

OH ISRAEL, WHY WILL YE DIE? : PART 1

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Published On : March 26, 1998

Last Updated : September 29, 2012

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Originally written in early 1998, this article was motivated by the fact that at that time, despite new initiatives that were being taken by the government of the United States of America to revitalize the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, and thus avert another possible Arab-Israeli war, the proud hawkish government of Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel, was continuing to display nothing but belligerence towards the land-for-peace negotiations. We certainly have come full circle since that time, because Netanyahu is in office yet again, and the political stalemate is worse than before.

In reading both the Old and the New Testaments, one quickly discovers that these qualities of being proud, stubborn and rebellious have been strong traits of the Jewish people for literally thousands of years. Not only have these qualities gotten them in trouble with the Lord many times throughout their long history, but they have also caused them unnecessary hardships due to their lack of willingness to submit to their conquerors. In one example that is found in the pages of the Old Testament, King Josiah of Judah lost his life needlessly, all because of his foolish pride. Consider the following verses:

"After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Necho king of Egypt came up to fight against Carchemish by Euphrates: and Josiah went out against him. But he sent ambassadors to him, saying, What have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah? I come not against thee this day, but against the house wherewith I have war: for God commanded me to make haste: forbear thee from meddling with God, who is

with me, that he destroy thee not. Nevertheless Josiah would not turn his face from him, but disguised himself, that he might fight with him, and hearkened not unto the words of Necho from the mouth of God, and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo. And the archers shot at king Josiah; and the king said to his servants, Have me away; for I am sore wounded. His servants therefore took him out of that chariot, and put him in the second chariot that he had; and they brought him to Jerusalem, and he died, and was buried in one of the sepulchres of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah."

2 Chronicles 35:20-24, KJV

As you can see, Pharaoh Necho clearly told King Josiah that he had not come up to fight against him. He warned Josiah to not meddle with him, because he was just passing through Israel on his way to fight a battle at Carchemish against the king of Syria. Despite this clear overture of peace by Pharaoh Necho, Josiah still challenged him in the plain of Esdraelon, and thus lost his life needlessly. It was shortly after this that Pharaoh Necho, realizing what kind of people the Jews were, made Israel a subjugated nation. Following Josiah's death, Necho then took Josiah's son, Jehoahaz -- who had been crowned the new king -- to Egypt as a prisoner of war. He then replaced Jehoahaz with his brother Eliakim as a puppet king whom he renamed Johoiakim, as we see by these verses:

"And Pharaohnechoh put him in bands at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and put the land to a tribute of an hundred talents of silver, and a talent of gold. And Pharaohnechoh made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in the room of Josiah his father, and turned his name to Jehoiakim, and took Jehoahaz away: and he came to Egypt, and died there."

2 Kings 23:33-34, KJV

It wasn't too long after this that Pharaoh Necho suffered a great military defeat in Syria at the Battle of Carchemish, at the hands of upcoming Babylonian King, Nebuchadnezzar, who was the son of Nabopolassar. Nabopolassar was largely responsible for rebelling against the Assyrians, who had ruled over Babylon for several hundred years prior to that time. From the time of this decisive battle and forward, and in accordance with the word of the Lord through the mouth of His Prophets, the Egyptian Empire was greatly diminished in land area and military power. This topic is discussed more at length in such articles as "The Seven Heads" series. Consider this verse:

"And the king of Egypt came not again any more out of his land: for the king of Babylon had taken from the river of Egypt unto the river Euphrates all that pertained to the king of Egypt."

2 Kings 24:7, KJV

Another clear example of Jewish belligerence is found in the Babylonian invasions, which I also discuss in considerable detail in "The Seven Heads", as well as in the series "The Fruits of Disobedience". The main point is that Jerusalem did not have to suffer as horribly as it did. In fact, had not Josiah's descendants broken their word of allegiance to

King Nebuchadnezzar, very few people would have had to lose their lives. Sadly, despite the fact that the young Prophet Jeremiah warned the Israeli leadership for forty years to not rebel against the King of Babylon, but rather to submit, and to take it as a chastisement from the Lord, proud King Jehoiakim broke his promise after three years and conspired against Nebuchadnezzar. As a result of this, the Babylonian king put him in chains and carried him off to Babylon where he apparently died. Consider the following verses:

"Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God. Against him came up Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and bound him in fetters, to carry him to Babylon."
2 Chronicles 36:5-6, KJV

Following in his father's footsteps, Jehoiachin also did evil in the sight of the Lord. As a result, the Scriptures inform us that within a year of Jehoiachin becoming the new king over Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar had become fed up with him, and thus also had him taken to Babylon and imprisoned. We are informed that it wouldn't be until thirty-seven years later that Babylonian King Evil-Merodach would release him from prison, as we see by the following verses:

"Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and his abominations which he did, and that which was found in him, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah: and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his stead. Jehoiachin was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD. And when the year was expired, king Nebuchadnezzar sent, and brought him to Babylon, with the goodly vessels of the house of the LORD, and made Zedekiah his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem."
2 Chronicles 36:8-10, KJV

"And it came to pass in the seven and thirtieth year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, that Evilmerodach king of Babylon in the year that he began to reign did lift up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah out of prison; And he spake kindly to him, and set his throne above the throne of the kings that were with him in Babylon; And changed his prison garments: and he did eat bread continually before him all the days of his life. And his allowance was a continual allowance given him of the king, a daily rate for every day, all the days of his life."
2 Kings 25:27-30, KJV

Believe it or not, but following the reign of Jechoichin, King Nebuchadnezzar decided to give the Jews a third chance to redeem themselves. So, he installed Jehoiachin's brother, Zedekiah, as the next puppet king in Jerusalem. As we know from the Scriptures, this foolish king turned out to be no better than his two predecessors. The final chapter of the second Book of Chronicles ends in the following manner:

"Zedekiah was one and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And he did

that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God, and humbled not himself before Jeremiah the prophet speaking from the mouth of the LORD. And he also rebelled against king Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God: but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart from turning unto the LORD God of Israel. Moreover all the chief of the priests, and the people, transgressed very much after all the abominations of the heathen; and polluted the house of the LORD which he had hallowed in Jerusalem. And the LORD God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy. Therefore he brought upon them the king of the Chaldees, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion upon young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age: he gave them all into his hand. And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king, and of his princes; all these he brought to Babylon. And they burnt the house of God, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt all the palaces thereof with fire, and destroyed all the goodly vessels thereof. And them that had escaped from the sword carried he away to Babylon; where they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia: To fulfil the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate she kept sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years."

