

A FRESH LOOK AT END TIMES

OR

"Excuse me, but ..."

Have you heard the latest holocaust forecast from your Christian community? Based on their ideas from Revelation, Daniel, and Ezekiel, there are some mighty scary days ahead, just around the corner. In fact, Christians all clamor to present the most up-to-date reports on how precisely the Bible predicts current events - the establishment of Israel, the European Economic Community, Russian adventurism, bar codes, computer chip implants, economic troubles, a reconstruction of Babylon, a one-world government, or concerning America - anything from how wonderful it is to how corrupt it is, and will be destroyed any day now. Of course, their predictions don't agree, depending on what schism you listen to. America could be the knight in shining armor to help resist a Russian Gog and Magog invasion of Israel. Or, some believe it's just the opposite - a mystery Babylon corrupt Sodom of sorts that gets fried by Russia and company, or Medo-Persia/Iran-Iraq, or someone. Some believe God will spare some of mankind through this terrible holocaust, while others predict in the end an absolute total zap of all mankind (except them and other faithful Christians, of course). Many say Christians will be preserved through a seven year "tribulation" period in which this horrendous catastrophe will occur. But then others say they will be taken out (raptured) in the middle of it. While even a third group forecasts total deliverance from this coming wrath, being raptured out before this "tribulation" begins. Whatever their particular choice (and this is not all of them), it's definitely holocaust for the unfaithful!

Let the stock market slip and - RUSH! - here come the Christian doomsayers predicting the beginning of sorrows. Let America print another hundred dollar bill, and in the back of every Christian's mind is a coming one-world government. President Bush spoke of a "new world order," and Christians shuddered that the Illuminati were on the loose. When Russia invaded Afghanistan, what was next? A super highway passage straight down to Israel for a soon Russian invasion. Did it happen? No. When the European Economic Community was established, out was to jump a ten-toed/ten nation beast that was to dominate the world, with a European antichrist at the helm and "the beast" computer in the basement. But now that this anticipated beast has sprouted many more than ten toes, where did he go? These examples are only the beginning, as some Christians participate in an end time feeding frenzy that is pathetic.

Christians read their Bibles and on the worldwide scene look for the absolute worst to happen - anything from the burning of America to the total annihilation of everyone alive today and everyone who has ever been alive (except for a select few "believers"). Those are pretty dismal predictions. (And if none of this doomsday gets the unbelieving, then the Christian bulk are certain there's a burning hell fire that awaits them to suffer in eternally.) Meanwhile, many Christians keep the survival food industry afloat, some are even talking about and acquiring weapons, while others flee or plan to flee to their own born again Masada (which in today's times are even more vulnerable than was the original Masada). What is their basis for these forecasts? They take the writings in Revelation, Daniel, Ezekiel, and other books as essentially literal (some proudly boasting of their "literal" interpretation, yet if it really was wholly literal then the locusts with men's faces, hair like women, breast plates of iron, and tails like scorpions [Revelation 9:3-11], would not be their helicopters). Whatever their "eschatological" (their fancy word for the end of the world) position, they essentially all hold to literal fire, earthquakes, hail, darkened heavens, water turning to blood (or red tide), and the sort. In fact, a "literal" interpretation of Revelation would leave the earth in the following state just before or at the return of Yahshua:

- One-third of the entire earth's land surface would be totally burned up (8:7),
- One-third of mankind would be killed (9:18) - almost two billion people,
- Every living thing in the entire sea would die (16:3),
- Every mountain and island would be moved out of its place (6:14),
- The Euphrates River would dry up (16:12),
- Some battle (Armageddon?) would kill enough men to cause a river of blood two hundred miles long and the depth of the horses' bridles (14:17-20) - requiring at a minimum the death of over two billion people (another one-third of the world's population) at one time within a concentrated area 200 miles long,
- One-third of the sun, moon, and stars would be darkened (8:12) - the loss of this much heat from the sun would freeze the earth, and
- If somehow you miss all of this, then there is still the eternal hell fire in which to suffer following your death, making the pain of all of this holocaust suffering an every day, every moment, forever and ever endless experience.

And additionally, if you follow the beliefs of some Christians, after all of this holocaust, not just one-third of mankind, or two-thirds, but everyone in totality who is not a true believer will be zapped, fried, decimated, turned to ash, entirely eliminated forever and ever. This is what Christians predict for the very near future of mankind. Not so pretty a future, and, one must conclude, the acts of a very, very, very (to say the least) wrathful God!

Yes, I know Yahweh speaks of "the great and terrible day of Yahweh" (Malachi 4:5). Yes, I know "It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10:31). And yes, I know "The day of Yahweh is indeed great and very awesome, and who can endure it?" (Joel 2:11). But I ask - Where are those who would fulfill the other associated verses in Joel and Malachi and cry out to Yahweh for mercy for all mankind, to be spared from His wrath from that

great and terrible day? You, church, Christian, you proclaim that while in your sin you found God's mercy by crying out to Him. Excuse me, but why don't you plead to God for His mercy toward these unbelieving, that they would be saved from His wrath? Excuse me, but if you know God is a God of everlasting lovingkindness and His mercy endures forever, why don't you cry out for His mercy for those who do not have eyes to see? Excuse me, but the faith that you have to believe in Him is clearly not of yourself, but it is the gift of God alone toward you (Ephesians 2:8, Romans 12:3, 1 Corinthians 4:7), then why don't you cry out for mercy for those whom God has not given this great gift of faith, that they might be spared in the day of His wrath? Excuse me, but this is not a time to condemn the unrighteous to destruction and a wrathful holocaust end, but rather a time to intercede for and pray for God's mercy for them.

