## Jeremiah's Iraq War Chronicles

From Desert Storm To Iraq's Final Destruction

by Pastor Norm Franz

In August of 1990, very few of my fellow economists believed me when I told them that, according to Jeremiah 50 and 51, America would soon lead a global alliance of nations in a war against Iraq. However, the "time for war" (Eccl. 3:8) had absolutely come for Saddam Hussein and his anti-Israel regime. Hence, on January 11, 1991, Jeremiah's first episode of end time prophetic wars scheduled for Iraq began.

Roughly nine years later, in the December 1999 issue of *The Elijah Report*, I wrote an article entitled "*The Winds of War*" describing how the next round of Satan's push for a New World Order (NWO) was going to bring about a deeper thrust into the <u>fourth seal</u> of Revelation chapter six. Sure enough, the beginning of that thrust manifested in the 9/11/2001 terrorist attack that brought down the Twin Towers. That event primed the pump for episodes two and three of Jeremiah's Iraq war chronicles that continues to unfold in the "land of the *Chaldean's*" down to this very day.

The following dissertation of Jeremiah's prophecy was first published in 1996. It contains excerpts from Ted Beckett's 1992 book manuscript entitled,

(Continued on page 2)

### The War On Cash

In solomon, who was arguably the wisest man to ever walk the planet, offered an irrefutable truth when he said "money is the answer to everything" (Eccl. 10:19 NASB). In other words, everything pertaining to man's function in life is enabled and governed by money. President James Garfield applied the truth of this theme to the nations when he said, "He who controls the money supply of a nation controls the nation."

In this same vein, and in light of man's relentless quest for a New World Order, I would like to offer yet another irrefutable truth by saying, "Whoever controls the global money supply controls the world."

### **Global Currency Controls**

Governments and big bank globalists are working to get control of all money and wealth everywhere. One of the ways they are doing this is by systematically eliminating paper currencies and moving global banking and investment transactions into a cashless monetary system that stores, moves, tracks and taxes all money and investments through a closed digital system.

For example, the European Union recently discontinued printing their 500 euro note. France just lowered the nation's cash transaction limit from 3,000 Euros to 1,000 Euros. Spain has banned all cash transactions above 2,500 Euros, and Italy has banned all cash transactions above 1,000 Euros, all of which are draconian....

(Read full article in End Times)

Additional Reading...

Prepare For War
War On Cash
End Time Wars Of Psalms 83
Apocalypse Now: Part 1

End Times
End Times
End Times
End Times

The Domino Effect, that I have revised with updated information and revelation that has come since the time of its original scripting. It's important to know that more than twenty different translations of the Bible were consulted, along with the original Hebrew text, and the clearest and most descriptive translation of the text is used. Words of clarification are [bracketed] and expository commentaries follow the passage.

Together, Ted and I point out that Iraqi's invasion of Kuwait on August 2, 1990 was not just an another Middle East conflict prompted by the crazed warmonger Saddam Hussein. It was the opening episode of a string of prophetic wars that will eventually bring God's full judgment on the end time "daughter of Babylon," which is the modern day country of Iraq. This judgment was recorded in intricate detail over 2,500 years earlier in <u>Jeremiah 50 and 51</u>, where the prophet describes the events of *Operation Desert Storm*, *Iraqi Freedom*, and the ongoing war with ISIS with such clarity that it would seem as though he was a "war correspondent" reporting live from the battlefield.

# EPISODE I OPERATION DESERT STORM

Jeremiah 50 and 51 appear to describe the destruction of Iraq as taking place over the course of several wars fought against it. Jeremiah's prophecy focuses primarily on the events surrounding "Operation Desert Storm," where he reveals the who, what, when, where, and why the first Iraq war took place. Consequently, Episode I provides the genesis for God's judgment against Iraq in the successive conflicts that continue today.

