# THE CHOICE

Deuteronomy 30:19-20

<sup>19</sup> This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live <sup>20</sup> and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him."

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All Bible quotes are from the New International version.

All glory goes to the Father through the Son

### **THE CHOICE**

This article is the sequel of a two-part series. The first article, which is titled, "What's Going On In The Holy Land?", provided plenty of evidence Palestinians are [mostly] descendants of the Israelite tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh. But, unless you read the first article, you'll have to take the previous sentence on faith alone. So, for ease and full understanding of this article's content, it's highly recommended you read the first article before reading this one. In this article, we'll apply what was learned in the first one to help us determine what choices we should make as we go forward. If you haven't yet read the first article, here's a link to it... http://godspeaceplan.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Whats-Going-On-In-The-Holy-Land.pdf

And now, on to the introduction to "THE CHOICE"...

Back in 1977, a comedy film named "Oh, God!" was released. It was a good one, and I recommend it to anyone who hasn't seen it. In the film (which starred an elderly comedian named George Burns and a musician named John Denver), George Burns played the role of God. Today, we're going to change the script a little bit. In our updated version of the film, Satan challenges God to a special kind of game of chess, in which the angels, demons, and humanity are the game pieces. Whoever gets the most points wins. The winner of the game gets to be God.

The two come to an agreement on the rules. Satan wins by getting people to act as though he's God. He scores points if he can convince believers of all faiths to slaughter each other in the name of God. He scores more points if he gets them to believe literal gore and death is the only way God's prophecies of destruction can be fulfilled. And he gets yet more points if he not only destroys the Israelites, but gets both factions of them to exterminate each other. God scores points by fulfilling prophecies of destruction in the kindest, gentlest, most godly manner. God let Satan make the first move, so Satan decided to corrupt religion... 2 Peter 2:1;

But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be [i.e., in the future] false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them —bringing swift destruction on themselves."

Peter's prophecy has come to pass, and Satan is very close to winning the game. Look how close we are to World War III between the Christian West and Islam and its allies, with each thinking they're on God's side. One destructive heresy teaches all prophecies foretelling destruction must be fulfilled literally. Applied to Revelation's prophecies, this means three quarters of humanity must die and Earth rendered uninhabitable because the Bible says so. But, does it really? "Yes" and "No". Destruction may be fulfilled literally through violence and death, or spiritually through repentance—destruction of ego and sinful policies and behavior. If we keep doing things wrong, we'll get the worst outcome. If we repent, we get the godly outcome. With billions of lives in the balance, Jesus is very concerned that we make the best possible and most godly choice.

One particularly destructive aspect of this heresy is that it also teaches believers a literal Armageddon is a necessary prelude to their own inclusion in the "Rapture". This tempts believers to numb themselves to war's horrors, and sinfully and selfishly do nothing to prevent it because they think it's required for their own salvation. This causes misguided believers to actively seek war, or even to try starting one. This pernicious belief is so pervasive in Christendom, and so damaging, I hope you'll forgive me for overkill as I chop this diseased branch off the tree.

At this time, the real question is: Will Armageddon occur spiritually and peacefully through repentance, or literally, with mass death for billions? Will we obey God and choose the righteous path of repentance in accordance with God's word? Or will Satan deceive us, and convince us to ignore the grace and mercy God offers through repentance, and instead make the cruelest and most evil choice possible. If you fall for Satan's deception, it's not a good look. Just saying.

Since we have a choice as to whether prophecy is fulfilled peacefully (Christ-like) or violently (satanically). we need to discern which option is God's and which is Satan's. The following three passages will help guide us to a proper understanding of the perspective God prefers us to use when reading prophecy in the Bible... Deuteronomy 30:19, Moses;

This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live..." 2 Peter 3:9:

The Lord... is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." Hosea 6:6; For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings."

Most Christians are taught literal blood and gore is required to fulfill prophecies of doom, but that isn't true. Prophecies of doom are warnings, presenting a choice of two paths, one godly, the other ungodly. They *will* be fulfilled, but it's how we fulfill them that really counts. When read figuratively using spiritual language, prophecies of doom are fulfilled peacefully through repentance. When read literally, the destruction means worldwide death and devastation.

Speaking with the angel of Philadelphia in Revelation 3:10 about the present time, Jesus mentioned, "...the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth."