What do the other associated verses in Joel and Malachi say? Let us read. After declaring in Joel 2:11 - "The day of Yahweh is indeed great and very awesome, and who can endure it?" (including Christians!) - Yahweh then declares in the very next verse - "'Yet even now,' declares Yahweh, 'return to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, weeping, and mourning; and rend your heart and not your garments.' Now return to Yahweh your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, abounding in lovingkindness, and relenting of evil" (vss. 12-13). Yes, Yahweh has a great and terrible day planned; but, He is a gracious God and in His lovingkindness will relent of evil. "O give thanks to Yahweh, for He is good; for His lovingkindness is everlasting" (1 Chronicles 16:34, as well as over 150 times in other similar passages, including twenty-six times in Psalm 136 alone).

We will consider Malachi later, but let us ask - Where is an Abraham who will stand in the gap and intercede for a wicked and adulterous generation, even as Abraham did for wicked Sodom (Genesis 18:16f)? If you are a Christian, your inheritance is the world, even as part of Abraham's inheritance was Sodom - and being responsible for it, he pled for mercy on its behalf. So, why don't you plead for Yahweh to relent concerning His wrath upon the world? Abraham was told beforehand of the wrath to come, thus making him responsible to intercede for God's mercy. Christians likewise know of the wrath of God to come, thus they too have the same responsibility to intercede for the world, their inheritance.

Where is a Moses who will stand in the gap and intercede for "an obstinate people," even as Moses did when Yahweh's anger burned against them and He was going to annihilate them (Exodus 32:9-14)? Moses entreated Yahweh in His anger, "So Yahweh changed His mind about the harm which He said He would do to His people." You say Yahweh's wrath toward you has been abated through Yahshua, then why don't you stand in the gap like Moses and ask Yahweh to change His mind about the harm which He said will befall the world?

WILL YAHWEH REPENT?

Will Yahweh give His mercy and forgiveness to the world, to the dogs (as the Scriptures refer to them)? Yahshua Himself said in Matthew 7:6 - "Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not

throw your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces." Yet Yahshua did give His pearl - the kingdom - to the 2,000 year long swine church (addressed in other writings), and He also gave what is holy to dogs. A Canaanite woman in the district of Tyre and Sidon came to Him, asking for His mercy and healing for her demon-possessed daughter. The disciples asked for her to be sent away (much as Christianity is doing for the world), and Yahshua first delayed fulfilling her request saying - "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." To which the woman replied - "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs feed on the crumbs which fall from the master's table" (Matthew 15:27). Yahshua then healed the Canaanite woman's daughter. Will He then give the crumbs from the Master's table to the dogs - the world? Yes indeed He will. He has already shown us by this miracle that He will - "for His lovingkindness is everlasting."

We see clearly from the Scriptures Yahweh's nature to repent from the wrath He plans for people. Four times Yahweh was going to destroy the Israelites - once in Egypt, three times in the wilderness. Yet, each time He repented of the evil He planned against them (Ezekiel 20:1-26, Numbers 14:11-19). Very significantly, why specifically did Yahweh repent of His wrath against them? In all four cases the reason was the same, bearing great light on the ways of Yahweh - "But I acted for the sake of My name, that it should not be profaned in the sight of the nations" (Ezekiel 20:9, 14, 22). In Numbers 14:15-19, the basis of Moses' appeal to Yahweh gives us equal insight concerning Him. Moses' appeal was on two points:

1. Concern for the nations - "Now if You slay this people as one man, then the nations who have heard of Your fame will say"
2. An appeal to His lovingkindness - "But now, I pray, let the power of the Lord be great, just as You have declared, 'Yahweh is slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, forgiving iniquity and transgression' Pardon, I pray, the iniquity of this people according to the greatness of Your lovingkindness, just as You also have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now."

Yahweh's response to Moses' request is most interesting here, revealing exactly where His qualities and concern will lead:

So Yahweh said, "I have pardoned them according to your word; but indeed, as I live, all the earth will be filled with the glory of Yahweh" (vss. 20-21).

This is a most unusual statement following Moses' appeal. It is an amazing and hope filled anticipation that following Yahweh's repentance from His wrath based upon the abundance of His lovingkindness, He would then say that "all the earth will be filled with the glory of Yahweh." Is it not this wonderful and amazing quality or way of Yahweh shown for the Israelites that will indeed prevail to all generations, in the end bringing His glory to all the earth, to all nations, to all people? Yes indeed, with hope and great confidence in Yahweh's lovingkindness, which Moses appealed to in the time of God's wrath, we can know all the more that He will

repent of the evil He plans in "the great and terrible day of Yahweh." If Yahweh forgave the Israelites so many times for His names sake, that it would not be profaned in the sight of the nations, He will also forgive the nations and repent of the wrath He intends for them and the earth and for Christianity. If Yahweh forgave the Israelites, He will also forgive the nations whose boundaries, very significantly, have been set "according to the number of the sons of Israel" (Deuteronomy 32:8). Yes indeed He will, "for His lovingkindness is everlasting."