### **Geographic Location**

"This is the word the Lord spoke through Jeremiah the prophet concerning Babylon and the land of the Chaldeans [modern day country of Iraq]." (Jer. 50:1 NIV)

Some prophecy teachers tried to link Jeremiah 50 and 51 to a future Russian attack on the United States, which they say symbolizes Babylon. Although a Russian attack on the U.S. is possible in the future, the first thing Jeremiah does is point out that these two chapters refer to events that take place in "the land of the Chaldeans." There is no other place on the earth that this Scripture could possibly be identifying than the original terraferma of ancient Babylon which is the modern day country of Iraq.

Today's equivalent of the ancient capital of Babylon is the modern day city of Baghdad. The modern day counterparts of Kings Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar would be Iraq's modern day autocratic dictators from Saddam Hussein, who ruled from 1979 to 2003, up to today's president Barham Salih (2018) and beyond.

### The Kuwaitis Cry Out Against Saddam

"Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon [leader of Iraq Saddam Hussein] has devoured us [annexed us into Iraq], he has thrown us into confusion [by stealing all the official records], he has made us an empty jar [taken all our possessions away including our gold]. Like a serpent [Satan] he has swallowed us [taken our citizens hostage], and filled his stomach with our delicacies [stolen our food], and then has spewed us out [oil wealth spewed out by blowing up the wells]." (Jer. 51:34 NIV)

This is a vivid description of when Saddam Hussein sent Iraq's two most elite army divisions, that he so appropriately named "Nebuchadnezzar" and "Belshazzar," to invade and devour Kuwait's wealth. This initiated the military build up called "Operation Desert Shield" that lead to the first end time Gulf War appropriately named "Operation Desert Storm" (Jan. 17, 1991 — Feb. 28, 1991) which brought Jeremiah 50 & 51 to life.

"There is a time for every event under heaven...a time for war and a time for peace"

— Eccl. 3:1, 8

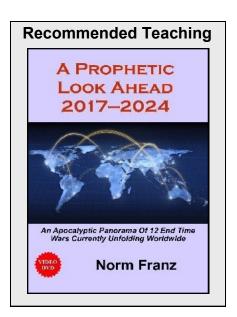
### **Major Media Event**

"Announce [on radio] and proclaim among the nations [at the United Nations], publish it [newspapers, magazines] and proclaim it [in the media]; Do not conceal it [broadcast it worldwide on CNN]. (Jer. 50:2 NIV)

Iraq's incursion into Kuwait and the ensuing war was the most highly publicized event in human history up to that time. It was a global incident that was reported to the ends of the earth through every form of communication known to man.

### United Nations Coalition Led By The U.S.

"A nation from the north [USA of North America] will attack her [Iraq] and lay waste her land." (Jer. 50:3 NIV)



Jeremiah initially sees only one nation leading the attack on Iraq. That nation from North America was the United States. However, a coalition of nations quickly forms against the daughter of Babylon.

"For I will stir up and bring against Babylon an alliance of great nations from the land of the north..." [Countries from North America, NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), Turkey, Germany, Russia, etc.]. (Jer. 50:9a NIV)

Here we see that by verse 9 Jeremiah is observing an alliance from the North form against Iraq. It was led by the U.S. but operated officially under U.N. sanctions.

"Look! An army is coming from the north; a great nation [the USA] and many kings [her coalition allies] are being stirred up from the ends of the earth [the rest of the coalition from around the world]." (Jer. 50:41 NIV)

What began as one nation (verse 3) in August 1990 soon swelled to 35 nations from around the world. This accurately describes the coming together of the nations to make up the "Desert Storm" coalition.

<u>Special Note</u>: This coalition of nations "from the ends of the earth" also eliminates the interpretation that this prophecy is referring to the ancient past when Belshazzar was invaded and defeated at the hands of the Mede-Persians. Since the Mede-Persians defeated Belshazzar's Babylon in one night without any resistance or assistance of any other nations (<u>Is. 5:22-31</u>), this prophecy has to be speaking about a future attack on the offspring or "the daughter of Babylon." That attack was fulfilled by the U.S led coalition of nations from around the world.