Part of our individual test while we're here on Earth is to see which choice we hope God will manifest, and which outcome we work for. Does our choice come from a place of love for our neighbors? Or not. How we respond determines the form of fulfillment—whether it be life, or death. God explained this principle through the prophet Jeremiah in what I call "Jeremiah's Law"...

#### Jeremiah's Law

Jeremiah 18:7-11;

<sup>7</sup> If at any time [including Revelation]
I [God] announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed,

<sup>8</sup> and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned.

<sup>9</sup> And if at another time

I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, <sup>10</sup> and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it."

Verses 7-8 say if we heed God's prophecy of doom and repent (change what we're doing wrong) God will spare us, but verses 9-10 say if we ignore God, we'll be destroyed literally. Verse 11 sums up the situation: it's our choice... Jeremiah 18:7-11, cont.;

<sup>11</sup> "Now therefore say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem, 'This is what the LORD says: Look! I am preparing a disaster for you and devising a plan against you. So turn from your evil ways, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions.' "

God gave this spiritual law to Jeremiah and ordered him to warn his people of impending doom if they didn't repent. Jeremiah lived about 600 B.C., at the time of the Second Babylonian Empire. Could it be Jeremiah's Law was meant only for people of that time? No! The Book of Jonah also carries the same message.

Jonah was a prophet who lived a century earlier, around 700 B.C. God sent Jonah to Nineveh, capital of the Assyrian Empire, to deliver a message to the Assyrian king. The message included a prophecy, in which God decreed He was going to destroy Nineveh in forty days because of the evil the king and his nation were committing... Jonah 1:1-2;

## <sup>1</sup> The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: <sup>2</sup> "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me."

Instead, Jonah tried to avoid going on his mission. He set sail on a boat, was thrown overboard and swallowed by a fish, and lived to tell about it. But, that's another story. Once he got back on dry land, God spoke to him again... Jonah 3:2-10. God;

<sup>2</sup> "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you."
<sup>3</sup> Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very important city—a visit required three days.
<sup>4</sup> On the first day, Jonah started into the city. He proclaimed: "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overturned."
<sup>5</sup> The Ninevites believed God. …"

What follows next is very important. Not only did the Ninevites believe God, they took appropriate action, i.e., they repented of their evil, and God responded with mercy. Jesus referred to the Ninevites' example, too. Jonah 3:1-10, cont.; 5 cont.. "...They [the Ninevites] declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. <sup>6</sup> When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. <sup>7</sup> Then he issued a proclamation in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let any man or beast, herd or flock, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. <sup>8</sup> But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence.

<sup>9</sup> Who knows? God may yet relent

and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish."

<sup>10</sup> When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened." Jonah's account of God's mercy fully aligns with what God told the prophet Joel (about 830 B.C.), over a century before Jonah, and more than two centuries before Jeremiah. Please note in Jonah 3:9 on the previous page and Joel 2:14 below the use of the phrase "Who knows?" and the near identical wording of the accompanying message. God is showing us this message is an essential part of understanding how to read His prophecies. Joel 2:13-14;

<sup>13</sup> Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, Slow to anger and abounding in love,

#### and he relents from sending calamity.

<sup>14</sup> Who knows? He may turn and have pity and leave behind a blessing—…"

Back to the lesson of Jonah and the Assyrians...

Jonah 4:1-2;

<sup>1</sup> But Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry. <sup>2</sup> He prayed to the LORD, "O LORD, is this not what I said when I was still at home?

That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish.

I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity."

Jonah knew Assyria would later destroy Israel. And he knew of the principle of peaceful destruction via repentance because it was a part of the religion. He didn't want to warn the Ninevites, because they might repent and be spared. So, he tried running away to avoid warning them. It seems Jeremiah's Law was good for at least two hundred years and two empires. Does that prove it can be applied to Revelation's prophecies? Good question. Let's ask Jesus. Luke 11:29-30, 32, Jesus;

<sup>29</sup> ... "This is a wicked generation.

It asks for a miraculous sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah. <sup>30</sup> For as Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites,

so also will the Son of Man be to this generation."

<sup>32</sup> The men of Nineveh

will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now one greater than Jonah is here."

For emphasis, this account in Luke 11 is repeated in Matthew 12:41, next page...

Matthew 12:41;

#### <sup>12:41</sup> The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now one greater than Jonah is here."

By citing the Ninevites' example of repentance, Jesus verified Jeremiah's Law was still in effect then. Since he never cancelled it, it's still in effect today.