2 Chronicles 36:11-21, KJV

As we can see here, the Lord literally pleaded with Zedekiah through the mouth of His faithful Prophet Jeremiah, to not rebel against Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. He warned the king to submit himself, and his people -- including the spiritual hierarchy, that is, the Sanhedrin -- and to just accept the invasion and the ensuing bondage. They were told to recognize it as a Divine Chastisement from God due to their waywardness in following after the pagan gods of the heathen. Consider the following strong warning:

"And it shall come to pass, that the nation and kingdom which will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and that will not put their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation will I punish, saith the LORD, with the sword, and with the famine, and with the pestilence, until I have consumed them by his hand. Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon: For they prophesy a lie unto you, to remove you far from your land; and that I should drive you out, and ye should perish. But the nations that bring their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him, those will I let remain still in their own land, saith the LORD; and they shall till it, and dwell therein. I spake also to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live. Why will ye die, thou and thy people, by the sword, by the famine,

and by the pestilence, as the LORD hath spoken against the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon?"
Jeremiah 27:8-13, KJV

Notice exactly what the Lord asks the people of Jerusalem:

"WHY WILL YE DIE?"

The Lord used the Prophet Ezekiel to preach the very same message to the Jews. However, unlike Jeremiah, whose main ministry occurred prior to the captivity, Ezekiel's primary calling was to the Jews who had already gone into captivity in Babylon. Consider this example that is found in the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel:

"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye."

Ezekiel 18:30-32, KJV

Notice again the emphasis of the Prophet's message:

"WHY WILL YE DIE? . . . TURN YOURSELVES AND LIVE YE."

The Lord repeats the very same urgent message of repentance to the rebellious Jews in the thirty-third chapter, where He likewise says through the Prophet Ezekiel:

"Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"
Ezekiel 33:11, KJV

Clearly the Lord does not take pleasure in the death of the wicked. The Prophet Jeremiah said the very same thing when he warned his Jewish brethren with the following message:

"For the Lord will not cast off for ever: But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies. For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men."
Lamentations 3:31-33, KJV

Concerning His own Ministry, even Jesus said that He had not come to destroy, but rather to seek and to save that which was lost. In fact, on one particular occasion, Jesus had to correct His own followers when they wanted to destroy a town because they rejected the Lord. Consider these verses:

"And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him. And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. And when his

disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village."
Luke 9:51-56, KJV

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."
Luke 19:10, KJV

Having experienced so much of the Lord's Mercy in his own life, despite his sins and shortcomings, the Apostle Peter was also inspired to write the following in his second Epistle regarding God's desire for repentance:

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."
2 Peter 3:9, KJV

Finally, the Apostle Paul clearly reminds us that the purpose of God's chastisements is not to destroy us, or to discourage us, but rather to purge us of our sins, and to then give us a much-needed victory, as we see here:

"And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed."
Hebrews 12:5-13, KJV

It is for this reason that in the previous verse, the Prophet Ezekiel raises the question:

"TURN YE, TURN YE . . . FOR WHY WILL YE DIE?"

As I explain in "The Fruits of Disobedience", despite the many hundreds of years that the Lord warned the people of Israel to turn from their idolatry and their wicked ways, He knew that, once again, they would not listen, and they would not repent, just as they likewise will not listen or repent of their unbelief today either. That is why the Lord warned the Jews with the following through the Prophet Jeremiah:

"But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you. But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward. Since the day that your fathers came forth out of the land of Egypt unto this day I have even sent unto you all my servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them: Yet they hearkened not unto me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck: they did worse than their fathers. Therefore thou shalt speak all these words unto them; but they will not hearken to thee: thou shalt also call unto them; but they will not answer thee. But thou shalt say unto them, This is a nation that obeyeth not the voice of the LORD their God, nor receiveth correction: truth is perished, and is cut off from their mouth."
Jeremiah 7:23-28, KJV

You will recall that earlier we read the following verse that is found in the second Book of the Chronicles:

"But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy."
2 Chronicles 36:16, KJV

Allow me to call your attention to the last five words in that verse: "till there was no remedy." In His great Mercy, God tried. He really tried. He sent the Jews messenger after messenger, Prophet after Prophet, and warning after warning. However, He finally decided that there was simply no remedy that would work, other than Divine Chastisement. The Jews just never seemed to get the point until they felt the Wrath of the Lord breathing down heavily on them. It happened with the Assyrians, it happened with the Babylonians, and it also happened six centuries later when the Jews made their biggest mistake of all when they chose to reject the very Son of God. As I explain in some of the aforementioned articles, as well as in "Psalm 83 War False Doctrine Exposed", once again the Jews experienced the full Wrath of God in 70 AD when both Jerusalem and the Temple were utterly destroyed by the Roman legions under the leadership of General Titus.

Tragically, As I point out in considerable detail in "Welcome to the Greater Israel, USA!", the Jews still have not learned their lesson. They still have not repented of their unbelief. They continue to remain antichrist, and resist the truth. A small number have repented and come to Christ, but not very many, despite efforts by some American Christians to convert them.

Considering the previous examples of Jewish stubbornness, it should come as no surprise that despite its size, military might, and economic and political power, for more than three decades now -- since President Jimmy Carter -- the United States government has been repeatedly embarrassed by Israeli prime ministers, and has clearly proven itself to be too weak and too ineffective to do anything substantial to remedy the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians. The truth of the matter -- as I bluntly point out in the aforementioned

article -- is that so many of America's politicians have now been so corrupted and controlled by Jewish money, that they cannot do anything, even if they want to. After all, winning votes, and staying in office is more important to them, and they need those Jewish votes.