### Military Buildup Prior to Attack

"And they will draw up their battle lines [Line in the Sand] against her." (Jer. 50:9b NASB)

This passage doesn't say the alliance will immediately attack, but will first take up positions. That military build up began in August of 1990 and was centered in Saudi Arabia. Interestingly enough President Bush called that "Operation Line In The Sand," in fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecy.

"There is a time for every event under heaven...a time for war and a time for peace"

– Eccl. 3:1, 8

### **Desert Shield Gets Its Name**

"Sharpen the arrows [prepare your missiles], take up the shields [Desert Shield]! (Jer. 51:11 NIV)

The allies took five and a half months (Aug. 2, 1990 to Jan. 17, 1991) to set up military operations, test their weapons, and acclimate to the desert environment prior to the attack. This moved "Line in the Sand" into "Operation Desert Shield" which the prophet identifies as God's command to "take up the shields."

### Era of the War

"In those days [the last days], at that time [time of the Iraq War]" declares the Lord, "the people of Israel and the people of Judah together [the former two Kingdoms as one people] will come in tears, weeping [because of their recent losses in the holocaust] to seek the Lord their God. They will ask the way to Zion [a time when all Israel is making Aliyah] and turn their faces toward it [the land becomes the focus of Judaism]. They will come [immigrate to Israel] and bind themselves to the Lord in an everlasting covenant that will not be forgotten." (Jer. 50:4-5 NIV)

These incredible verses pinpoint the era in which Iraq's destruction will be fulfilled. Matthew Poole's Commentary, written hundreds of years ago, introduces Jeremiah 50 with this classic statement:

"The judgment of Babylon...for their idolatry, tyranny, and pride, with gracious promises of the redemption of Israel intermixed."

Poole foresaw Babylon's judgment as occurring after all Israel had begun returning to the land. All of the conditions contained in this portion of the prophecy have become a reality in the last 100 years. Hence, this prophecy is unquestionably referring to a time when:

- 1. The "Kingdom of Israel" and the "Kingdom of Judah" are united as one nation. In Jeremiah's day, Israel and Judah were both in exile under Babylonian rule, but not as a sovereign nation. However, during this end time war in Iraq, Jews/Israelites from both houses (Judah and Israel) are restored as one nation in Eretz Israel. This restoration became a reality on May 15, 1948, with the official establishment of the State of Israel when Jews began making aliyah from all over the world. This Scripture dispels the two-house theology of British Israelism (a.k.a., Anglo-Israelism) which theorizes that the Christian church (primarily Anglo-Saxons from Europe and America) are direct linear descendants of Ephraim and the "ten lost tribes" of Israel.
- 2. Jewish restoration has occurred after a tragic calamity. Undoubtedly, this is a prophetic reference to the Holocaust which caused the loss of two-thirds of European Jewry. Some believe the Holocaust was actually a prophetic fulfillment of "Jacob's trouble" (Jer. 30:7; Zech. 13:8-9). Jeremiah saw the returning Jews weeping for the losses they suffered under Hitler and the Nazi regime. In addition, Israel's most notable Jewish landmark is the "Wailing Wall" where they come "weeping to Zion."
- 3. The freedom to worship the LORD (YAHWEH) and practice His Torah in the land that He gave them will be one of the driving forces in their return to Israel. In addition, since their return in 1948, many Jews have accepted God's New Covenant in Messiah Yeshua (Jesus), and the resulting Messianic movement has restored the New Covenant sect of Messianic Jews that follow Torah just as God promised (Jer. 31:31-33).

"Proclaim this among the nations: 'Prepare for war! Let all the men of war draw near...'"

Joel 3:9

4. Throughout Scripture, God refers to the Land and the people of Israel as Zion and today's return of God's ancient Jewish people from all 12 tribes to the Land of Israel is referred to as Zionism.