#### Using Figurative Language & Repentance to Fulfill Prophecies of Doom

Hosea (about 750 B.C.) provided a superb example of how figurative language indicating shame and repentance can fulfill Doomsday destruction in prophecy; Hosea 6:5-6;

 <sup>5</sup> Therefore <u>I</u> [God] <u>cut you in pieces</u> with my prophets, <u>I killed you with the words of my mouth</u>; My judgments flashed like lightning upon you.
 <sup>6</sup> For <u>I desire mercy</u>, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings."

The phrase "burnt offerings" is "holocausts" in the New American (Catholic) Bible. Jesus cited Hosea 6:6 in the following two passages, proving he both knew about and recommended usage of figurative words describing spiritual destruction in scripture—he was pointing to them:

Matthew 9:13; But go and learn what this means: '<u>I desire mercy</u>, not sacrifice.'..."

Matthew 12:7; If you had known what these words mean, '<u>I desire mercy</u>, <u>not sacrifice</u>,' you would not have condemned the innocent."

The verse to which he referred was Hosea 6:6;

<sup>6</sup> For <u>I desire mercy</u>, <u>not sacrifice</u>,

and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings."

2 Peter 3:9;

The Lord... is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

Just like the Father, repentance is Jesus' preferred manner for fulfilling prophecies of destruction. He highlighted the Old Testament's finest example of figurative destruction as he criticized a literalist, worldly theology that contradicted the spirit of God's Law. Now, let's take a further look at use of figurative language in scripture... John 16:25, Jesus;

Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language [figurative speech]

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but will tell you plainly about my Father."
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Paul taught the same thing, too...

1 Corinthians 2:13-14, Paul;

<sup>13</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> The [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." Colossians 1:9, Paul;

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will [prophecy]

through all spiritual wisdom and understanding [figurative usage]."

The "spiritual" words the "man without the Spirit does not accept" are figurative words. The "man without the Spirit" who rejects use of figurative language denies Jesus and the Bible when he insists on using a harsh, satanic "literal" interpretation when he had a choice not to. Especially since Jesus said... John 16:25; "...I have been speaking figuratively..." and Mark 4:33-34; <sup>33</sup> With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. <sup>34</sup> He did not say anything to them without using a parable. ..." and John 6:63; "...The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life [not death-literal]."

Here's three examples which demonstrate how a literal interpretation can turn Christ into Satan while providing wicked people with a tool they can use to distort God's word to promote war. Let's begin by providing figurative, spiritual definitions for "fire", and then "killing".

Luke 12:49, Jesus; "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!..."

[God save us! If this is meant literally, Jesus may be an arsonist!]

Matthew 13:41-42, Jesus;

<sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out his angels...

they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin

and all who do evil.

<sup>42</sup> They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

[If literal, this sounds a lot like human sacrifice!]

Mark 9:49, Jesus; "Everyone will be salted with fire."

If literal, this is terrifying! Has Jesus forgotten how to forgive? Thank God for Jeremiah and the figurative, "word of God" form of fire; Jeremiah 23:29, God;

"Is not <u>my word</u> like <u>fire</u>," declares the LORD..." Jeremiah 5:14, God; ....the LORD God Almighty says: "Because the people have spoken these words,

#### I will make my words in your mouth a fire and these people the wood it consumes."

This matches Hosea 6:5-6 below. Jesus referred to this passage twice in Matthew, verses 9:13 and 12:7, emphasizing both he and the Father prefer whatever killing takes place be through fiery, figurative, language. Once again, Hosea 6:5-6;

> <sup>5</sup> Therefore I [God] cut you in pieces with my prophets, <u>I killed you with the words of my mouth;</u> <u>My judgments flashed like lightning</u> upon you.
>  <sup>6</sup> For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings."

But, many Christians have been lead astray and taught to read scripture in literal terms only. Ironically, they ignore Jesus literally saying he spoke figuratively! These people are the ones Paul referred to in the next verse... 1 Corinthians 2:14, Paul;

"The 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."

