

PROMISE OF A BRIGHT TOMORROW - PART 7

By Robert Leon Mendelson, 10/24/2024

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In the previous six parts we learned God promised to lead humanity out of our collective death spiral into a bright future. To do this, God provided us a with peace plan to resolve the dispute in the Holy Land, and then initiate a process of salvation that spreads worldwide. We learned an essential aspect of salvation is a mass spiritual "evolutionary" leap, which begins with using prophecies and their fulfillment to prove God exists, and also to provide guidance.

In Part 5, we looked at some "happy" prophecies, hoping this will help make us more willing to look at the mostly negative prophecies which have already been fulfilled (and which prove God really does exist). In Part 6, we looked at the sad and scary prophecies depicting the massacre on October 7, 2024, the subsequent destruction of Gaza, and the Houthis entering the fray by firing missiles at international shipping.

Yesterday, I said we'd look at Isaiah 9 today, but on further reflection, I realize it should wait until tomorrow. That's because in order to understand it, you need to know how it's encoded, which will take up most of this article. Remember, these articles must be short so people can get through them. So, we'll limit this article to a short prophecy concerning the fate of Hamas in Gaza, followed by a prophecy interpretation primer. Then tomorrow, we'll do Isaiah 9.

MALACHI 4:1-3 - THE UTTER DESTRUCTION OF HAMAS

^{4:1} "Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire," says the Lord Almighty [a.k.a. "Allah swt"]. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them.

² But for you who revere my name,
the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays.
And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves.

³ Then you will trample on the wicked;
they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act,"
says the Lord Almighty [a.k.a. "Allah swt"]."

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Verse 1 describes the fate of Hamas after perpetrating their sacrilegious massacre of Israeli civilians on October 7. No doubt you've already seen photos and news on TV showing Israeli aircraft and artillery bombarding Gaza, so you know why "burn like a furnace", "stubble", "set them on fire", and "Not a root or a branch will be left to them" describe what's happened to Hamas so accurately.

Verse 2 implies Hamas terrorists yelling "Allahu Akbar" ["God is great"] as they murdered and pillaged are "arrogant...evildoer[s]", whose actions are like those who revere Satan, not God.

This is a harsh pill for many Muslims to swallow, but people need to understand Allah swt is impartial, and the Prophet (saw) would not be the Prophet if his prophecies never came to pass. He made it abundantly clear Islam would be astray at the Last Hour, the same way Bible prophecies say Christians and Jews would also be led astray. Iblis has been at it for a long time, and has been successful in misleading believers, as Surah 15:42-43 attests:

⁴² Lo! As for My slaves, thou hast no power over any of them
save such of the forward as follow thee,

⁴³ And lo! for all such, hell will be the promised place."

We'll talk about this more in Part 10.

However, not all Gazans are Hamas, and the prophecy says there's a bright future ahead for Gazan residents who don't support Hamas. Once they're gone, God promises life will be much better for those who were forced to accept Hamas' wicked rule.

Verse 3 is horribly graphic, but perfectly accurate. Hamas terrorists are dying underground. Whoever survives in Gaza will literally be walking on the ashes of the wicked—according to the word of Allah swt.

Here's a pertinent question: Why on Earth would Allah swt have quietly sat by and permitted Israel to exterminate Hamas if they were truly serving the Almighty? God can intervene at any time, but has chosen not to. There's wisdom there for those with eyes to see it. That's it for interpreting that prophecy. Now, on to the prophecy primer...

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PROPHECY PRIMER

The first step in interpreting prophecies is understanding for whom they're intended for and why. Prophecies have the greatest value for people who will be alive at the time they're fulfilled. If the prophecy is going to be fulfilled way off in the far future, it's of no immediate benefit. But, if you're alive when "End Times" and "Last Hour" prophecies are being fulfilled—like now—then prophecies are the means through which Creator is providing us the guidance we need.