### Year of the War

"A rumor shall come one year [1990], after that in another year [1991] shall come violence in the land." (Jer. 51:46 NIV)

Here the prophet once again accurately indicates the timing of the war. He seems to sense the posturing of both leaders as they issue threats and ultimatums in 1990, but the "violence" (beginning of the actually fighting) does not commence until the following year of 1991. This timing also holds true on the Jewish lunar calendar as well.

### Time of Year the War is Fought

"Behold, he [the attacking nations] shall come up like a lion from the flooding of the Jordan." (Jer. 50:44 NKJV)

Here the prophet actually pinpoints the time of year for the invasion of Iraq. In biblical times, the Jordan River valley was an uninhabitable jungle sheltering all kinds of wildlife including lions. The Jordan flooded annually, causing the lions to come up and out of the valley looking for prey. This flooding occurred only once a year "during the rainy season January through February when the Jordan overflows its banks" (*The Encyclopedia Britannica*, 1911. pg. 510). This matches perfectly with the actual time of the war which took place from January 17 to February 28, 1991.

### Warnings to Leave Iraq

"Flee out of Babylon [a divine message to the foreign nationals working in Iraq to leave the country]; and be like the goats that lead the flocks." (Jer. 50:8 NIV)

From August to October 1990, almost one million foreign nationals fled Iraq primarily through Jordan and a few through Turkey. Just like goats, they were herded into shelters, fed, watered and shipped like domestic animals back to their countries of origin.

"Flee from Babylon! Run for your lives! Do not be destroyed because of her sins. It is time for the Lord's vengeance; He will pay what she deserves." (Jer. 51:8 NIV)

God's mercy and the intercessory prayers of the saints caused Saddam to finally release some of the innocent workers he was holding as hostages in December, and they escaped destruction.

### Saddam's Soothsayers

"A sword against her soothsayers, and they will become fools. A sword against her mighty men, and they will become dismayed." (Jer. 50:36 NKJV)

The Jerusalem Post and the Arab Daily Assiyasa reported that Hussein brought in "50 African magicians, soothsayers and fortune tellers" to advise him on the conflict with the U.S. led coalition. They boldly prophesied that Iraq would prevail very quickly against coalition forces. However, their soothsaying was proven totally false as the war unfolded exactly opposite of what they predicted. As a result, they became fools in the eyes of the world, and today their fate is still unknown.

"Come out of her my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues."

- Rev. 18:4

### Jeremiah's View of Modern Weaponry

"...and from thence [Saudi Arabia] she will be captured. Their arrows [piercing missiles] will be like skilled warriors [electronic "smart" weapons take great expertise to operate] they do not return empty-handed [laser-guided missiles rarely miss]. (Jer. 50:9b NIV)

The most unique characteristic of the 1991 war in the Gulf was the use of hundreds of missiles.

"Draw up your battle lines against Babylon on every side, all you who bend the bow; shoot at her, <u>do not be sparing with your arrows</u>, for she has sinned against the Lord." (Jer. 50:14 NASB)

No "arrows" were spared as Operation Desert Storm unleashed the largest continuous aerial bombardment in history with 110,000 sorties flown against Iraq in the forty-three days of conflict. The primary reason given for the devastation visited on Iraq is her sin against the Lord.

"They are armed with bow and lance [the Lance Missile was part of the U.S. arsenal]; they are...without mercy [hit with deadly force]. They sound like the roaring sea as they ride on their horses; they come like men in battle formation to attack you. O Daughter of Babylon." (Jer. 50:42 NIV)

The roaring sea is the only sound Jeremiah can equate with the din of 20th century helicopters, tanks and jets as they converged on Iraq. They get no mercy because they gave none.

