

PROMISE OF A BRIGHT TOMORROW - PART 8

By Robert Leon Mendelson, 10/25/2024

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In Parts 1-4 we learned God promised to lead us out of our collective death spiral by providing us a peace plan to resolve the dispute in the Holy Land and initiate a process of salvation that will spread worldwide. In Part 5, we looked at "happy" prophecies to give us hope before looking at the horrible prophecies already fulfilled in the Holy Land. We started with Parts 6 & 7, and will continue today with Part 8, another prophecy from the Bible detailing the ongoing tragedy there...

ISAIAH 9:8-21, WITHOUT COMMENTARY

Isaiah 9:8-21;

⁸ The Lord has sent a message against Jacob; it will fall on Israel. ⁹ All the people will know it—Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria—who 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." ¹¹ But the Lord has strengthened Rezin's foes against them and has spurred their enemies on. ¹² Arameans from the east and Philistines from the west have devoured Israel with open mouth. Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised.

¹³ But the people have not returned to him who struck them, nor have they sought the Lord Almighty. 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. Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised."

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. 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. ²⁰ On the right they will devour, but still be hungry; on the left they will eat, but not be satisfied. 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. Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised."

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And now we'll look at the same passage again, but this time, add commentary.

ISAIAH 9:8-21, INTERPRETED

The key to interpreting this prophecy and others about events in the Holy Land, is recognizing exactly who Palestinians and Israeli Jews are. As it turns out, both groups are either directly descended from Israelite tribes, or should be accorded that status according to a law described in Ezekiel 47:21-23. Palestinians who have lived there the longest come from the tribes "Ephraim" and "Manasseh". So, in the prophecy, Ephraim and Manasseh are Palestinians, and "Judah" means Israeli Jews. I have to keep this short, so if you want proof of this, read chapters 2 and 3 of the peace plan. The link is at the end of this article. Note: everything within brackets ("[" "]") is my commentary.

Isaiah 9:8-21:

- ⁸ The Lord has sent a message against Jacob; it will fall on Israel."
⁹ All the people will know it—Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria—
 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."

[Jacob's heirs include both Israeli Jews and Palestinians, not one or the other. The "message against Jacob" in verse 8 "falls" on both branches of Israelites. Neither Israeli Jew nor Palestinian escapes Creator's attention in Isaiah 9.

Samaria is the northern half of the West Bank. Palestinians (Ephraim) have lived there for thousands of years, so referring to them as both "Ephraim" and "the inhabitants of Samaria" in the same sentence is redundant. Instead, "inhabitants of Samaria" in verse 9 refers to Israeli settlers living in settlements in the West Bank. The settlers are saying Palestinian villages pre-dating Judah's return from exile have been destroyed, along with their fig and olive orchards. These have been replaced by Israeli settlements and ornamental cedar trees, along with a giant cement Wall of "dressed stone" to keep Palestinians out.]

- ^{9:11} But the LORD has strengthened Rezin's foes against them
 and has spurred their enemies on."

[Rezin was king of Aram (Syria—see 2 Kings 15:37, 16:5,6,9). Aram competed with Assyria (Iraq), Phoenicia (Lebanon), and the Hittites (Turkey) in the Levant. Verse 11 tells us Iraqi Shiite militias (Iraq), Hezbollah (Lebanon & Syria), and Turkey are confronting Israel, mainly due to the war with Hamas, but for other reasons, too.]

Isaiah 9:8-21, cont.:

^{9:12} Arameans from the east and Philistines from the west
have devoured Israel with open mouth.

Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised."

["Arameans from the east" is Syria, while "Philistines from the west" is Hamas, which rules in Gaza, where Philistines lived. In verse 12, "devoured...with open mouth" doesn't mean literal cannibalism—it means allegorically "eating someone alive" in the media—i.e., public relations warfare. Hamas is defeating Israel in the battle for international support by gathering sympathy for all the dead and wounded civilians as Israel tries to defeat Hamas for its genocidal attack on October 7.]

^{9:13} But the people have not returned to him who struck them,
nor have they sought the LORD Almighty."

[One could make a case for "him who struck them" being Benjamin Netanyahu, who ordered the IDF strike on Gaza. But, it really means neither side is in the right from God's perspective. Israelis won't view Palestinians as Israelites, and Palestinians do the same to Jews. Neither side obeys their name for God. And until they do and agree to the peace plan, they'll both have hell to pay.]