And is it not written, "we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world" (1 John 2:1-2)? Is it not also written - "And we have beheld and bear witness that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world" (1 John 4:14)? Paul concluded - "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them" (2 Corinthians 5:19). And the Savior of the world, Yahshua, declared - "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world; but that the world should be saved through Him" (John 3:16-17). The same mercy that saves the believer, also saves the world for whom Yahshua died. And it is this mercy, this complete and total work of Yahshua, that we can likewise call upon on behalf of the world.

And if one cannot concede at this point that indeed God does not have to carry out His plans of wrath as written, let that one consider the prophecies of Isaiah 13 and the 110 verses of Jeremiah 50 and 51 concerning the judgment and absolute total destruction of Babylon by the Medes. These chapters are filled with God's clear statements that Babylon would be judged and destroyed. For a brief example, in Jeremiah 50:3 we read - "For a nation has come up against her out of the north (specifically the Medes - 51:11 and 28); it will make her land an object of horror, and there will be no inhabitant in it." In 51:2-4 we read - "And I will dispatch foreigners to Babylon that they may winnow her and may devastate her land. ... So do not spare her young men; devote all her army to destruction. And they will fall down slain in the land of the Chaldeans, and pierced through in their streets."

One might think it almost sacrilegious to ask if these prophecies came to pass; but the fact is - **they never did!** When Darius the Mede did invade Babylon as prophesied, he and his army diverted the Euphrates River, drying up its bed (a prophetic type of Revelation 16:12), crossed on dry land, entered Babylon without any resistance or bloodshed, killed only King Belshazzar, and took Babylon as spoken that very night by Daniel. There was no bloodshed in the streets, no pillage, no devastation of its land, and no destruction. All the wrath Yahweh spoke concerning the judgment of Babylon never came to pass!

Were the prophets wrong? Were they to be stoned as false prophets? No more wrong and no more false than was Jonah who equally spoke in behalf of a merciful God. Yahweh, in His everlasting lovingkindness, always reserves the right to repent of the evil He plans. Babylon came under the just rulership of the Medo-Persian empire, was later the capital of the empire of Alexander the Great, and existed in the time of the apostles (1 Peter 5:13). They were never destroyed as it was written.

Once again we see Yahweh not carrying out the wrath He plans. If Yahweh can write the chapters of Isaiah and Jeremiah concerning the judgment of Babylon and not carry out their wrath, but fulfill them in merciful peace, then He can write the chapters of Revelation and not carry out their wrath, performing them equally in merciful peace. I assure you, for a wrath in which it is written - "who can endure it?" - you who are reading this would come under its judgment equally as well. You can rejoice that Yahweh repents of the wrath He plans; for even as Babylon was spared in God's mercy, the great harlot mystery Babylon Christianity will equally be spared.

So much could be written here concerning Christianity's place as mystery Babylon. Many since the time of Martin Luther have seen and evidenced the relevance of the Catholic church as mystery Babylon, and in part they are right. But the fact is, Christianity whole has been mystery Babylon who has committed harlotry with the world. The mercy Yahweh showed to Babylon, is a foreshadowing prelude type of the mercy He will show to mystery Babylon Christianity (read [THE ISSUE - II, page 16](#)).

THE SPIRIT OF YAHSHUA

Much could be written here on what truly is the spirit of Yahshua - the spirit that one should have regarding "end times," the nations, the earth, and God's plans for them. Let us remember the teachings of the One who came to reveal to us the Father. Instead of vengeance, He called for compassion. Instead of hatred, He called for love. Instead of judgment, He called for mercy. Instead of conflict, He called for peace.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God" (Matthew 5:3,5,7,9).

"Bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you" (Luke 6:28).

"Do not judge lest you be judged. For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you" (Matthew 7:1-2).

While Christians think that Revelation is the judgment of the world, in truth its judgment is and will be against them. Even as the prophetic word judged the heart of Jonah, so the book of Revelation is an equal test that will judge Christianity - whether they will receive wrath or mercy. For in judging the world with a holocaust wrath and eternal fiery hell, they judge themselves. In James 2:13 we read - "For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment." Herein is the spirit of the true believer who longs to emulate and bear

the spirit of Yahshua. Not a spirit of merciless judgment (which will provoke merciless judgment upon the one who shows no mercy), but a spirit of mercy. And herein is the confidence and guidance we have concerning our Abraham and Moses-like intercession for the earth and the nations - **that "mercy triumphs over judgment."**

How can someone believe that the world will end in a holocaust, when God declares - "mercy triumphs over judgment"? Which is the greater law of Yahweh - mercy or judgment? Which prevails in His actions toward man - mercy or judgment? And which should the true believer seek regarding the acts of Yahweh in the "last days" - mercy or judgment? Would these be the last words of the man consumed by a fiery wrath-filled judgment - "mercy triumphs over judgment"? Hardly so! When the lion lays down with the lamb, let there be proclaimed - "mercy triumphs over judgment." When the last enemy death is put away from man, to die no more, let it be said - "mercy triumphs over judgment." If there is an epithet to all the holocaust teachings Christianity foments, it will be - "mercy triumphs over judgment." This one truth alone should be sufficient to turn any argument, any doubt, and persuade any seeking soul that the mercy of God does and will prevail over His plans for judgment. When the issue is God's judgment, mercy is the final word.