From a parental perspective, America has simply lost control of her child. Let me remind you again that it was indeed in part through American nurturing and economic and political support, that Israel was first recognized as a nation over sixty years ago. In fact, to this day, Israel continues to enjoy the highest level of American foreign aid per capita than any other nation in the entire world. The tiny nation State of Israel, with just under eight million citizens, has repeatedly shown in a very clear manner, that it is not about to yield to American demands, or to anyone's demands. It has repeatedly shown who is the boss, to the frustration and dismay of a long list of American presidents.

As I mentioned at the very beginning of this current article, the irony of this situation is that when I wrote the original version of this article in 1998, militant Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu was serving his first term as the leader of Israel. He was a lot of trouble back then. Here we are fourteen years later, and once again Netanyahu is the prime minister of that nation, is calling the shots, and is likewise embarrassing America's leaders. PM Netanyahu has made clear that based on her security requirements, Israel alone will be the one to determine the extent of any pullbacks from the West Bank, any dismantlement of settlements, as well as her final borders, and the status of Jerusalem.

As if all of this isn't bad enough, as I explain in "Welcome to Greater Israel, USA!", for months now, the leadership of Israel has been pressuring the American government, trying to embarrass the American president and make him look weak and indecisive, so that he will be Israel's proxy once again, by attacking Iran's nuclear facilities. Let's hope that he does not bow to Jewish pressure, Jewish money, or the Jewish vote, for the sake of winning the next election. As I mention in the aforementioned article, if the United States or Israel attacks Iran, no matter what anyone calls it, and no matter how they try to disguise it or justify it in the mass media, the bottom line still remains that it is an act of war on a sovereign nation. That is International Law.

Regarding what little remains of the Middle East peace talks between the Israelis and the Palestinians, there is now so much working against them -- Netanyahu with his controversial settlement expansions in the West Bank, the radical Islamic group Hamas in control of the Gaza Strip, President Mahmoud Abbas approaching the United Nations for non-member status for Palestine, etc. -- that it seems very doubtful that they will ever resume. While there are obviously many complex and technical issues involved in the peace negotiations, if we step back for just a moment, we can see that the truth of the matter is that according to the Scriptures, the basic problem really comes down to just one issue. That is the following:

"Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom."

Proverbs 13:10, KJV

"Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."
Proverbs 16:18, KJV

If each side would just forsake their pride, and their many years of mistrust and hostility towards each other, perhaps the more mundane aspects of achieving peace between the two parties could be resolved. Sadly, this is probably wishful thinking. At this current time, both the Israelis and the Palestinians have clearly spelled out their positions; and neither side is willing to budge a single inch. Both of them are very much entrenched, and they both feel that they have compromised their positions as much as they possibly can. Likewise, they both believe that they have been as patient with each other for as long as they possibly can. With such recalcitrant attitudes, it has really become an unworkable situation.

I remember a number of years ago while he was still alive, then Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat pointedly stated that what Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu offered his people was "peanuts". As it was then, Netanyahu continues to claim that he cannot possibly make any further concessions without jeopardizing Israeli security. If anything, it seems that the current situation is even worse than it was before, because both parties have clearly given up on talks, and have opted for unilateral approaches to their problems instead.

As you may know, just recently, Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak -- a former prime minister -- suggested that it may be time for Israel to undertake a unilateral withdrawal from the West Bank. His controversial plan -- which the Palestinians soundly reject -- involves annexing several illegal Jewish settlement blocs to the current State of Israel. Please note that all settlements within the West Bank are considered to be illegal according to International Law, even though Israel rejects this claim. The West Bank is likewise viewed as an occupied territory by most of the world community.

For his part, Palestinian Authority President, Mahmoud Abbas, insists that he will not return to direct peace talks with the Israelis until they freeze all settlement construction, and also recognize the 1967 borders as the starting point for any future negotiations, with agreed upon land swaps. Thus, as I explain in the three-part series called "United Nations Confrontation: Abbas vs. Obama", since last year, Mr. Abbas has been approaching the United Nations. While his first endeavor failed to win the endorsement of the UN Security Council, he is currently approaching the UN General Assembly in the hope of acquiring non-member status.

As I have mentioned to my readers before, for the time being, Hamas has been willing to let Mahmoud Abbas prove that his way -- through the UN -- will work. However, both American and Israeli sources say that Abbas will gain very little for Palestine by approaching the United Nations. If this turns out to be true, and the benefits to Palestine as a United Nations non-member state are few -- assuming, that is, that said status is granted -- and Palestinian statehood appears to still be a distant dream, what should we expect next? How will the Palestinians react? Currently, they already suffer a

number of hardships, and frustration runs high. In a recent news report, Abbas admitted that government employees have not been paid, because there is simply no money.

While unlike Hamas, Mr. Abbas has disavowed using violence in order to achieve Palestinian statehood -- at least publicly -- we can only wonder how much more the people of Palestine are willing to endure before they decide that they have had enough, and decide to take matters into their own hands. In other words, what if they decide that Hamas' approach has been right all along, and return to violence? Is a third intifada just around the corner? Will suicide bombers once again terrorize Israeli citizens?

Please go to part two for the conclusion of this article.

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OH ISRAEL, WHY WILL YE DIE? : PART 2

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Published On : March 26, 1998

Last Updated : September 29, 2012

Palestinian East Jerusalem Capital Versus An Undivided City, Palestinians Have Waited For Statehood For Over Thirty-Four Years, Palestinian Suicide Bombers, Blood And Violence On Both Sides Of The Fence, Jewish Lamentable Treatment Of The Palestinians, Conditions Under Martial Law, Typical Response From Brainwashed Pro-Israel Christians, Israelis' Violence Against Palestinians, Jewish-Controlled American Mass Media, Non-Involvement In Politics, Danger Of Stereotyping People, The Middle East Has Long Been a Region Of Conflict, Civil Unrest And Discontentment, A Seething Pot, If Israel Attacks Iran, Bashar Al-Assad's Atrocities In Syria, War Is Coming To The Middle East, Jerusalem A Hen And Chicks, Israel's Misguided Hope In Her Military Might, King David's Mistake

Continuing our discussion of the Israeli-Palestinian issue, the Palestinians have made it rather clear that they will not settle for anything less than East Jerusalem being the capital of a state that is based upon 1967 borders. For his part, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu -- and most Israelis for that matter -- reject the Palestinian claim to East Jerusalem. As most Christians know, an undivided city of Jerusalem is the bedrock of conservative Jewish politics.