"Surely I will fill thee with men, as with <u>caterpillars</u>; and they shall lift up a shout against thee." (Jer. 51:14 KJV)

Without a 20th century vocabulary, Jeremiah gropes to describe the primary land vehicle used to fight in Operation Desert Storm; tanks that crawl like "caterpillars".

### The Iraqi Military Will Not Fight

"Babylon's warriors have forborne to fight; they remain in their strongholds [bunkers]. Their strength is exhausted [from lack of food and water]; they have become like women [without combat strength]..." (Jer. 51:30a NIV)

This startling verse is precisely what happened as the Iraqi army hid in their bunkers for the thirty-nine days of aerial bombardment which left the majority of the Iraqi soldiers either dead, deserting, or happily surrendering to coalition forces. One CNN report showed Iraq soldiers surrendering to their TV crew as they were filming the war.

### **Iraq Loses Hard and Fast**

"They will fall down slain in Babylon." (Jer. 51:4 NIV)

The death toll in Iraq will probably never be known for certain, but it is estimated in the hundreds of thousands, while U.S. coalition casualties during Desert Storm were one hundred and forty seven.

"Babylon, is suddenly fallen and destroyed..." (Jer. 51:8a NIV)

Saddam threatened a long protracted war, but the Scriptures predicted otherwise. The devastation visited on Iraq lasted exactly forty three days, one day for each year Iraq had threatened Israel since she was restored as a nation in 1948.

"Draw up your battle lines against Babylon on every side, all you who bend the bow; shoot at her..."

- Joel 3:9

Jeremiah continues to prophesy events he sees on the battle field in this remarkable prophetic vision when he says:

"...for her judgment reaches to the skies, it rises as high as the clouds" (Jer. 51:9 NIV)

With amazing clarity, the prophet describes the clouds of smoke resulting from the devastating bombardment and subsequent oil well and refinery fires covering the land that the world watched on CNN.

### **Kuwait to Be Restored**

"I will punish Bel in Babylon [spiritual force over leaders of Iraq] and make him spew out what he has swallowed [Kuwait]..." (Jer. 51:44 NIV)

The terms of the cease fire specify that war criminals must stand trial, and Iraq must pay reparations for what was stolen and the destruction inflicted on Kuwait.

What an incredible prophecy God gave to Jeremiah! How perfectly it fits the initial "Line in the Sand" response, followed by the "Desert Shield" buildup, and the ensuing "Desert Storm" war against Iraq. Once again this proves the accuracy of God's prophetic word (2 Pet. 1:19).

However, one obvious thing about Operation Desert Storm is that Iraq was not completely destroyed like various passages in Jeremiah 50 and 51 predict. Although Kuwait was set free and there was a lot of destruction poured out upon Iraq, it did not "become a heap of ruins, a haunt of jackals, an object of horror and hissing, without inhabitants" like Jeremiah said it would (Jer. 51:37). The fact that Desert Storm did not totally destroy Iraq meant that there was one or more future wars that would.

### EPISODE II OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

The key to unlocking this mystery is found in Jeremiah's reference regarding an ancient form of harvesting wheat:

"...the daughter of Babylon [ancient Babylon's offspring Iraq] is a threshing floor. At the time, it is stamped firm [Desert Storm Campaign]; yet in a little while the time of harvest will come for her [future wars will completely destroy Iraq]." (Jer. 51:33 NIV)

When a farmer in Jeremiah's day prepared for the wheat harvest, he would first take some of the ripened wheat and strip it off onto the ground. This wheat was "stamped firm" in order to provide a underpinning known as a "threshing floor" where the final harvest was brought in.

It is important to note that this harvest is not referring to a harvest of souls that are won to salvation in Yeshua (Jesus). On the contrary, this harvest is the type of final harvest, where the angel of Revelation "swung his sickle to the earth, and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God" (Rev. 14:19 NASB).