Do not seek that God make all the world like you, or else judge them (which is what Christians believe He will do). That is not mercy. Mercy is as was proclaimed by Yahshua who was tried by a Roman judge, led to the cross by a Roman escort, and crucified by Roman soldiers. Over and over again Yahshua cried - "Father forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). Did Yahshua cry out for wrath for them? No! Not at all! Does He cry out for wrath for them now? No! "Father forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." It is with confidence we can say this, for "mercy triumphs over judgment."

Mercy is the greater law, prevailing over judgment. Each time Yahweh planned wrath for the Israelites, mercy prevailed. When Yahweh planned wrath for the Ninevites, mercy prevailed. When Yahweh proclaimed by the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah the destruction of Babylon, mercy prevailed. Even when Yahweh planned wrath for Sodom, mercy prevailed - for He willingly yielded to Abraham's ever-narrowing plea. And will Yahweh heed a people's call for mercy for the nations? Yes, a thousand times yes! For we read and we see time and again that "mercy triumphs over judgment." Mercy prevails in the ways of Yahweh. All the wrath, all the harsh judgment He planned and Christian man heartily proclaims, can and will be averted - "for His lovingkindness is everlasting." This is our confidence.

We know from the Scriptures that Yahweh's way and His desire is to bring all men to repentance, not wishing for any to perish (2 Peter 3:9). So, the question must therefore be asked - Would an end time holocaust turn men's hearts to repent? Clearly, the answer is NO! Wrath never leads to repentance. This is true in the home, in society, in the world, and in God's judgment. In Revelation 16:8-9 we read what man's response would be to God's judgment in wrath - "And men were scorched with fierce heat; and they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plagues; and they did not repent, so as to give Him glory." How, I ask, would Yahweh

pursue this course/this reaction from men, when the very reason He did not destroy the Israelites on numerous occasions was for the concern of what the nations would say about Him? Wrath does not bring forth Yahweh's desired results, only mercy and kindness - "Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?" (Romans 2:4). What leads men to repentance? His kindness.

And with fear I again remind you that if you are so willing to accept and teach the wrathful judgment of God upon the world for their actions, then if you are guilty in any regard of any of their faults, you bring the same wrath upon yourself. This verse concerning "the kindness of God" is preceded by this warning - "And do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment upon those who practice such things and do the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?" (vs. 3). And let it be added - "For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy," but "mercy triumphs over judgment." The cry of any man who believes in God should be mercy from Him for others, lest he invoke God's wrath upon himself. The cry that David expressed for his own welfare - "O Yahweh, rebuke me not in Your wrath; and chasten me not in Your burning anger" (Psalm 38:1) - must be the cry on behalf of the nations from those who truly seek to know Yahweh and His ways. Even as Yahshua taught - "You have heard that it was said," judgment (and Christians teach judgment); "but I say to you," mercy (Matthew 5:38-48) - this must be the cry of the true believer - mercy, and not judgment.

Is this not the way of Yahweh for which we should cry out to Him on behalf of the nations and the earth? Is it not far better, and is it not more in keeping with His ways, and is it not much safer in regard to our own judgment, that we petition Him to not bring His planned wrath, but to "overcome evil with good" as it is written (Romans 12:21). And frankly, it is not so much for Yahweh to change, for we have already seen that for His name's sake He repents of evil; but the greater need is for believers to see their need to change, to cease teaching God's wrath, and cry out for His mercy for the nations and the earth - that Yahweh would act out of His lovingkindness, demonstrating this kindness to the nations that they might repent. This must be the heart, the actions, the attitude, and the cry of the true believer.

Many Christians, and some entire denominations or groups, spend countless hours and great efforts in the name of God in amassing voluminous knowledge and burgeoning facts on a soon coming wrath of God, holocaust end, and judgment. They amass knowledge, upon knowledge, upon knowledge. And while some of these groups or denominations may be evangelistic and reaching out to "save the world" by conversion to Yahshua, this alone is not sufficient. The voluminous knowledge they amass while seeking the expansion of evangelism is not sufficient. All the knowledge they may gather concerning an end time holocaust, all the radio presentations, television presentations, multimedia presentations, meetings upon meetings, brochures, books, charts, videos, and all, profits them nothing when they lack the Abraham and Moses-like love that cries out to God for His mercy for the nations. "Father forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing," should be their cry. They may "know all mysteries and all knowledge" (at least in their own sight), but without an interceding love, they are nothing (1 Corinthians 13:2). "Love is patient, love is kind, ... bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all

things." Like mercy - "Love never fails ..." (vss. 4, 7, 8). These are the qualities we can expect from Yahweh for the nations and for the church; for "God is love" (1 John 4:8). "God so loved the world," and "love covers a multitude of sins" (1 Peter 4:8), even the sins of the world. Let a people instead gain a knowledge of and ascribe confidence in the love, mercy, kindness, and forgiveness of Yahweh for the nations. These are the qualities we must seek to know, to emulate, and to respond to and count upon.