In my view, the Palestinians have demonstrated to the world that they have attempted to resolve the situation through diplomatic means for thirty-four years now. While it is in fact true that certain radical Palestinian elements within their midst have done some very atrocious things which have

cost the lives of innocent Israeli civilians -- which is indeed inexcusable, and which I discuss more in the series entitled "Palestinian Suicide Bombers and Middle East Peace" -- at the same time, it is also true that the Palestinians are by no means alone in their guilt. Extreme violence has been committed, and blood shed, on both sides of the fence.

Any honest person who is willing to lay aside their personal prejudices, should be able to recognize that there are simply no innocent parties in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Israelis are equally to blame, as a number of exposés of the behind-the-scenes operations of the Mossad have revealed. In fact, with the events of recent months, the Israelis haven't even tried to hide the fact that they have sent some of their operatives on missions to assassinate some members of Hamas, and have succeeded in doing so. Furthermore, the excessive use of overwhelming force by the Israelis when confronted by Palestinians using crude rockets and stones is deplorable.

Laying aside the outright violence and bloodshed, the Jews' current treatment of the Palestinians as basically marked, card-carrying, corralled animals who find themselves under constant military observation is totally unjustifiable.

For those of you who may object to this point of view, I ask you to consider for a moment exactly how you would feel if your community suddenly found itself placed under what really amounts to a severe form of undeclared martial law. Suppose that this situation was declared, not because your community had really done something wrong, but only because there was a suspicion that someone in your community might do something wrong. How would you personally feel about this? Undoubtedly, you would feel quite angered and upset about it. Suppose you and your neighbors decide to complain to the authorities and inform them that how your community is being treated is not justified. Wouldn't you be surprised if, rather than being treated with decency and respect, you are either imprisoned, roughed up and questioned, or at the very least your name is blacklisted as a possible troublemaker? If so, consider then some of the other possible effects that martial law might have on you and your community:

1. Food is rationed and in short supply at your local supermarket.
2. It is difficult, if not impossible, for you to get to your place of work on time, if your job even still exists.
3. Your basic utilities such as power and water have become unreliable due to the declared state of emergency.
4. Tension is extremely high as neighbors begin to lose trust in each other and in their government.
5. Your patience and forbearance become almost non-existent, and you are plagued with bouts of depression.
6. Price-gauging has become a common occurrence and your money no longer meets your basic needs.

7. Your children are traumatized because on their way to school everyday, they are forced to pass by checkpoints manned by armed guards who are already under a lot of pressure due to previous protests by angered citizens.
8. Your communication with the outside world is monitored and possibly restricted.
9. Periodically a law-abiding neighbor in your community is unexpectedly taken in for questioning, and is then placed under arrest without any apparent reason, and without due process of law. You are told he or she is a drug dealer, although you know for a fact that it really is not true.
10. You are accidentally shot, and possibly killed, because one of the young nervous armed guards misjudged a particular movement you made, or an expression on your face.
11. You are taken in for questioning, or arrested, simply because you happen to know a certain person, or because you are of a certain race.
12. You are placed under house-arrest for no apparent reason.
13. Your house is ransacked and/or destroyed by authorities while you are away at work. Neighbors are told you had a bomb factory in the cellar, even though everyone knows that you are a respectful, law-abiding citizen.
14. Your husband or wife is arrested under unsubstantiated charges, while your children look on and cry in shock.
15. When you are out shopping, going to work or school, or taking care of personal business, you are taunted and jeered at by people of another ethnic group who do not like you.

If you think that the above list is somewhat exaggerated, then I urge you to take a closer look at some areas of the world where one ethnic group is oppressed by another. If you do, you will quickly discover that the above points are in fact quite accurate; and that there are even worse things happening which I haven't mentioned such as group executions, torture, rape, etc. These symptoms may not all be present at the same time in any particular situation, but some of them will be present.

Perhaps while you are looking for a place where incidents of this nature might have happened, or may still be occurring, you might want to take a closer look at how the Israelis have treated the Palestinians over the decades. Upon doing so, you may acquire a more compassionate understanding regarding the Palestinians' current frustrations. Undoubtedly, some of you who have been brainwashed and indoctrinated by pro-Israel organizations such as CUF, will be tempted to fire back in Pavlov dog fashion with a response such as the following:

"Now just wait a minute! Those Palestinians are terrorists! They deserve everything that is happening to them! Have you already forgotten about the victims of those crazy suicide bombers? Every one of those Palestinians is no doubt just a

mentally-unbalanced terrorist in waiting! Just watch, read or listen to American or Israeli news! That will clear up any doubts you may have about those evil people! They are very dangerous fanatics! They just want to push the Jews into the sea!"

As I have already made clear, no, I have not forgotten about the suicide bombers; but neither have I forgotten about all of the innocent Palestinians who have been unfairly detained, arrested, imprisoned, beaten up, shot at, wounded or killed by nervous Israeli soldiers who are armed with real bullets; while the Palestinians -- some of whom are of school age -- have only wielded rocks. While it is true that a person can be harmed by a rock, from a long distance -- which is really the case in many of these incidents -- a metal bullet is more accurate and deadly, even if it is rubber-coated. It is an established, verifiable fact that over the years, thousands of Palestinians have been killed by the Israelis.