The previous passages indicate prophecies of destruction may very well offer us a figurative, godly form of fulfillment via repentance. Note also in Matthew 13:42 (above), the evil people thrown into the "fiery furnace" are still alive. They may be suffering and gnashing their teeth, but they haven't been turned into charcoal. Why choose a literal, satanic fulfillment of a prophecy if it not only doesn't make sense, but is also fundamentally at odds with the spirit of Christ's gospel? In reality, this is a core test of salvation, clearly exposing the desire of our hearts—whether it holds Christ-like love and mercy for others, or a satanic death wish for God's other children. Please don't let the following be you... John 8:44, Jesus;

> "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning..."

Matthew 7:21-23;

<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

<sup>22</sup> Many will say to me on that day,

'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?'

> <sup>23</sup> Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

According to Jesus, Old Testament prophecy is also subject to this principle... John 16:25, Jesus;

"...I have been speaking figuratively,...", John 5:19, Jesus; "... I tell you the truth, the Son can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does."

If the Father didn't use figurative language, neither would Jesus.

Note very clearly: God's preferred method is to spiritually "kill" us with words which lead to repentance—not bombs which kill and maim. Once again, a word from the apostle Peter concerning repentance ... 2 Peter 3:9;

#### <sup>9</sup> The Lord...is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

There are many forms of repentance needed in the world today. If we change our course to a godly path, we "destroy" the ungodly road to destruction we've been traveling. In this way we can fulfill prophecies of doom in the peaceful, figurative, manner God desires. Following are two more prophecies "literalist" people without the spirit claim are examples of God's prophecies predicting a savage spectacle of death and gore, i.e., "Left Behind" eschatology where they're "saved" and everyone else dies...

#### Spiritual "Metal", "Elements", and "Trees"

2 Peter 3:10-13;

<sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief.

The heavens will disappear with a roar; <u>the elements</u> will be <u>destroyed by fire</u>, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. <sup>11</sup> Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives <sup>12</sup> as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.

That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.

<sup>13</sup> But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness."

If this prophecy is fulfilled literally, this sounds like a graphic description of nuclear war and total annihilation—which is bad, not good. Is there a godly way to fulfill the prophecy? As sure as God exists, there is! First, the "metal" and "elements". Jeremiah 6:27-30, God;

<sup>27</sup> "I have made you a tester of metals <u>and my people the ore</u>, that you may observe and test their ways.

<sup>28</sup> They are all hardened rebels, going about to slander.

They are **bronze** and **iron**; they all act corruptly.

<sup>29</sup> The bellows blow fiercely to burn away the <u>lead</u> with fire,

but the refining goes on in vain; the wicked are not purged out.

<sup>30</sup> They are called rejected <u>silver</u>, because the LORD has rejected them."

And next, the fire ...

Jeremiah 23:29, God;

"Is not <u>my word</u> like <u>fire</u>," declares the LORD..."

And last, the destruction part...

Hosea 6:5, God;

<sup>5</sup> Therefore I <u>cut you in pieces</u> with my prophets,

I killed you with the words of my mouth;

My judgments flashed like lightning upon you.

<sup>6</sup> For I desire mercy, not sacrifice,

and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings."

If the next prophecy is fulfilled literally, then the entire planet will be scorched... Revelation 8:7;

#### The first angel sounded his trumpet,

#### and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down upon the earth. A third of the <u>earth</u> was burned up, a third of the <u>trees</u> were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up."

To fulfill this the godly way, we use figurative, spiritual definitions for "earth", "trees", and "grass"...

#### THE EARTH

Isaiah 11:4;

"... [God] will strike <u>the earth</u> with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay <u>the wicked</u>."

[Wicked people, not the literal planet, are the target of God's wrathful words.]

#### TREES

Jeremiah 5:14, God;

"..."Because the people have spoken these words,

I will make my words in your mouth a fire and <u>these people the wood</u> it consumes." Daniel 4:10, 22;

> <sup>10</sup> [In] the visions ... there before me stood a tree..." <sup>22</sup> Your Majesty, you are that tree!"

#### GRASS

Isaiah 40:6-7;

<sup>6</sup> A voice says...

"<u>All men are like grass</u>, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field. <sup>7</sup>... <u>Surely the people are grass</u>."

In the phrase, "all the green grass was burned up", "grass" represents people. Muslims use the color green to represent Islam. Figuratively, when we're angry we get "burned up". At the first trumpet blast, the world is aflame with hate and anger... Revelation 8:7, unsealed...

<sup>8:7</sup> The first angel sounded his trumpet...

A third of the [world] was [at war],

a third of the [world leaders] were [angry with each other],

and ... the [entire Muslim Community] was [enraged with Israel]."