And, these are the qualities we can expect to see expressed just preceding the return of Yahshua; not His wrath. When it is written - "Lovingkindness and truth go before You" (Psalm 89:14) - what is it that will "go before" Yahshua at His return? Wrath and holocaust judgment? No, "Lovingkindness and truth" will "go before" Him. This is the Elijah work in which He will establish a Remnant people who will express these two marvelous qualities, preparing the way for His return - "Lovingkindness and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Truth springs from the earth; and righteousness looks down from heaven. Indeed, Yahweh will give what is good; and our land will yield its produce. Righteousness will go before Him, and will make His footsteps into a way" (Psalm 85:10-13).

CHRISTIANITY

Can we expect Christianity to cry out for God's mercy for the nations/the world, and in His lovingkindness and concern for the nations not bring His fierce wrath against them in the day of Yahweh? No, realistically not. Christianity is a much divided house, a corrupted house, a deceived house, a proud and haughty house, and it is already very much geared toward a world holocaust. Christianity is actually the breach period, the very long and extended period in the kingdom of God that is corrupted by man and Satan (Matthew 13:24-33). It is the breach between two works of God that are accomplished by His promised two outpourings of His Spirit - the former and latter rains - producing two unique Remnants, "two sons of fresh oil" (Zechariah 4:11-14, Lit. translation). Will this breach church period be the needed Abraham or Moses intercessor for the world? Not at all, for it is written in Ezekiel 22:30-31:

"And I searched for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the breach before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. Thus I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; their way I have brought upon their heads," declares the Lord Yahweh.

And consider the book of Jonah. If Yahweh gives His mercy to the world as He did for Nineveh, and not carry out the wrath Christianity anticipates for the unbeliever (including Christianity's false idea of an eternal burning hell fire punishment), they too, like Jonah, would be angry. Jonah lamented - "for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and One who relents concerning calamity" (Jonah 4:2). We read in this same verse that it was from his knowledge of this sure fact, even towards the oppressive enemies of the Israelites who threatened their very existence, that he fled to Tarshish, seeking to

escape the opportunity of forgiveness for the Ninevites. Jonah was an Israelite, and the Ninevites, appropriately representing the world, were not. They oppressed and were a threat to the Israelites, even as the world has oppressed and persecuted the Christian. As further testimony to Nineveh representing the world/the nations, there is the revealing parallel that from Joppa Jonah embarked on his attempted escape from taking Yahweh's mercy to a nation, and equally from Joppa Peter departed to go to Caesarea to open Yahweh's mercy to the nations (Acts 10). Christianity teaches the wrath of God toward the unbelieving world/the nations via their eternal hell fire and end time holocaust, even as Jonah spoke to the oppressive Ninevites. And even as Jonah fled to Tarshish to avoid mercy on the Ninevites, so Christianity has come to a conclusion of certain end time and even eternal wrath and judgment upon the unbelieving world.

But Yahweh is merciful, to Christianity and to the world. Even as Yahweh provided a plant to grow up and over Jonah to shade him and deliver him from his discomfort, so He provided the kingdom to Christianity to comfort them. But equally, even as Yahweh appointed a worm to attack the plant over Jonah and ruin his comfort, so Satan (a BIG worm - a serpent) has been appointed to ruin the kingdom given to Christianity, to the fate even of death to Christians (as Jonah sought). Why would Yahweh add Satan, the worm, to the church kingdom period? To humble them, to test them, and in the end to bless them. In Deuteronomy we see the purpose of what is actually this wilderness journey or experience (to be discussed later) of Christianity. Included in Christianity's wilderness is Satan's presence (even as Satan was present in Yahshua's parallel forty day wilderness journey - Matthew 4).

He led you through the great and terrible wilderness, with its fiery serpents (i.e., Satan, the serpent of old) and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water; He brought water for you out of the rock of flint. In the wilderness He fed you manna which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do good for you in the end. Otherwise, you may say in your heart, "My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth" (Deuteronomy 8:15-17).

This period of the kingdom of God given to man while in a carnal body is a time of humbling and testing, even as it was for Jonah.

Jonah lamented over his misery, and Yahweh rebuked him - "You had compassion on the plant for which you did not work, and which you did not cause to grow (the work of Yahshua provided the kingdom by grace and not by the church's own works), which came up a son of a night and perished a son of a night. And should I not have compassion on Nineveh (the world), the great city in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?" (Jonah 4:10-11). That closing sentence marks the most abrupt and unusual ending of any book in the Bible (other than Mark 16:8, if the remainder of the book was not added). It certainly speaks of the absolute spiritual deficiency of the world - not knowing "between their right and left hand." (Possibly denoting the path of the wayward who do not walk in the straight and narrow path, but turn "to the right or the left.")

