the Holy Land, the Muslim Ummah, and the rest of the world.]

^{20, cont.} **Each will feed on the flesh of their own offspring:**

²¹ **Manasseh will feed on Ephraim, and Ephraim on Manasseh; together they will turn against Judah."**

[This part is most disgraceful. The recent murders of three Israeli and one Palestinian teens were used by politicians and extremists of both parties to whip up a frenzy of hate and justification for more violence. Since the beginning of Israel's attack on Gaza, "Operation Protective Edge", the UNWRA has reported two instances of Hamas storing missiles in schools, once on July 17, and again on July 22. When one side has overwhelming superiority in armaments and manpower, it leads to the weaker side using morally questionable tactics. Martyring children for the Cause is one of these.]

^{21, cont.} **Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised."**

[People have a choice. They can shut their eyes to the history in the sacred books which documents the rights of all present inhabitants to peacefully share the Holy Land and insist the land belongs to them, alone. They can do this until nukes start falling and everyone dies. Or, they can listen to God's guidance and live in peace.]

Matthew 24:15-22, Jesus;

¹⁵ **"So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand—"**

[Verses 15 & 21 link this prophecy to Daniel 12, an earlier "End of the Age" prophecy foretelling the Great Tribulation. The "holy place" for Jesus would have been either the entire Holy Land, Jerusalem, or the Temple Mount. This provides a location for the prophecy. I'm not at liberty at this time to say who or what "the abomination that causes desolation" is, with the exception being that this "abomination" is not a religious structure. The "abomination" either resides in or has recently visited the Holy Land, or is an object located in the Holy Land, and has caused or is causing great desolation.]

¹⁶ **then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains."**

[Judea of Jesus' time was a Roman province in the Holy Land that today corresponds with the southern portion of the West Bank, including from the Old City of Jerusalem (a.k.a. "Al-Quds), Hebron, and Bethlehem. In the Bible, the "mountains of Israel" refers to the hilly region of the northern half of the West Bank. The vast majority of the people there are Palestinians. Furthermore, Palestinians are predominantly Muslim or Christian, both of whom recognize Jesus as a prophet, whereas Jews do not. He would have known that as he spoke the prophecy, and directed it to those most in need of it and willing to hear it. So, he was warning Palestinians, and because Gazans are Palestinians, too, this warning could also apply to Gazans as well. If so, the destruction described in the next four verses could apply to Gaza as its fulfillment. If people choose unwisely, it will also apply to the West Bank.]

¹⁷ **Let no one on the housetop go down to take anything out of the house."**

[Look at the collapsed buildings of Gaza after the bombing, with all the victims crushed inside. Now, you know why he warned people to get out as fast as possible]

¹⁸ **Let no one in the field go back to get their cloak."**

*[Working in Gaza's farmland is impossible while the fighting rages.
If this spreads to the West Bank, no Palestinians will be able to safely farm there, either.]*

¹⁹ **How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers!"**

[You've probably already seen more than enough photos of dead Gazan mothers and children to know this prophecy can be considered fulfilled. Should be considered fulfilled. Must this disaster also visit the West Bank? Please, people! Choose wisely! God left you a path out of this horror. Listen to God's guidance. "God's Peace Plan for the Holy Land".]

²⁰ **Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath."**

[The IDF (Israeli Defense Forces) have been warning residents to clear out of neighborhoods prior to attacking these areas. When the people flee, they have taken "flight". This latest war has taken place during what could be called a month of Sabbaths for most Palestinians--the Muslim sacred holiday of Ramadan.]

²¹ **For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now —and never to be equaled again.**

²² **"If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened."**

[God is going to cut this short, one way or another. We will not be permitted to snuff out all life on the planet. Oh, and who is the "elect", on whose behalf God will shorten the days? A particular religious sect? I say, "Listen to what the person who gave this prophecy said about it." ...

Matthew 5:3-9, Jesus;

³ **"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

⁴ **Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.**

⁵ **Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.**

⁶ **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.**

⁷ **Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**

⁸ **Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.**

⁹ **Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."]**