In other words, Jeremiah was saying that Operation Desert Storm was the initial event that "stamped firm" the threshing floor in preparation for one or more future military campaigns that would ultimately bring about Iraq's final harvest (i.e., God's final judgment). This made way for Episode II, "Operation Iraqi Freedom," which was led by President George W. Bush (Bush II). The second Iraq campaign began on May 20, 2003 and brought additional fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecy.

"Babylon will become a heap of ruins ...an object of horror and hissing, without inhabitants."

- Jer. 51:37

### Iraq is Captured

In September of 1991, shortly after Desert Storm, I visited the White House with a group of monetary economists. I was in the cabinet room, where I noticed the victory banner for Iraq I on the U.S. war flag. It read "The Defense of Kuwait," which explains why we did not go in and capture Iraq in Desert Storm. In other words, it was only designed to push Saddam out of Kuwait. Consequently, "Operation Iraqi Freedom" took Iraq's harvest to the next level by actually capturing the country:

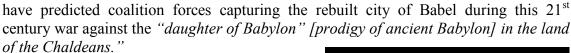
"One courier runs to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to tell the king of Babylon [Saddam Hussein] that his city [Baghdad] has been captured from end to end." (Jer. 51:31 NASB)

### The City of Babel is also Captured

"How Sheshak [Babel] has been captured, and the praise of the whole earth been seized!" (Jer. 51:41a NASB)

For a long time, Saddam Hussein had claimed to be the reincarnation of Nimrod. As a result, in 1982, he began rebuilding the ancient city of Babel, which lies 90 kilometers south of Baghdad along the Baghdad-Hilla highway. The entrance is marked with a re-creation of the Ishtar Gate complete with the lions that carried her image.

After lying desolate for thousands of years, only God's "sure word of prophecy that [we] need to pay attention to" (2 Pet. 1:19-21) could



In addition, the U.S. established a military base there called "Camp Babylon," which controlled five provinces in Southern Iraq. On September 3, 2003, the base was handed over to a Polish-led force, which held it until January 2005 when they handed it over to the Iraqi culture ministry.

# Gate to Saddam's rebuilt City of Babel ebuilt city of Babel during this 21s rodigy of ancient Babylon] in the land. U.S. Camp Babylon at the old city of Babel

Sheshak [Babel] has been captured, and the praise of the whole earth been seized!" – Joel 3:9

"How

### **Iraq Demilitarized**

"A destroyer [U.S. led coalition] will come against Babylon: her warriors will be captured, and their bows will be broken [weapons destroyed]. A destroyer will come against Babylon. (Jer. 51:56 NIV).

During Desert Storm, more than 100,000 Iraqi soldiers were captured and billions of dollars of military equipment confiscated or destroyed. Although one of the primary points of the cease fire was to demilitarize Iraq's armed forces, that did not happen until "Operation Iraqi Freedom" was launched.

Even though Iraqi Freedom captured and controlled Iraq, executed Saddam Hussein, and dismantled its military, Iraq was still not laid waste and become uninhabited like Jeremiah predicted. That's because "Iraqi Freedom" was not about destroying Iraq like

the LORD has planned. It was about rebuilding Iraq into a form of socialistic democracy controlled by the New World Order (NWO) elite. Consequently, Iraqi Freedom was simply Episode II of God "stamping firm the threshing floor" in preparation for Episode III.

### **EPISODE III**

### **OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE**

December 18, 2011 marked the final departure of U.S. troops from Iraq under the Obama Administration. Unfortunately, America's departure created a political and military vacuum that was filled by ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria), a militant Sunni jihadist group that began muscling its way into the country in 2012. In June 2014, ISIS gained global notoriety when it drove Iraqi government forces out of key cities during its Western Iraq offensive that captured the major cities of Mosul and Tikrit.

ISIS, and groups like it, are especially dangerous because their eschatology emphasizes apocalypticism that calls for them to establish a global Islamic caliphate that initiates world-ending events, making way for their soon coming Imam Mahdi (Messiah). They interpret the Quran (Koran) literately, which they believe allows them to carry out extremely brutal acts of war against any and all nonbelievers, including other Muslims, who do not believe the same way they do.