The world knows not Yahshua and is spiritually ignorant, off-path, and does not follow in His ways. Is this error a cause for their abandonment to total destruction? Absolutely not! Frankly, Christianity itself is more ignorant of the ways and truths of Yahweh than they even know. (If this is not true, then why does Christianity have so many contradicting ideas, doctrines, and their resulting 22,000 denominations and sects?) They are as much a candidate for the wrath of God as the world, and even more so - Luke 12:48. No, the error and ignorance of the world should be a call for the redeemed to cry out on their behalf - to appeal to Yahweh, to intercede for them, even as Yahshua intercedes for us.

Did Yahshua not declare as He sat among the tax-gatherers and sinners - "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are ill" (Matthew 9:12)? So, how much more does the entire world need Yahshua sitting among them today? If Yahshua intercedes on our behalf who are supposedly "healthy," then we should intercede on behalf of the world, not condemning them to destruction but praying that Yahshua would dwell among them and heal them. Frankly, where did you come from Christian? From the world. Then why don't you pray for it, rather than curse it with an end time holocaust and eternal hell?

It is far better to be of the spirit of an Abraham, to intercede for a wicked people, to appeal on the fact of Yahweh's kindness and forbearance, yet in the end see His judgment anyway as with Sodom, than to be a Jonah and wait for the worst. But every indication now is that Christianity will not respond in the spirit of an Abraham or Moses to intercede for the world, but will indeed respond in the spirit of a Jonah who separated himself, made himself a shelter, and watched to see what would happen.

In like testimony, Christianity has the same attitude seen in the Sons of Thunder - James and John - in the account of Luke 9:51-56. This account is very appropriate for the times and attitude of our day. Like Christianity's teachings on the end time holocaust and eternal hell fire, James and John were equally ready to call down fire on the Samaritans and consume them for not supporting their group's journey to Jerusalem. What was Yahshua's response to their incendiary request? Was He who is the exact representation of the Father as equally eager to incinerate an entire people for their unwillingness to cooperate? Or did He have a different attitude? The Son of God, the exact representation of the Father, was not prone to such wrath, but instead "turned and rebuked them."

Many manuscripts add that Yahshua then responded to the two - "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of. For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." Church, **what spirit are you of** when you are so eager to call down fire from heaven with your teachings? Can you not see that with all your teachings of wrath, fire, merciless judgment, and eternal hell, your spirit is not that of Abraham or Moses who equally knew the wrath Yahweh planned, yet asked for mercy? Can you not see that your spirit is not that of Yahshua, of His example and His teachings? Like the Sons of Thunder, Christianity, by their teachings and expectations, seek to call down fire from heaven. Let Christianity be rebuked for their equally willing propensity toward a literal fiery judgment against the world/the unbelieving. Those who

do so are not of the spirit of the Father or the Son. They are of the spirit of Molech, the fire god, "For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." If Christianity was of the Spirit of Yahshua in their end time teachings, they would be pursuing both in their teachings and in their prayers a cry for mercy from Yahweh for the world.

Regarding this spirit of wrath, let us note that the writer of the book of Revelation is indeed the same who sought to call down fire from heaven on the Samaritans. Certainly it is no coincidence that the writer of Revelation was rebuked for wanting to call down fire from heaven, that Yahshua Himself named him and his brother "Sons of Thunder" (Mark 3:17), that the "seven peals of thunder" (bearing the writer's name as given by Yahshua) were sealed and by a command from heaven not allowed to be written (10:1-7), and that the angel present when this heavenly command was spoken was clothed with a cloud and had a rainbow upon his head - the very sign of the promise of Yahweh that He would never again curse the ground or destroy every living thing (Genesis 8:21 - discussed later in this writing). It is even written in Revelation 4:3 that the very throne of Yahshua is surrounded by the sign of this promise.

No, these are not coincidences, but rather testimonies that Yahweh will indeed repent of the evil He plans as written in Revelation. I used to pray to know what the seven peals of thunder said; but more important than what they said, is what is said by their silence. The information we are given bears the import of the account, not what was not told to us. Yahweh will repent. Twice John was corrected by God - once by Yahshua when he was ready to call down fire from heaven, once by a voice from heaven when he (the Son of Thunder) was forbidden to record the seven peals of thunder. God's wrath can be sealed, even as the seven peals of thunder were sealed. What must be done then to provoke Yahweh to change His mind regarding this holocaust we read of?

If Christianity fails to intercede on behalf of the world, will Yahweh then literally burn the world with His wrath, and bring this promised holocaust in the great and terrible day of Yahweh? No, Yahweh's mercy endures forever, and His lovingkindness is everlasting. Christianity has failed in so many innumerable ways that if Yahweh predicated His actions on the faithfulness of the fleshly church, all of mankind, including Christianity, would be destroyed. Entrusting the ways of God to the care of Christianity is equivalent to Moses entrusting the Israelites to Aaron while he went up on the mountain to be with the Father for forty days (even as Yahshua has equally been up on the "mountain" with the Father for forty Jubilees).