Of course, if all you ever do is read the Jewish-controlled press, you will never know any of these things. You will only learn the Israeli point of view, and you will be convinced in your mind that you have the full truth. Either that, or you will purposely ignore those things which conflict with what you want to believe, even if they do happen to be true. Now, if you are foolish enough to doubt Jewish control over the American mass media -- and over American life in general -- then let me again encourage you to read the series entitled "Welcome to Greater Israel, USA!". It will probably shock any open-minded person; particularly the part that exposes Jewish influence and control in America.

Let me make it clear that I am not politically motivated in any of the statements that I have made here. In fact, as my regular readers will already know, I do not become involved in the politics of the world, because my citizenship is not of this current world, as I explain in a number of my articles such as "The Heavenly Vision: Have You Got It?". While I do not become involved in the political process itself, for the sake of my readers, from time to time, I do find it necessary to comment on political issues, so that they may know the truth.

Furthermore, being as I am a Christian with a conscience for standing up for what is right, I do believe in trying to look at things fairly as God sees them, and not as biased men tend to see them. As the Lord told the Prophet Samuel when he was erroneously going to anoint Jesse's eldest son Eliab as the new king of Israel:

". . . Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart."
1 Samuel 16:7, KJV

If you happen to hold the aforementioned negative point of view concerning the Palestinians, allow me to ask you a few questions. Suppose it is believed that a suspected terrorist has purchased bomb supplies in your town's hardware store. Because of this suspicion, the FBI -- the Federal Bureau of Investigation in America -- decides to arrest the store owner

and all of his employees under suspicion of possibly being accomplices to the crime. Later, the whole town is placed under martial law because the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms -- or BATF -- is suspicious that some kind of large underground terrorist organization might be working out of it. In other words, they have become convinced that the man who is suspected of being a terrorist is just the tip of the iceberg.

Some time later, it is discovered that the man who had been accused of being a terrorist, simply purchased a few screws at the hardware store in order to repair a loose panel on his pickup truck. Of course, that part of the story is never published in the media. Furthermore, even though the man's reputation has been severely tarnished, to the point that he has lost his job, and all of his friends as well, government officials state that they aren't in the business of offering apologies, even when they have obviously been wrong.

Here is another example. Imagine that it has been discovered that a suicide bomber was living in your city at the time he committed a certain horrible crime. How would you feel if your city's image is seriously marred, to the point that the economy is negatively affected by it, and anyone who travels outside of your city is treated with prejudice and disrespect, simply because they are associated with your city?

Or consider this scene: Suppose that a certain serial killer is living in the apartment right below you where he secretly sexually abuses unwary women. Then, to get rid of all of the evidence, he cooks up a nice flesh stew every week. Are the police going to come in and arrest everyone living in that apartment complex, under the suspicion that they might all be related to the serial killer and chef extraordinaire, and thus may possibly have similar culinary tastes?

As a final example, consider a certain militia group that is living in a remote area of a certain state within the United States of America. Here is a group of men who, similar to a lot of Americans, are becoming a bit upset with the way the American government is running things. They are tired of the political, moral and spiritual corruption they see occurring all around them; so they decide that they are going to take matters into their own hands, and do things their own way, even if some of their activities and methods are considered to be on the border of breaking the law. Regardless of what their real crimes are, or are not, is the government going to clamp down on the entire state where they are located, just because of those few men who had a mind of their own?

Of course, the previous, obviously-exaggerated scenarios are simply meant to emphasize a few key points. For example, you can't punish a whole town, community, city, state, country or ethnic group because of the crimes or negative actions which have been committed by one or a few individuals. You can't begin to treat everyone with suspicion and disrespect, simply because a few individuals have gone to the extreme in their views and with their actions. You cannot simply throw a particular race of people all into one lump and stereotype them; that is, make sweeping generalizations concerning what they are like, how they think or what they might do.

As some of my readers will know, I have lived outside of the continental United States for almost thirty years now. As a result, a lot of the things I know and understand regarding current life in America is based upon what I read online in the news, and in other areas of the Internet. Based on that information alone, I have absolutely no desire to return to the United States. In fact, I find it a rather scary place.

Why do I feel this way? Because if I allow my opinion about the United States to be crafted by that information alone, I am forced to believe that America is a land that is full of nothing but corrupt politicians, a rich upper class which continually oppresses the poor, warmongers who pick fights overseas based on questionable motives, drug pushers and drug addicts, high school shooters, prostitutes, militant gays and lesbians who are intent on taking over the country, murderous abortionists, drunks, illegal aliens who suck off of the government and steal jobs from people who are more deserving, pedophiles and other child abusers, atheists who want to totally remove God and faith out of government and out of the public square, racists and other hate groups, gang members, members of organized crime, rapists, and Americans who own ten guns each.

Now, if you are an American, were you offended by my words? Do you think that I have a balanced understanding of what it is like to live in modern-day America? Or would you strongly object and point out that not all Americans are like that? Would you endeavor to convince me that despite the outward appearance, there are actually still a lot of great, honest, peaceful, hard-working, God-fearing people who live in the USA, even if I may be unable to see it as an outsider who is just looking in? Do you see my point? The Scriptures clearly inform us that the Lord does not like a false balance; and that can be applied to many things in life, and not just to weights and measurements. In fact, when we stereotype some person or ethnic group, we are measuring them against what we personally view as being normal and right. Consider the following verses:

"A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight."
Proverbs 11:1, KJV

"Divers weights are an abomination unto the LORD; and a false balance is not good."
Proverbs 20:23, KJV

To stereotype someone is being biased, narrow-minded and prejudiced to the extreme. Not everyone is a serial killer, or a cannibal, or a rapist, or a terrorist, or a pedophile, or a drug dealer, or a drunk, or a political radical, or a racist, or any of the other things that I mentioned in the previous paragraph. If we want to stereotype people, then based upon what I have learned from the news regarding the USA, perhaps the entire American nation should be locked up forever and the key thrown away!

Obviously, many of you will not agree with this; so why do you read your Jewish-controlled news, and then ignorantly clump together the Palestinians as if they are all nothing but violent criminals who wear suicide vests? There are no

doubt many fine Palestinian citizens. Just like the rest of us, they are fathers, mothers, young married couples, little children, working people, students, etc. I suspect that the majority of them are probably struggling to survive a lot more than the average American family. Thank the Lord, some of them have even embraced Christianity.