^{m9:14} 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.

Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised."

["palm branch" and "reed" allegorically represent people. See Psalms 92:12 and Song of Songs 7:7-8 for "palm branch" and 2 Kings 18:21 for "reed". God allowed both Israelite factions to split apart and tell their self-serving lies to justify their actions. Both sides deny the other's birthright as fellow Israelites, and the rights that come with this status. So, God "chose" this headstrong people as an example to the rest of humanity, to show what happens when God is excluded from our decision-making. Unfortunately, that's what both factions of Israelites decided to do. And by doing so, they chose suffering and disgrace, instead. Since both sides deny the other's rights and deceitfully tell only one side of the story... "everyone is ungodly and wicked, every mouth speaks folly".]

Isaiah 9:8-21, cont.:

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."

Verse 18 looks like it's describing a wildfire in the woods, but it isn't. To unlock the hidden meaning, let's take a look at Micah 7:3-4, Ezekiel 28:24, and Jude 1:12; Micah 7:3-4;

³ ...the ruler...the judge...the powerful...all conspire together.

⁴ The best of them is like a brier, the most upright worse than a thorn hedge."
And Ezekiel 28:24;

"No longer will the people of Israel have malicious neighbors
who are painful briars and sharp thorns. ..."

And Jude 1:12;

12 These men are...autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted—twice dead."

...The first two passages define "briars" and "thorns" as code for "people". Jude 1:12, adds "trees" to the list of code words representing people. A forest is a large group of trees. Cities are a large group of people. Thickets are dense concentrations of trees. High-rise apartment buildings are dense concentrations of people. With these allegorical definitions, we're ready to interpret the passage...

Interpreted, verses 18-21 read;

¹⁸ Surely wickedness burns like a fire;
it consumes briars and thorns [burning people alive],
it sets the forest thickets [high-rise apartment buildings] ablaze,
so that it rolls upward in a column of smoke."

[The "SMOKE" has been rising from Gaza for over a year now.]

^{9:19} By the wrath of the Lord Almighty the land will be scorched
and the people will be fuel for the fire; no one will spare his brother."

[God, please make this end!]

²⁰ On the [political] right [Israel] will devour [land in the West Bank], but want more;
on the [political] left [Palestinians] will eat [whatever aid Israel lets through],
but not be satisfied. Each will feed on the flesh of his own offspring:
[sacrificing their young to endless wars fueled by greed.]

[On the political "right", Israel continually devours land in the West Bank for settlements, but always wants more. Those on the political "left", i.e., Palestinians, have barely gotten by on whatever outside aid Israel permits them to receive,

and yes, they aren't satisfied with that. Again, no one is blameless. Neither side has honored the sacred covenants their ancestors agreed to.

The part where "Each will feed on the flesh of their own offspring:" is particularly disgraceful. Both groups sacrifice their children to unending war while violating the holy covenants for selfish gain. Hamas uses civilians for human shields when they're alive, and for sympathy when they're dead. Israel does the same with the victims of October 7 and the hostages taken by Hamas.]

Isaiah 9:8-21, cont.:

²¹ Manasseh [Hamas] will feed on Ephraim [Palestinian Authority],
and Ephraim on Manasseh;
together they will turn against Judah [Israel]."

[Hamas and the Palestinian Authority compete with each other for public support. When one group commits acts of violence, the other group is spurred on to commit similar acts of violence of their own. But, when all is said and done, both groups will "turn against [Israel]" Please note God says this is wickedness. Also note all three sides played a part in bringing this tragedy to pass.]

Isaiah 9:8-21, verse 21, cont.:

"...Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised."

[People have a choice. They can ignore the history recorded in the sacred books which proves all inhabitants of the Holy Land have the right to be there and share the land peacefully. They can greedily insist the land belongs to them alone until nukes start falling and everyone dies. Or, they can listen to God's guidance, repent, and fulfill the prophecies in a godly way—and live in peace.]

That's enough to digest in one reading. Part 9 should be out tomorrow. Remember how accurate and precise these prophecies are, and please remember to share this.

In order to download a free copy of "God's Peace Plan for the Holy Land", you can go to our main website at www.godspeaceplan.org or to the files section at our FaceBook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/godspeaceplan>.

Or, you can download the peace plan here by clicking on the link below...
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All glory goes to God!