In John 3:24 we read concerning Yahshua's trust in man - "but Jesus, on His part, was not entrusting Himself to them, for He knew all men" No, Yahweh must perform a work according to His own will and plan on behalf of man. What will He do? Will He listen to the "Sons of Thunder" and their teachings on Revelation? No, He will send His Holy Spirit to raise up the second Remnant that will be as one, will do His will, will speak truth, and will cry out to Yahweh for mercy for the world. The hope of this work of Yahweh is seen in these aforementioned passages in Joel and Malachi. Let us examine them closer to see what Yahweh fully says.

THE SOLUTION

First, in Joel 2 we have already seen that after Yahweh's warning of the "great and very awesome" day of Yahweh that no man can endure (that's you too), He then adds the marvelous account that He is "slow to anger, abounding in loving-kindness, and relenting of evil." Picking up with verse 14 and following, very importantly we read next:

Who knows whether He will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him, even a grain offering and a libation for Yahweh your God? Blow a trumpet in Zion, consecrate a fast, proclaim a solemn assembly, gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children and the nursing infants. Let the bridegroom come out of his room and the bride out of her bridal chamber. Let the priests, Yahweh's ministers, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, "Spare Thy people, O Yahweh, and do not make Your inheritance a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they among the peoples say, 'Where is their God?'" (Joel 2:14-17)

What is the blessing Yahweh will leave behind Him, the "grain offering and libation"? It is the second Remnant. The second Remnant will be Yahweh's work which is a part of the first resurrection spoken of in Revelation 20 - an unleavened "grain offering and libation" which ascends to heaven (Leviticus 2:11, whereas Christianity is a Pentecost leavened bread which cannot ascend but only be waved - Leviticus 23:15-17). It is this ingathering that will be the intercessors for Christianity, as well as the world - not by might, nor by power, but by His Spirit (Zechariah 4:6). This ingathering will be the "solemn assembly," the gathered people, a sanctified congregation, twelve additional elders, the "children and nursing infants." They will be His priests who cry out for His people.

Have you ever read the last verses of the Old Testament? Do you know what they say, how the Old Testament ends? In Malachi 4:5-6, the last two verses of the Old Testament close with:

Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of Yahweh. And he will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the land with a curse (Malachi 4:5-6).

Before the coming of "the great and terrible day of Yahweh," Elijah will be sent. This great fact has two highly revealing implications since "Elijah" is sent twice. First, from Luke 1:17 and Matthew 11:14 we know that John the Baptist was Elijah. That being the case, based on this and other supporting evidence (to follow), it is therefore a conclusive fact that the days following John were and are "the great and terrible day of Yahweh" - "I am going to send you Elijah the prophet (John being the first) before the coming of the great and terrible day of Yahweh." "But hold on," you object, "the days following John are the days of the church period, and could not be 'the great and terrible day of Yahweh.'" But my friend, that is exactly what they were and are.

We cannot go into all the ramifications of what this means and why they are, but it is evident from the Scriptures they are indeed just that.

In Acts 7:38 the Israelite's journey in the wilderness for forty years was identified by Stephen as "the church in the wilderness" (Lit.). Pattern-wise, this is what the 2,000 year period of the church has been - "the church in the wilderness." But not for forty years; rather, for forty Jubilees. For forty Jubilees the church has been in a wilderness journey. And very significantly, what was it that Moses called the wilderness? Twice, Moses identified it in a very revealing phrase. What phrase would Moses identify the wilderness in which they journeyed, a phrase which would characterize the church and its period immediately following Elijah or John the Baptist? Moses identified it as exactly what Malachi promised would come following the coming of Elijah. In Deuteronomy 1:19 and again in 8:15, Moses characterized the place of this "church in the wilderness" journey as being - "the great and terrible wilderness"! Equally the church has been in the "great and terrible wilderness" or "day" following John the Baptist, as promised in Malachi 4:5.

Though we may think it reasonable that the Israelite's journeys occurred in "a great and terrible wilderness," little do we think of the church as being in the "great and terrible day of Yahweh." But, they are both the same experiences, as marked by the similarity in these phrases and by other evidences as well. Even as the Israelites failed often in the "great and terrible wilderness" and died, so has the church failed in the "great and terrible day of Yahweh" and have died. Even as the Israelites contended with the serpents in the "great and terrible wilderness," so the church has contended with the serpent of old in the "great and terrible day of Yahweh." Even as the Israelites wandered about in the "great and terrible wilderness," so the church has wandered about in the "great and terrible day of Yahweh."