A subjugated and controlled people -- as the Palestinians are -- can only endure so much abuse. Eventually, they run out of patience and choose to resort to less-than-honorable means to pursue their goals of political, economic, social and religious freedom. While it is not right for them to resort to violence, neither is it right for them to remain oppressed. Through their actions, Benjamin Netanyahu and the Israeli government have made clear that they are not really interested in peace. If they were, they would immediately desist in settlement expansion in the West Bank, because they know that it is only infuriating, frustrating, and alienating the Palestinian people even more, and driving them away from the bargaining table.

It seems a bit ironic to me that a people who once felt the ire of Adolf Hitler, the wrath of the Inquisition, the sword of the Crusaders, the iron-fisted might of Rome, the force of Nebuchadnezzar, the wrath of the Assyrians, and the whip of the slave masters of Egypt, should at this current time treat another people -- their half-brothers no less -- with such disdain and disrespect.

Of course, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is really just a microcosm of the problems which exist in the Middle East. If there is anything that can be said regarding the Middle East, it is that it has long been an area of conflict, civil unrest and discontentment. Aside from the fact that the region has been carved up between the Sunnis and the Shi'ites -- which has resulted in tensions that are literally centuries old -- the current situation is aggravated by the grave developments in Syria, the ongoing war of words between Israel and Iran, the rise of Islamic-leaning governments in nations across the Middle East and North Africa as a result of the "Arab Spring" -- the full effects of which are still unknown -- the limited water resources which has resulted in tension between various nations, the Iraqis' frustration with Turkish jets crossing over into Iraq in order to pursue the Kurds, and a number of other issues.

In a word, one is given the impression that the Middle East is a boiling, seething pot that could possibly explode if the temperature is not turned down in some of these areas very soon. For example, if Israel were to attack Iran in the near future due to the United States' reluctance to bomb Iran's nuclear facilities, it could easily plunge the Middle East into a major war with Israel at the center. Unlike Syria and Iraq which were attacked by Israel in previous years, it is quite possible that Iran will seek to retaliate. If this were to occur, other nations which hate Israel might not just sit idly by. Let's not forget the events of 1967 and 1973.

On another front, as current news reports have been stating, the problems in Syria have already begun to spill over into neighboring countries as war refugees flee to Turkey, Iraq, etc. Even now, there are indications that both Iran and Iraq

are supporting the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria; either by providing al-Assad with fighters and military hardware, or else by allowing said shipments to pass through their own air corridors, despite international condemnation of the bloody atrocities which are being committed by the Syrian leader.

Regardless of what eventually happens concerning the Israeli and Palestinian conflict, as I have been teaching for quite a number of years now, based on my current understanding of the Bible, my gut feeling is that another full-scale Arab-Israeli war will occur. As long as Israel remains a thorn in the side of the Arabs, eventual war is assured. We need to recognize that the millennia of accusations and counter-incriminations, pride, arrogance and mistrust which have separated these two peoples is not something which can easily be overcome in a matter of a few weeks, months or years. Once this war begins, it will be very difficult to stop. In fact, it may be totally impossible to stop until one side has been obliterated by the other.

As I was working on this article, I happened to hear some baby chicks outside my window being led by their mother hen. Immediately the following verses came to me:

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate."
Matthew 23:37-38, KJV

Perhaps you may consider the above incident to be a mere coincidence. However, I believe that it is a confirmation sign from the Lord. Contrary to the view that is held by certain American Christians who anticipate a miraculous victory by Israel over her enemies, as I explain in such articles as "The Great Tribulation and the Rapture", I hold the opinion that sometime in the near future, Israel, and Jerusalem in particular, is going to be invaded and brought to desolation; just as she has been a number of times in the past by the Assyrians, the Babylonians, and the Romans. As we have seen, these nations were sent by the Lord to judge and punish the Jews, due to their sins.

At this current time, Israel is so proud of, and has placed so much confidence in, her military might. In her foolish pride, she probably takes great comfort in the fact that she has an arsenal of nuclear weapons as well. She is no doubt very convinced that if a major war does break out in which she is the primary target, she will be victorious, and will subdue all of her enemies, as she has done in the past. By even adopting this dangerous attitude, apparently, she does not even recognize the error of her ways.

As I point out in other articles such as "Psalm 83 War False Doctrine Exposed" and "Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth", in his pride, King David made the very same mistake. David wanted to conduct a census in order to determine exactly how large and how powerful his army really was. He was gloating in the arm of flesh. He had forgotten that it was the Lord who had given him his greatness and everything that he owned. In other words, motivated by his vanity, David wanted to take

a little bit of the credit to himself. He wanted to savor the moment, when in reality, all honor, glory and credit belongs to the Lord alone. Consider the following verses:

"And again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah. For the king said to Joab the captain of the host, which was with him, Go now through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan even to Beersheba, and number ye the people, that I may know the number of the people. And Joab said unto the king, Now the LORD thy God add unto the people, how many soever they be, an hundredfold, and that the eyes of my lord the king may see it: but why doth my lord the king delight in this thing? Notwithstanding the king's word prevailed against Joab, and against the captains of the host. And Joab and the captains of the host went out from the presence of the king, to number the people of Israel. And they passed over Jordan, and pitched in Aroer, on the right side of the city that lieth in the midst of the river of Gad, and toward Jazer: Then they came to Gilead, and to the land of Tahtimhodshi; and they came to Danjaan, and about to Zidon, And came to the strong hold of Tyre, and to all the cities of the Hivites, and of the Canaanites: and they went out to the south of Judah, even to Beersheba. So when they had gone through all the land, they came to Jerusalem at the end of nine months and twenty days. And Joab gave up the sum of the number of the people unto the king: and there were in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant men that drew the sword; and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand men. And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto the LORD, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly."
2 Samuel 24:1-10, KJV