However, for various reasons we won't discuss now, it's important the guidance remained "hidden" until the right time arrived for it to be revealed. That's why Archangel Gabriel said what he did to the prophet Daniel in...

Daniel 12:4;

"...Daniel, close up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end. ..."

So, the prophecies are sealed with a code. That's a big reason why people have to interpret them! If they were clear and direct, you wouldn't need to interpret them.

But, if the purpose is to provide guidance to humanity, it also makes sense to encode them in an easily understandable manner providing a clear and accurate picture—when you know the "key". Giving us a "jar of guidance" with a human-proof "lid" makes no sense. So, the key to the code must be simple as pie--especially if we're in a perilous spot and God wants us to decode it quickly so we can act upon the guidance before it's too late. That's why Jesus said what he did in...

Matthew 11:25;

25 "...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."

and Matthew 18:3;

"..."Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children,
you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

One of the two principal encoding techniques is use of figurative speech.

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]
but will tell you plainly about my Father."

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The Prophet Muhammad (saw) taught the same...

Sura 3:7;

[Allah] it is who hath sent down to thee "the Book.[Qur'an]"
Some of its signs are of themselves perspicuous [literal]; ...and others are figurative."

And so did the apostles...

1 Corinthians 2:13, 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."

One method to encode words using figurative speech is childishly simple:
Use a word to symbolize something else. Then, somewhere in scripture, place a
phrase which provides us the key to the code. Here's three superb examples...

Psalms 57:4, King David;

⁴ I am in the midst of lions; I lie among ravenous beasts—
men whose teeth are spears and arrows, whose tongues are sharp swords."

Jude 1:12-13;

¹² These men are...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."

...And from Islam:

"The Signs Before The Day Of Judgement", p.33, citing Ahmad, Musnad:
"The Prophet said, Among my Ummah, some will be...transformed into animals."

In Psalms 57, men are figuratively called "beasts" and "lions". Somewhere else in a
prophecy, you'll find "beasts" and/or "lions", and the prophecy won't make sense until
you substitute "men" in their place. In Jude 1:12-13, men (in this case, false teachers)
are allegorically defined as being "clouds", "trees", "waves of the sea", and "stars". And
the Prophet's (saw) prophecies contain loads of these, often in a very uncomplimentary
way. So, whenever you see these words in a prophecy, they may be code for "people".

Can't get much simpler than that. But, that's the beauty of it. People want to make it
hard and complicated. To bury the key and make it excruciatingly difficult to discover.
And so, they overlook the simple. Paul described it this way...

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1 Corinthians 2:14, Paul;

¹⁴ 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."

And then, there's metaphors. Some major metaphorical themes in prophecy are "Water", "Plants", "Topography", and "Heaven & Earth". We'll begin with the "Water" metaphor, where every person is a single drop of water in the collective "sea" of humanity.

Revelation 17:15;

"...The waters you saw,...are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages."

...We can also be individual drops of rain in a "cloud" made up of a crowd of people. Hebrews 12:1 is a great example of this metaphor...

^{12:1} "...since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses..."

With the "Plants" metaphor, the common, "small" people are "grass" and the rulers who loom over them are "trees". The "Topography" metaphor is similar, only here the common people are "valleys" and the rulers are "mountains".

In the "Heaven & Earth" metaphor, common people are "down to Earth", and the "Heavens" and "sky" are the government reigning over them. "Stars" and "heavenly bodies" are individual members of the ruling class, who collectively form the "heavens".

One last thing, regarding use of specific periods of "Time" in prophecy. According to the rules, a stated period of time is variable, and can mean however long God wants it to mean. It's according to God's standards, not ours. Here's the rule...

2 Peter 3:8;

⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends:
With the Lord a day is like a thousand years,
and a thousand years are like a day."

This advantage in sealing prophecies is almost unfair, but God makes the rules and its no use arguing. I hope this tutorial was helpful. That's enough to digest in one reading. Part 8 will be out tomorrow or the next day. Please keep in mind how accurate and precise these prophecies are. It's for a good purpose!

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