Now, what is the point of this? The fact is, when we look for the "great and terrible day of Yahweh" to come following the second Elijah; remember, **we have been in a "great and terrible day of Yahweh" for 2,000 years following John the "Elijah," including right now.** Thus we ask, how catastrophic must the coming day following the second Elijah be? Must it be as cataclysmic as we have been told? According to what has been, not at all. Will it be decisive? Absolutely! Even though Moses caused Yahweh to repent of the annihilation of the Israelites, he then went down and had 3,000 men killed with the sword, ground up the golden calf, and made the people drink it. Yes, the day of Yahweh will most certainly be decisive, but it does not have to be filled with all the wrath we hear taught, if Yahweh is moved to repent. What does it take for that to happen? We have already seen in Joel 2 that Yahweh will leave a "grain offering and libation" - the second Remnant that will cry out for His mercy. Let us now look at this passage in Malachi and see Yahweh's promise of this same Remnant. Again we read:

Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of Yahweh. And he will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, **lest I come and smite the land with a curse.**

Let us connect together the first and last parts of these important closing verses - "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet ... lest I come and smite the land with a curse." The promise of Yahweh to abate His wrath which He has declared, is fulfilled by the establishment and work of "Elijah the prophet." Elijah must come lest Yahweh "come and smite the land with a curse." The coming of Elijah fulfills a very important promise made by Yahweh following His destruction of every living thing on the earth with the flood (with exception to the inhabitants of the ark). We read in Genesis 8:21, after Noah's construction of an altar and his offering of every clean animal and clean bird as a burnt offering (like unto the "grain offering and libation"):

And Yahweh smelled the soothing aroma; and Yahweh said to Himself, "I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done."

This is a wonderful promise from our awesome and all powerful God. We see here Yahweh's promise to (1) never curse the ground again and (2) never again destroy every living thing. In the beginning Yahweh cursed the ground because of man - "Cursed is the ground because of you" (Genesis 3:17) - but He knows man is continually evil, and has promised that He will "never curse the ground" again "on account of man." Also, for those who believe that Yahweh will destroy every living thing some day, He has specifically promised that He will "never again" do that. Despite what Christians predict, Yahweh has given us these hope filled and very assuring promises. And in Yahweh's last words in the Old Testament, we see His fulfillment as to why a curse will not be carried out - because Yahweh will raise up Elijah, "lest I come and smite the land with a curse." The Hebrew word for "curse" used here in Malachi is the same word used to describe what happened to Jericho where everything was destroyed with fire. In Jericho, everything was under a "ban," which is the same Hebrew word here translated "curse." As promised in Genesis 8:21, Yahweh is saying here in Malachi that He will not bring that kind of Jericho destruction upon the world.

Very, very importantly then, who is this wrath-averting Elijah to come? He is the second Remnant that will not die, that ascends to Yahweh alive as the "soothing aroma," the "grain offering and libation," that prepares the way for Yahshua's return. The second Remnant is the bride of Yahshua spoken of in Joel 2:16 - "Let the bridegroom (Yahshua) come out of his room and the bride out of her bridal chamber." The Remnant first comes out of Christianity, but will also literally come out of the world to meet the Groom in the air. Again, it is the establishment of this second Remnant and its intercession on behalf of Christianity and the world, that satisfies Yahweh and opens the door for all men to follow into resurrection, obtaining their imperishable bodies at their appointed times. As it is written - "For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive. But each in His own order ..." (1 Corinthians 15:22-23).

Will the world holocaust that Christians preach be averted? Based on Yahweh's character and His promises and what He has done in the past, we can say - Yes indeed! For Yahweh's "mercy endures forever," "mercy triumphs over judgment," "He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, abounding in lovingkindness, and relenting of evil," "His lovingkindness is everlasting,"

"the kindness of God leads ... to repentance," and He has promised that He "will never again curse the ground again on account of man" nor "destroy every living thing." For His name's sake, may Yahweh send His Holy Spirit, perform a work "not by might nor by power" but by His Spirit, call out an Elijah Remnant, resurrect them into imperishable bodies, and return with them in His Son to establish His kingdom. May He call out a people as it is written - planted by the "river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb," who are not those who forecasted and awaited the destruction of the world and the nations; but rather, are those who cried out on their behalf, whose "leaves" are "for the healing of the nations," not their doom and destruction (Revelation 22:1-2). Then will it be heard - "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever" (Revelation 11:15). Yahshua will teach the nations righteousness, not wrath. Peace, not war. Mercy, not wrathful judgment. In keeping with His ways and the promises of the Father, He will not scorch them, nor curse the land with destruction, but as it is written by Isaiah the prophet:

And He will judge between the nations,
 And will render decisions for many peoples;
 And they will hammer their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks.
 Nation will not lift up sword against nation,
 And never again will they learn war (Isaiah 2:4).

And He will arise and shepherd ...
 Because at that time He will be great
 To the ends of the earth
And this One will be peace (Micah 5:4-5).

Amen! Come Lord Yahshua!

Furthermore, from Hosea we read:

“Come, let us return to Yahweh.
 For He has torn us, but He will heal us;
 He has wounded us, but He will bandage us.
 He will revive us after two days (2,000 years);
 He will raise us up on the third day (the Millennium)
 That we may live before Him.
 So let us know, let us press on to know Yahweh;
 His going forth is as certain as the dawn;
 And He will come to us like the rain,
 Like the spring rain (the latter rain) watering the earth” (6:1-3).

I will not execute My fierce anger;
 I will not destroy Ephraim again (Christianity).
 For I am God and not man, the Holy One in your midst,

And I will not come in wrath (11:9).

I will heal the apostasy,

I will love them freely,

For My anger has turned away from them (14:4).