As I explain in the aforementioned articles, because of the king's pride, vanity, self-confidence and haughtiness, God chastised him and knocked him down a few notches. The Lord had to remind David in a very clear way that He alone was the true source of the king's power and victory over his enemies. Sadly, as the following verses reveal, this turned out to be a very expensive lesson for King David to learn. As a result of the king's disobedience in instructing Joab to conduct the census -- even though Joab and the other army captains were against the idea of conducting the census -- seventy thousand men were slain:

"For when David was up in the morning, the word of the LORD came unto the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying, Go and say unto David, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three things; choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee. So Gad came to David, and told him, and said unto him, Shall seven years of famine come unto thee in thy land? or wilt thou flee three months before thine enemies, while they pursue thee? or that there be three days' pestilence in thy land? now advise, and see what answer I shall return to him that sent me. And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let us fall now into the hand of the LORD; for his mercies are great: and let me not fall into the hand of man. So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed: and there died of the people from Dan even to

Beersheba seventy thousand men."
2 Samuel 24:1-10, KJV

While we don't know exactly when King David wrote it, the following verse that is found in Psalm Twenty clearly shows the lesson that the king learned from that sad incident:

"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God."
Psalms 20:7, KJV

Please go to part three for the conclusion of this series.

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OH ISRAEL, WHY WILL YE DIE? : PART 3

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Published On : March 26, 1998

Last Updated : September 29, 2012

Jews Have Rebelled Against The Lord For Millennia, Because Israel Refuses To Harken To God, Blessed Is He That Cometh In The Name Of The Lord, Major War In Middle East And Great Tribulation For The Jews, One Dandy Bad Example, Learn From The Past, Closing Remarks, Suggested Reading Resources List

While King David may have learned his lesson, on the whole, as I pointed out in part one, sadly, the Jewish people just never seem to learn their lesson for very long. As Jesus said in the Gospel of Matthew, He longs to embrace and love the Jews, similar to the hen who leads her chicks. However, they just refuse to have anything to do with Him, and have disobeyed Him, and have continuously rebelled against Him, for literally millennia. This tragic truth is made so very clear in the following verses:

"Surely none of the men that came up out of Egypt, from twenty years old and upward, shall see the land which I swear unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob; because they have not wholly followed me:"
Numbers 32:11, KJV

"Nevertheless the LORD raised up judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them. And yet they would not hearken unto their judges, but they went a whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves unto them: they turned quickly out of the way which their fathers walked in, obeying the commandments of the LORD; but they did not so. And when the LORD raised them up judges, then the LORD was with the judge, and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge: for it

repented the LORD because of their groanings by reason of them that oppressed them and vexed them. And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them; they ceased not from their own doings, nor from their stubborn way."

Judges 2:16-19, KJV

"And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them."

1 Samuel 8:7, KJV

"Neither will I make the feet of Israel move any more out of the land which I gave their fathers; only if they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that my servant Moses commanded them. But they hearkened not: and Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than did the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel."

2 Kings 21:8-9, KJV

"Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the terrible God, who keepest covenant and mercy, let not all the trouble seem little before thee, that hath come upon us, on our kings, on our princes, and on our priests, and on our prophets, and on our fathers, and on all thy people, since the time of the kings of Assyria unto this day. Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly: Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law, nor hearkened unto thy commandments and thy testimonies, wherewith thou didst testify against them. For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou gavest them, and in the large and fat land which thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works."

Nehemiah 9:32-35, KJV

"Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work. Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways: Unto whom I swear in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest."

Psalms 95:8-11, KJV

"They have not known nor understood: for he hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; and their hearts, that they cannot understand."

Isaiah 44:18, KJV

"And I brought you into a plentiful country, to eat the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof; but when ye entered, ye defiled my land, and made mine heritage an abomination."

Jeremiah 2:7, KJV

"For my people is foolish, they have not known me; they are sottish children, and they have none understanding: they are

wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge."
Jeremiah 4:22, KJV

"O LORD, are not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return."

Jeremiah 5:3, KJV

"Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it."
Jeremiah 6:19, KJV

"But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you. But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward. Since the day that your fathers came forth out of the land of Egypt unto this day I have even sent unto you all my servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them: Yet they hearkened not unto me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck: they did worse than their fathers. Therefore thou shalt speak all these words unto them; but they will not hearken to thee: thou shalt also call unto them; but they will not answer thee. But thou shalt say unto them, This is a nation that obeyeth not the voice of the LORD their God, nor receiveth correction: truth is perished, and is cut off from their mouth."
Jeremiah 7:23-28, KJV

"But they obeyed not, neither inclined their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear, nor receive instruction."
Jeremiah 17:23, KJV

"Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Behold, I will send upon them the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, and will make them like vile figs, that cannot be eaten, they are so evil. And I will persecute them with the sword, with the famine, and with the pestilence, and will deliver them to be removed to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse, and an astonishment, and an hissing, and a reproach, among all the nations whither I have driven them: Because they have not hearkened to my words, saith the LORD, which I sent unto them by my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them; but ye would not hear, saith the LORD."
Jeremiah 29:17-19, KJV

"And they came in, and possessed it; but they obeyed not thy voice, neither walked in thy law; they have done nothing of all that thou commandedst them to do: therefore thou hast caused all this evil to come upon them . . . And they have turned unto me the back, and not the face: though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction."
Jeremiah 32:23, 33, KJV

"Therefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, the God of

Israel; Behold, I will bring upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them: because I have spoken unto them, but they have not heard; and I have called unto them, but they have not answered."
Jeremiah 35:17, KJV

"And I will punish him and his seed and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring upon them, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and upon the men of Judah, all the evil that I have pronounced against them; but they hearkened not."
Jeremiah 36:31, KJV

"Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Ye have seen all the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, and upon all the cities of Judah; and, behold, this day they are a desolation, and no man dwelleth therein, Because of their wickedness which they have committed to provoke me to anger, in that they went to burn incense, and to serve other gods, whom they knew not, neither they, ye, nor your fathers. Howbeit I sent unto you all my servants the prophets, rising early and sending them, saying, Oh, do not this abominable thing that I hate. But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear to turn from their wickedness, to burn no incense unto other gods."
Jeremiah 44:2-5, KJV