People, you have a choice. You are now officially informed and responsible before your Creator. He is going to offer you a choice, and this will be your test.

#### The Choice: Repentance or Destruction

If repentance is our best choice, exactly what or how do we need to change? The first thing needing to change is this: the war in the Holy Land must end—*Now* before the greatest distress of all time becomes an all-out nuclear World War III... Matthew 24:21-22, Jesus;

<sup>21</sup> For then there will be great distress,

unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. <sup>22</sup> "If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened."

Thankfully, Jesus promised "those days will be shortened" so humanity would survive. The following prophecy indicates peace must begin in the Holy Land... Isaiah 49:6;

#### [God] says: "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."

The "**tribes of Jacob**" are the Israelites, which includes Palestinians as well as Israelis—virtually all inhabitants of the Holy Land, as a matter of fact. The prophecy says once both groups agree to share the land peacefully, peace will spread from there to the rest of the world. But, well-meaning people have tried to reach such an agreement for the past seventy five years and have yet to be successful.

Here's where we need to repent: So far, we've relied solely on humans to find a path to peace. But, we failed. Now, we must turn to the only real source of salvation, and do what God tells us to do. But, what about the "Prince of Peace"? Isn't peace in the Holy Land a job for Jesus? Of course it is!—but on his and the Bible's terms... Matthew 24:23-26, Jesus;

<sup>23</sup> At that time if anyone says to you,

'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it.
<sup>24</sup> For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect—if that were possible.
<sup>25</sup> See, I have told you ahead of time.
<sup>26</sup> "So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or, 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it."

Mark 13:21; At that time if anyone says to you,

'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'Look, there he is!' do not believe it."

So, Jesus said he isn't coming back until the Tribulation is over. But, why?

John 14:12-13, Jesus;

<sup>12</sup> I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.
<sup>13</sup> And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father."
0, 54;

John 8:50, 54; <sup>8:50</sup> I am not seeking glory for myself;..." <sup>54</sup> If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing."

John 15:8;

<sup>8</sup> This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

That's a great reason for a dutiful Son to hold back—if Jesus returns now, everyone will want to give him the glory, which is exactly what he doesn't want. But if he's not coming now, who is? And now, we come to a very difficult part of the mission—my personal cross to bear. Matthew 5:10-11, Jesus;

<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup> "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Well first, the word "angel" comes from the Greek word "angelos", which in English means "messenger". And then we have Hebrews 13:2;

"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

Hebrews 13:2 says human beings can be angels, i.e., carriers of a sacred message. In the next passage, Jesus says at the end of the Age he'll send out his angels... Matthew 13:41-42, Jesus;

<sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out his angels[i.e., "messengers"], and they will weed out of his [Christ's] kingdom[of heaven on earth] everything that causes sin and all who do evil."

Which brings us to Malachi 3 and 4...

Malachi 3:1, 4:4; <sup>1</sup> "I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the Lord Almighty." Malachi 4:4; <sup>4</sup> "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel."

Malachi 3 & 4 say God will send a "messenger of the covenant" based on the "decrees and laws [God] gave [Moses] at Horeb for all Israel". Jesus' new covenant was set in place 2000 years ago. The one in Malachi 3 refers to a new covenant for the Israelites, which is the Prince of Peace's way to "tame the waves" at the epicenter of the world's distress—so "those days will be shortened", just like he promised in Matthew 24:22. (More on the covenant next page). But, who is this messenger?

# Malachi 4:5; <sup>5</sup> "See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. <sup>6</sup> He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction."

Malachi 3 & 4 say God will send Elijah with a new covenant for the Israelites. But, wasn't John the Baptist the Elijah that was to come? Listen carefully to what Jesus said in Matthew 17:11-12;

## <sup>11</sup> ... "To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things. <sup>12</sup> But I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. In the same way the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands."

Back then, John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus through his martyrdom, after which Jesus suffered a similar fate. Today, my job is to prepare the way for his triumphant return, and in verse 11 he clearly stated I'd return, too. You may wonder how Elijah and John could be the same man, when Elijah died long before John was born. They're not. The "Spirit of the LORD" "rested" on both men... Isaiah 11:1-2;

<sup>1</sup> A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. <sup>2</sup> <u>The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him</u>—

#### the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD..."

For Jesus, a similar spirit descended "like a dove" in Matthew 3:16... "[John] saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on [Jesus]." Back to Matthew 17:11, where Jesus said...