These military tactics manifested in numerous massacres that produced the gruesome videos of beheadings and burning people alive that ISIS played on social media. Consequently, these acts of barbarism led the Amnesty International to charge the group with ethnic cleansing on a "historic scale."

ISIS also began launching terrorist attacks against the West, and recruiting individuals to carry out domestic terrorism within their resident countries including France, Belgium, Germany, Britain and the U.S. When that happened, the U.S. was forced to recommit military forces in the *land of the Chaldeans*.

America's military intervention against ISIS is called "Operation Inherent Resolve". It calls for the "complete annihilation if ISIS, which is simply a continuation of God's commitment to "stamp firm the threshing floor" in preparation for what I believe will be Iraq's final harvest.

# EPISODE IV OPERATION FINAL HARVEST

It is important to understand that even after the physical <u>proto-state</u> of ISIS is destroyed in Iraq and Syria, the global elite still plan to rebuild the *daughter of Babylon* and merge her into their end time NWO system of Mystery Babylon. However, this runs contrary to God's stated goal "to make the land of Babylon [Iraq] a desolation without inhabitants" (Jer. 51:29).

Since the U.S. and other countries now fighting in Iraq do not have its destruction in their plans, it appears that God eventually brings Israel in to finish the job:

"You [Israel] are My battle-axe and weapon of war: for with you I will break the nation [Iraq] in pieces...with you I will break in pieces the chariot and its rider [military]...with you I will break in pieces the farmer and his yoke of oxen [economy]; and with you I will break in pieces governors and rulers [government], and I will repay Babylon and all the inhabitants of Chaldea [Iraq] for all the evil they have done in Zion in your sight," says the LORD." (Jer. 51:20-24 NKJV)

"You [Israel]
are My
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in pieces..."

- Jer. 51:20

This passage of Scripture, has always led me to believe that at some point in the future, God injects Israel into the fray as His "battle axe" to bring about Iraq's final harvest. This makes sense in light of the fact that, since the globalists do not plan to destroy Iraq but rebuild it, there almost has to be a final confrontation, where God anoints Israel as His "weapon of war" that unleashes His full judgment on Iraq.

### Why God Ultimately Destroys Iraq

Some might say that is too pessimistic, and that we should pray that the LORD brings peace between Iraq and the international community. However, it is imperative for us to understand that God's purpose for all these conflicts is not about merging Iraq into the NWO of the West. It's not about the "War on Terrorism" or establishing democracy in the Middle East. On the contrary, God makes it clear that this ongoing conflict is ultimately about His love for Israel and what happens to those nations who come against the apple of His eye. In other words, because of Iraq's hatred toward Israel and its attempts to destroy her, God's righteous anger rises up and lays Iraq, *the daughter of Babylon*, totally waste in the land of the Chaldeans:

"Because of the indignation of the LORD, she [*Iraq*] will not be inhabited, but she will be completely desolate; everyone who passes by Babylon will be horrified and will hiss because of all her wounds" (Jer. 50:13 KJV).

"Before your eyes <u>I will repay Babylon [Iraq]</u>...for all the wrong they have done in Zion [terrorism and curses against the Jewish people and Land of Israel]," declares the LORD. (Jer. 51:24 NIV)

This makes it clear that the end time series of wars currently unfolding in Iraq are at God's command. In other words, the primary reason given by God for bringing destruction on Iraq is because of its multiple attempts to annihilate Israel and the Jewish people since Israel declared itself a sovereign state on May 15, 1948. For whoever curses Israel will himself be cursed (Genesis 12:3).

<u>Special Note</u>: Iraq is under God's judgment, which is why I have always counseled God's people against buying into the get-rich-quick Iraqi Dinar currency scam as so many of them have. The Iraqi dinar will never become the global currency and produce the financial prosperity promised by its brokers. Never!