"Thus saith the Lord GOD; This is Jerusalem: I have set it in the midst of the nations and countries that are round about her. And she hath changed my judgments into wickedness more than the nations, and my statutes more than the countries that are round about her: for they have refused my judgments and my statutes, they have not walked in them. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye multiplied more than the nations that are round about you, and have not walked in my statutes, neither have kept my judgments, neither have done according to the judgments of the nations that are round about you; Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, am against thee, and will execute judgments in the midst of thee in the sight of the nations. And I will do in thee that which I have not done, and whereunto I will not do any more the like, because of all thine abominations."
Ezekiel 5:5-9, KJV

"They will not frame their doings to turn unto their God: for the spirit of whoredoms is in the midst of them, and they have not known the LORD."
Hosea 5:4, KJV

"Woe unto them! for they have fled from me: destruction unto them! because they have transgressed against me: though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against me. And they have not cried unto me with their heart, when they howled upon their beds: they assemble themselves for corn and wine, and they rebel against me. Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet do they imagine mischief against me. They return, but not to the most High: they are like a deceitful bow: their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue: this shall be their derision in the land of Egypt."

Hosea 7:13-16, KJV

"Therefore say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Turn ye unto me, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. Be ye not as your fathers, unto whom the former prophets have cried, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Turn ye now from your evil ways, and from your evil doings: but they did not hear, nor hearken unto me, saith the LORD."
Zechariah 1:3-4, KJV

"But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear. Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts."
Zechariah 7:11-12, KJV

"These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me."
John 16:1-3, KJV

"But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?"
Romans 10:16, KJV

"When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.) Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."
Hebrews 3:9-13, KJV

What a sad, sad history of rebellion and unbelief. As I mention in the three-part series entitled "Accusations of Antisemitism: My Personal Response", almost two thousand years ago while standing in the Temple on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem, and after delivering what is undoubtedly one of His strongest rebukes that we find in the four Gospels, Jesus stated the following to the Jews. In fact, He said this to them right after comparing His desire for the Jews of Jerusalem to the mother hen with chicks:

"For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord."
Matthew 23:39, KJV

Despite that pointed rebuke, and the many other rebukes that Jesus delivered to His Jewish brethren; despite the warnings that the Apostles delivered in their sermons and Epistles; despite the fact that the Lord utterly destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple for a second time along with the religious system that was associated with it in 70 AD; and despite the

fact that in His great Love and Mercy, God has continued to reach out to the Jews for the past two thousand years, sadly, to this day, in their pride and arrogance, the vast majority of them continue to resist the conviction of the Holy Ghost. As the Martyr Stephen cried out just as those very same Jews were about to stone him to death:

"Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye."

Acts 7:51, KJV

What a sad and tragic tale! Even after all of that, most of the Jews today are still not ready to say "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." As I mentioned in part two, this is why I am convinced, that at some point in the future, if a major war does break out in the Middle East for whatever the reason, and if it centers around Israel, it may not end in the manner in which so many Christians and Jews seem to expect. Despite their current military might and the clear advantage which they possess over their Muslim enemies, in His unfathomable Mercy and Love, God may allow a period of Great Tribulation to occur, in order to rebuke the Jews once again, and to totally smash their pride and arrogance. Only in this way will they finally be willing to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior, and say "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord."

While some Jews and pro-Israel Christians may not like it, the fact of the matter remains that God purposely used the Jews throughout the pages of the Bible as a clear example of what not to do. That is why I tend to write about them so much. They were -- and still remain -- one dandy bad example. In other words, God expects us to learn from all of their grievous mistakes, and their sins of stubbornness, rebellion and pride. The Apostle Paul states the very same thing in the following verses that are found in two of his Epistles:

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus:"

Romans 15:4, KJV

"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."

1 Corinthians 10:11, KJV

If God used the Assyrians, the Babylonians and the Romans to punish the Jews for their sins, and if He used these heathen armies to destroy Jerusalem and the Temple on two occasions, and to carry off the Jews to serve as slaves in foreign lands on three occasions, who is to say that He might not use the Muslim hordes in a great Middle Eastern war at some point in the future, to do the very same thing again? If you cannot see the plausibility -- and perhaps even the inevitability of such a scenario -- then you have learned nothing from this series. God has His methods, and some of His methods are made plain in the Scriptures.

In conclusion, I must again ask the question: Oh Israel, why will ye die? As He has done in the past, very soon the Lord may allow you to be judged by your enemies for your sins of rebellion and unbelief. You may think that your arm of flesh -- or military might -- will be enough to save you as it did in 1967 and 1973, but what if you are wrong? What if God is actually getting ready to crush your pride? As Jesus said to your unbelieving ancestors in His own day:

". . . O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you?"
Matthew 17:17a, KJV

God is very patient; He is very longsuffering; but even He has a limit and a set time for everything that He does. What if your time has just about run out? What will you do about it?

With these thoughts I will bring this series to a close. I pray that you have found it informative, and that it has been a blessing in your life. If you have been inspired by it, I encourage you to share its URL link with all of your online friends. Also, if you have an account with Facebook, Twitter or Google+, I would very much appreciate if you would take the time to click on the corresponding link that is found on this page. Thanks so much, and may God bless you!

For additional information, you may want to refer to the list of resources below which were either mentioned in this series, or which are related to topics which were discussed in this series. All of these articles are also located on the Endtime Prophecy Net web server:

Accusations of Antisemitism : My Personal Response
Arab Spring and the Birth of the Beast and the Islamic Empire
Palestinian Suicide Bombers and Middle East Peace
Psalm 83 War False Doctrine Exposed
Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth
The Fruits of Disobedience
The Great Tribulation and the Rapture
The Heavenly Vision: Have You Got It?
The Seven Heads
United Nations Confrontation: Abbas vs. Obama
Welcome to Greater Israel, USA!

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