

ISRAEL MANDATE CONFERENCE 2011-

The Battle for Jerusalem



I. THE ROLE OF ISRAEL AND JERUSALEM AT THE END OF THE AGE

- A. God's Word insists that the Church stand with His purposes for Israel and engage with the battle for Jerusalem. This is not optional; it is a *litmus test* of the Church's obedience, especially in the end times. The highest issue in serving God's purpose for Israel is *obeying Jesus' sovereign leadership*. We love Him, therefore, we want to do what He does and love what He loves.
- B. Jesus has hung the promise of His return to the planet and the restoration of all things around the free-will acceptance of Him by the Jewish people.

O Jerusalem...how often I wanted to gather your children...but you were not willing! See! Your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you [leaders of Israel] shall see Me no more till you say, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!"- Matthew 23:37-39

- C. God has chosen Jerusalem as the epicenter of his plan to restore all things. It will be the capital city of Jesus' millennial government. From Jesus' headquarters in Jerusalem he will rule over every nation and completely restore the earth from the devastation of 6,000 of sin and bondage.

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains... and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples... - Isaiah 2:2-4

- D. Jesus has zeal and jealousy for the city of Jerusalem because of what *has* happened there and what *will* happen there.

Thus says the LORD of hosts: I am exceedingly jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion. – Zechariah 1:14

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. – Isaiah 62:1

- E. God chose Jerusalem before he set apart Abraham. Abraham meets Melchizedek after the battle against the King of Sodom. Melchizedek is the kingdom of Salem (ancient Jerusalem) and a priest to God. God is telling the end of the story from the beginning! The setting apart of Abraham and consequently the nation of Israel would be unto the bringing forth of a King and Priest in Jerusalem reigning over the earth, the very Seed promised in *Genesis 3:15*.
- F. We have to connect to the story! It has been unfolding since the beginning and will culminate in the generation of the Lords return. God's will for our lives and our ministries are wrapped up in His will for the earth. His grand plan is to bring heaven and earth back together fully again giving dominion over the two to His Son.

...making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. – Ephesians 1:9-10

II. UNDERSTANDING THE BATTLE FOR JERUSALEM

- A. The battle for Jerusalem is a spiritual, political, and military battle for the control of Jerusalem. This is one of the most significant battlefronts in the spirit and today and will be the most significant battlefronts in the natural in just a moment. It will be ended only by the Jewish man, Jesus, riding out against his enemies and reclaiming the city. From there he will reign over the whole earth and to cast Satan into prison (Rev. 20:1-3).

Behold, a white horse. The One [Jesus] who sat on him is called Faithful and True, in righteousness he judges and makes war... He has on His robe... a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS... I saw the beast [Antichrist], the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him [Jesus]... Then the beast [Antichrist] was captured and the false prophet... these two were cast alive into the lake of fire... Then I saw an angel... He laid hold of... Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit and shut him up... - Revelation 19:11-20:3

- B. The battle for Jerusalem will be the decisive battle to end the Second Coming conquest.

I will gather all... nations to battle against Jerusalem... Then the Lord will go forth [second coming] and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. - Zech. 14:2-3

- C. Jesus will not forcibly take the kingship over Israel but will wait until it is given to Him by those in positions of authority over the land. He prophesied that He would not come back to Jerusalem until the governmental leaders of Israel **voluntarily** asked Him to reign over them. Jesus “bound” Himself by this prophecy to only come back **after** Israel’s leadership invite Him.
- D. Israel’s leaders are the official representatives of that national covenant with God. Jesus will rule the earth from Jerusalem **only after** Israel repents and invites Him to be their king (**Acts 3:19-21**).
- E. Satan will not be cast into prison until after the battle for Jerusalem is won and Jerusalem is under Jesus’ leadership. When the government of Jerusalem is under Jesus’ leadership then Jesus will sentence Satan to prison without any probation. This will enrage Satan. After Satan is cast into prison, Jesus will renew the conditions of Eden across the whole earth. He will reverse what occurred in Eden (**Gen. 3:1-8**). Christ’s death already defeated Satan, but His victory will not be fully manifested on earth until His second coming (**Col. 2:15; Heb. 2:14**).

III. THE RAGE OF SATAN

- A. Satan seeks to exploit Jesus' prophecy in **Matthew 23:39** as a "loophole" in God's end-time plan by seeking to keep the leaders of Israel from receiving Jesus as king. Satan wants to demonstrate that Jesus' prophetic word is false. He reasons that if Jesus' prophecy is shown to be a lie, then Jesus can't imprison Satan as a liar. Satan's strategy is to kill the entire Jewish race or to see that they are so offended at Jesus that they will never receive Him as their king.
- B. Satan's end-time strategy includes *controlling Jerusalem* more effectively:
1. *Deceive Israel* into making an alliance with the Antichrist.
 2. *Kill the remnant of the Jewish race* so there are none to invite Him to rule Jerusalem as king
 3. Assure Israel is so *offended at Jesus* that they will not receive Him as their King
- C. Satan's main agenda and rage is in seeking to stay out of prison and maintain his position over the earth. Satan is seeking to blow up Jerusalem with terrorism, not mega-ministries. He is not threatened by many growing "successful" ministries because they are often disconnected from the battle for Jerusalem. When Jesus returns, the Church will be victorious and without spot or compromise. The battle for Jerusalem is a key issue in perfecting the end-time Church in obedience to Jesus.
- That He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish [compromise]. – Ephesians 5:27*
- D. Israel's governmental leaders will make a covenant with the Antichrist (called *the covenant with death*) and give their authority to him seven years before Jesus' coming (**Isa. 28:14-18; Dan. 9:27; 11:45; Zech. 11:16; Ezek. 38:8-12, 14; 39:26; Jn. 5:43; Lk. 19:11-28; 1 Thes. 5:3**).
- He [Antichrist] shall confirm a covenant with many for one week [7 yrs.]; but in the middle of the week he [Antichrist] shall bring an end to sacrifice [breaks the covenant]... Daniel 9:27*
- You scornful men, who rule...in Jerusalem, because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death...when the overflowing scourge [of the Antichrist] passes through, it will not come to us, for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood we have hidden ourselves"...Your covenant with death will be annulled...when the overflowing scourge [of the Antichrist] passes through, then you will be trampled down by it. - Isaiah 28:14-18*
- E. The Antichrist will plant part of his headquarters in Israel (**Dan. 11:45**). This will be the first time that Israel's government will ask a man to rule them as their messianic king. It will usher in Israel's darkest hour. The remnant of Israel will resist this decision until it is totally reversed.
- F. In the middle of that 7 year period that Antichrist will stand up in the temple in Jerusalem and declare Himself to be God and demand the worship of the earth, defiling the temple and breaking the peace treaty with the Jewish people. This event is referred to in the Scriptures as "The Abomination of Desolation".