Something else to consider is that, like it or not, George Bush I and George Bush II were both instruments in God's hand, who He called to carry out His judgment on Iraq. This means that, despite all the criticism about America's involvement in the Iraq wars since 1991, U.S. military involvement has played the leading role in God's end time plan to bring His judgment on this brutal anti-Zionist regime.

Consequently, the West's policy to rebuild and globalize Iraq will not succeed. In all likelihood, after ISIS is physically defeated in Iraq, the U.S. will not be welcome there. At that point, the Shia government of Iraq will embrace other Muslim extremists and transform *the daughter of Babylon* into a terrorist state bent on destroying Israel.

We must also realize that, as long as the U.S. supports Israel and has troops in Iraq, it will be very difficult for Israel to "lay it waste." This means America will most probably move its military out of Iraq (again) to make way for Iraq's final harvest. Unfortunately, if the U.S. continues its attempt to rebuild Iraq, in combination with foreign policy that supports a Palestinian state within the Promised Land of Israel, then the strongest country in the world will reap judgment back on itself that will undermine her military prowess and devastate her financial dominance in the world.

"Before your eyes <u>I will</u>
<u>repay</u>
<u>Babylon</u>
[Iraq]...for all the wrong they have done in Zion"

– Jer. 51:24

### Conclusion

What we are experiencing is the apocalyptic convergence of three war cycles that are all part of God's *great end time shaking* (Hag. 2:22; Heb. 12:26-29), which Yeshua (Jesus) appears to include as part of the "birth pains" leading up to His return:

"And you will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end." (Matt. 24:6-7 NASB)

A major part of these transitional wars is Islamic terrorism (the "Sword of Islam") which is undoubtedly the "sword" carried by the rider on the ashen horse of the fourth seal (Rev. 6:7-8). Please note how Yeshua (Jesus) encourages us not to be fearful, because these wars are a fundamental part of the last days. He also points out that, when all the signs He describes in Matthew 24:3-8 take place in tandem with these wars, it is still not the end (even though it will probably seem like it at the time). This means there are additional wars scheduled for the future that will take place outside the Middle East, including Africa, Europe, East Asia, and yes, I believe even the United States.

All this will ultimately lead the world into "Great Tribulation such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will" (Matt. 24:21). Consequently, we must prepare ourselves in spirit, soul, and body for the tumult that lies ahead. This includes preparing the way of the Lord by winning the lost to salvation in Yeshua and teaching them how to observe God's Torah and Commandments (Matt. 28:19-20).

Last, but not least, we must bless Israel and pray for the peace of Jerusalem, so that we might be blessed during this time. As we do these things in faith, God will not only strengthen us, but He will fulfill His promise to deliver us from the wrath that is to come (1 Thess. 1:9-10). ❖

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At Ascension Ministries, we realize that there is a shortage of balanced, Messianic congregations in many areas of the world. But as a forerunner ministry, one of our roles is to provide pastoral guidance for those who are transitioning into the Hebraic world view and model of life. The goal of our Shabbat webcasts is to feed you spiritually with practical Torah-based teaching that you can apply to everyday life as we prepare ourselves for the Lord's return.

Watch Our Shabbat Webcast Saturday Afternoons at 1:00 P.M. MT - USA

click here



# **Covenant Partners**

"In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."

- Philippians 1:3-5 NIV

For over 20 years, our Covenant Partners have <u>supported the work</u> of Ascension Ministries and its outreach to the nations by praying regularly for <u>our vision</u> and with their monthly financial gifts.

If the outreach of Ascension Ministries has blessed you and contributed to your spiritual growth in the LORD, then we encourage you to become a regular partner and help us take the Torah-based, prophetic Gospel of Yeshua the Messiah to the nations.

Donate

"he will go as a forerunner in the spirit and power of Elijah...to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

- Luke 1:17

www.AscensionMinistries.net