<sup>17:11</sup> ... "To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things."

One thing that definitely must be restored is peace in the Holy Land and that will only happen when the land is shared fairly between the tribes. Isaiah 49:6; <sup>6</sup> [God] says:

#### "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."

The first sentence refers to God's new covenant for the Israelites, which restores the rights of all the "**tribes of Jacob**", which you're now about to receive. It's called, "God's Peace Plan for the Holy Land". Meanwhile, you've just had "light" reveal hidden meaning about what prophecies tell us is happening there. And the best news is this: God promised in verse 6 once His peace plan is accepted by both tribes of Israelites, His salvation will "reach to the ends of the earth". So now, here is God's peace plan based on the "**decrees and laws** [God] gave [Moses] at Horeb for all Israel"...

#### "God's Peace Plan for the Holy Land"

http://godspeaceplan.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Gods-Peace-Plan-for-the-Holy-Land-1.pdf (This is the English version. The Arabic and Hebrew versions may be downloaded at our main website: www.godspeaceplan.org. The files may also be downloaded from the files section of our FaceBook group: www.facebook.com/groups/godspeaceplan.)

Now that you've received God's answer to our prayers for peace, what should you do with it? The Parable of the Ten Minas (Luke 19:11-27) tells us what not to do you don't want to bury the peace plan under a rock where it can't do anything good. Not when it's such a precious gift! And certainly not when God knows exactly what you've done with it. The Bible is pretty clear on what a believer ought to do... Isaiah 52:7;

#### How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

And this is what the world is about to see happen...

Matthew 24:30, Jesus;

"Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And...all the peoples of the earth will...see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory."

But, these will not be ordinary clouds. These are the "clouds of heaven"...

Hebrews 12:1;

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us," Matthew 24:30, again...

"Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And...all the peoples of the earth will...see the Son of Man coming on the clouds [of witnesses] of heaven, with power and great glory."

For over a hundred years Christians have been singing this song in anticipation... "Oh, when the saints go marching in, Now, when the saints go marching in, Yes, I want to be in that number, When the saints go marching in!"

Now is the time! This is what we've all been waiting for! You'll never have another opportunity "to be in that number" as one of the first. So first, download the peace plan before Satan attacks the website. And then share it with your family, relatives, and friends! Your pastor! Fellow members of your congregation, other believers, and yes, your representatives in government! Tell them all! As Isaiah said, Isaiah 58:1;

"Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice like a trumpet."

In the Parable of the Sower in Matthew 13, Jesus told us who you want to be-

"<sup>23</sup> But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop,

yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown." Matthew 13:43;

<sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear."

And now, back to the game on page 2 between God and Satan. You may recall that Satan's first move was to corrupt religion... 2 Peter 2:1:

But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be [*i.e.*, *in the future*] false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them —bringing swift destruction on themselves." Surprisingly, few Christians realized Palestinians are descendants of the Israelite tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh. But, what the Samaritan woman told Jesus at the well in Sychar in John 4:12 should have made it plain as day for theologians to see exactly who Palestinians are. And a simple study of history should also have made it plain to see Samaritans remained in the land, while only the tribes allied with Judah were exiled by the Romans. So, all this baloney about how Genesis 12:3 says Christians must support the modern-day state of Israel, or the equally incorrect Left-wing heresy which blindly favors Palestinians and calls Judah's exiles "European colonizers", are bunk, i.e., two destructive heresies. And so too, was claiming God's prophecies had to be fulfilled in the cruelest and most ungodly way possible!

In response, God decided it's time to take His churches back!

So, He asked the Prince of Peace to do a favor for Him...

Matthew 13:41;

<sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out his angels [messengers], and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil."

The messenger of the covenant, Elijah, is one of them. The job required using the power of God's word to destroy two heresies which were causing Christians to sin... Jeremiah 23:29;

"Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?"

And so it went for the heresies. As for those who profited off the heresies... Some didn't know what they were doing. And besides, Jesus loves a repentant sinner. Remember 2 Peter 3:9;

> The Lord... is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

But for those who willfully continue peddling these wicked doctrines... Matthew 13:42;

<sup>42</sup> They will throw them into the blazing furnace [of public shame], where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Isaiah 40:3;

A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

All glory goes to the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