*“When you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" ..then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains...**For then will be great tribulation**, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time... - Mt. 24:15-21*

*“Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, **and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.**” - 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4*

- G. This event will coincide with the opening of the seals in Revelation 6 and will mark the beginning of the greatest time of shaking the earth has ever seen. This tribulation will consist of God's judgments against the Anti-Christ and his government and Satan's raging against the saints and the greatest holocaust of the Jewish people in all of History. This is called the **Great Tribulation**.

- H. **Satan wants to exterminate the Jewish people** so that a believing remnant cannot invite Jesus to rule Israel as her Messiah. John uses a prophetic picture of Israel as a woman being attacked by Satan (*pictured as a dragon*). Satan will seek to destroy Israel, but God will supernaturally protect her from total annihilation (Rev. 12:13-17; Zech. 13:8-9).

*When the dragon [Satan] saw that he had been cast to the earth, **he persecuted the woman [remnant of Israel] who gave birth to the male Child [Jesus]... The serpent spewed water...like a flood after the woman [remnant of Israel], that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood [persecution]...The dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring [Church], who...have the testimony of Jesus.** - Rev. 12:13-17*

- I. The Great Tribulation will be the most severe time in history for Israel, the Church, and for unbelievers (**Mt. 24:21; Jer. 30:7; Ezek. 5:9; Dan. 12:1; Joel 2:2**).

At that time...there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was...He [angel]...swore...that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time [3½ years]; when the power of the holy people [Israel] has been completely shattered... - Dan. 12:1, 7

- J. Satan's attack on Jewish people will result in 2/3 being killed and the remaining 1/3 getting saved. Since there has never been a time when 1/3 of the Jews in Israel testified that they received Jesus as their Messiah, we know that this prophecy has a future fulfillment.

*It shall come to pass in all the land...**that two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, but one-third shall be left in it: I will bring the one-third through the fire, will refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name...** Zech. 13:8-9*

*“I have heard a sound of terror, of dread, and there is no peace. Ask now, and see, if a male can give birth. Why do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in childbirth? And why have all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, there is no like it; **and it is the time of Jacob's distress, but he will be saved from it**” (Jeremiah 30:5-7).*



- K. Satan's rage will manifest in the nations as they come underneath the influence of the Antichrist empire.

Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed... Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill." - Psalm 2:1-6

IV. ALL OF ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED

- A. Israel's condition just before Jesus returns is described in Scripture as being in prison camps and assaulted by foreign armies. (*Isaiah 11:11-16; 27:12-13; 42:6-24; 49:5-25; 61:1-2; Jeremiah 30:3-24; 31:1-23; Ezekiel 20:33-44; 39:25-29; Hosea 11:10-11; Amos 9:8-15; Joel 3:1-2; Zephaniah 3:19-20; Zechariah 9:10-14*)

- B. Isaiah 42 emphasizes Jesus' ministry to Israel related to time of His return.

I will give You as a covenant to the people [Israel]... to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison, those who sit in darkness from the prison house... The LORD shall go forth like a mighty man [second coming]...He shall prevail against His enemies...²² But this [Israel] is a people robbed and plundered; all of them are snared in holes, and they are hidden in prison houses; they are for prey, and no one delivers. Isaiah 42:6-22

- C. At the Second Coming Jesus will return to the earth and every eye will see Him. Israel in her desperate condition will see their Messiah and accept Him as Savior.

...and thus all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "The deliverer will come from Zion, he will remove ungodliness from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them, when I take away their sins." - Romans 11:25-27

"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for [his] only [son], and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. - Zechariah 12:10

- D. Jesus will build a highway from Egypt to Assyria (modern day Syria) and lead Jewish captives out of prison camps back to Jerusalem. (*Isaiah 11:11; 16; 27:12-13; Hosea 11:10-11; Micah 2:12-13; 5:6; 7:12-15; Zechariah 10:10-11; Isaiah 42:6-7, 16, 22; 49:9-12, 19-21, 24-25; Jeremiah 31:1-23; Ezekiel 39:25-29; Amos 9:8-15; Zephaniah 3:17-20*)

There will be a highway for the remnant of His people Who will be left from Assyria, As it was for Israel In the day that he came up from the land of Egypt. - Isaiah 11:16

- E. Gentile believers have a significant role in the battle for Jerusalem. Our role grows in intensity and significance, the closer we get to Jesus' coming. **Therefore, we must understand this battle.**