

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

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LESSON 25

Lesson 25

THE END: SEVEN ANGELS WITH PLAGUES OF DEVASTATION

Read Revelation 16

- Consider How Earth's Ecological System Will Collapse
- The Splitting Of Jerusalem's Three Religions—Judaism, Christianity & Islam

Individuals who give their alliance to the Beast and his image during the counting days will have protection by the government and will have improved access to food and shelter. In contrast, the faithful—consider rebellious and a threat to world peace will endure deprivation, persecution and derision, whose hope will remain in the soon-returning King.

The book of Revelation makes it clear that the Global Leader will enjoy worldwide adoration. His cohort, the False Prophet, will make the image (idol) in honor of the world religion, which will speak as though alive, and cause all who will not worship the image to be threatened with death (Revelation 13:14-15).



Near the end of the appointed times, the "abomination that makes desolate"—the detestable act that will demand God's holy wrath and desolation on Jerusalem, and then the world at large—will be set up on the rebuilt Temple Mount. The Man of Sin will announce he is more than mere human—he is God in the flesh (2 Thessalonians 2:4). At that time, Michael will stand up and then "there will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then," (Daniel 12:1, Matthew 24:15-16, 21).

Revelation 15 exposes the moment when Heaven's Temple is opened on Yom Kippur—the Day of Atonement just after the close of the 1,290, 1,260, 1,150 and 490 counting days. The seven angels of wrath will then emerge with seven deadly plagues that will destroy Planet Earth. Jesus said, "If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect [144,000] those days will be shortened," Matthew 24:22.

In Revelation 16, the focus of this lesson study, the seven angels are posed and ready; then the command from the Temple is heard, "go, pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on earth." The seven plagues closely parallel the seven trumpets in many regards. However, the trumpets are limited geographically and in severity, while the seven last plagues plunge the world into global chaos and destruction.

1. How did Jesus identify the event that will set in motion the Great Tribulation of the world (Pt. 19; Matthew 24:12-22)? _____

After the gospel goes to the whole world and all have had the opportunity to decide for or against Christ and the mark of the Beast, the final confrontation between good and evil will commence. The setting up of the abomination in the Temple, predicted by Daniel (9:27; 11:31; 12:11), and confirmed by Jesus (Matthew 24:15-22), is the atrocity that results in the ruin of all who have worshiped the Man of Sin and those who joined in Jerusalem's idolatry. Paul sustained the teaching that the Lawless One would enter

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

the Jerusalem Temple where he proclaims himself God, resulting in his speedy demise (2 Thessalonians 2:3-10).

2. How many days are there between the two periods found in Daniel 12:11-12? _____

At the end of the 1,290 days, the abomination that is to be set up in Jerusalem will result in mass desolation. Daniel is then told there is a blessing for those who attain Day 1,335. Therefore, the seven last plagues will be poured out during those final days. Jesus warned of great danger, and advised the elect that when they see the abomination being set in place on the Temple Mount to run for their lives away from Jerusalem and Judea, because a short but deadly Great Tribulation is about to commence (Luke 21:20-22; Matthew 24:15-22).



3. What did Yeshua say about the speed in which He will take revenge against those who are pursuing the 144,000 elect who will be crying out day and night for deliverance during the Great Tribulation (Luke 18:7-8)? _____

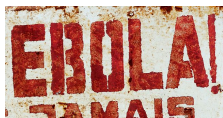
Jesus said that His chosen ones would be crying out for deliverance, but His vengeance would come quickly; and, that so few would remain alive who believe in Him that faith would be very rare and hard to find just before the Great Day of the LORD.

The parable of the persistent widow and the judge portrays the importance of the relentless prayers of the 144,000 who are alive and will remain on earth until the climactic return of Messiah (1 Thessalonians 4:17) at the Armageddon battle. Once the full count of overcoming Jews and Gentiles from the nations have been martyred (Revelation 7:9), resurrected and taken to Heaven to stand before God, the remaining elect of all Israel—of all twelve tribes—are promised deliverance (Romans 11:25-26). However, God will use the Great Tribulation as a tool to "turn godlessness away from Jacob." Although the seven angels emerge from His Sanctuary to destroy all the nations, Messiah says to Israel... "I will not completely destroy you" Israel. "I will discipline you [during the Time of Jacob's Trouble—Jeremiah 30:7] but only with justice; I will not let you go entirely unpunished," Jeremiah 46:28.

4. Revelation 16:1 says John heard a voice from the Temple telling to the seven angels to do what? _____

The First Angel Messenger

5. According to Revelation 16:2, God's divine judgment begins to fall upon the wicked because they have done what? _____



The decision to accept the mark and worship the idol brings upon mankind a terrible series of disasters, beginning with ugly and painful sores from which they cannot find rest, day or night. This disease in whatever form it takes will be devastating to body and soul. It is just the beginning of several life-altering, fearful events that hit one after the other.

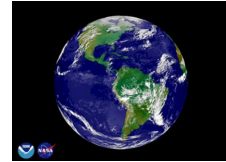
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The Second Angel Messenger

The oceans are next to be targeted (Revelation 16:3). The second angel pours out his fiery bowl on the sea. It is said that water makes up about 70% of the Earth's surface, while the other 30% consists of continents and islands. To break the numbers down, 96.5% of all the Earth's water is contained within the oceans as salt water, while the remaining 3.5% is freshwater lakes and frozen water locked up in glaciers and the polar ice caps. Of that fresh water, almost all of it takes the form of ice: 69% of it, to be exact.



6. What becomes of the fish and all ocean creatures? _____ What is the likely outcome for Planet Earth? _____

The oceans will cough up every imaginable creature, and the stench will grow unbearable. Ships will be halted from the putrid and poisoning dangers. Beaches will be lined with decaying carcasses, and as the winds and waves increase the contamination will be poured even further inland. Words cannot truly describe the oceans of death that will cover the globe, as the once predictable ecological system spirals out of control.



7. How did Jesus describe the fear and anguish at the roaring and tossing of the sea during the Great Tribulation (Luke 21:25-26)? _____

The Third Angel Messenger

Revelation 16:4-7 exposes the work of the third angel of destruction. He pours out his bowl on the rivers and fresh water sources around the planet.

8. Why is drinkable water so important for survival? _____



At least 60% of the adult body is made of water and every living cell in the body needs it to keep functioning. Water acts as a lubricant for our joints, regulates our body temperature through sweating and respiration, and helps to flush waste. The maximum time an individual can go without water is about one week—an estimate that would certainly be shorter in difficult conditions, like broiling heat.

Water is the primary source that sustains life. We can live without food for an extended time, but drinkable water is a necessity. Life can be measured in mere days without it. Water will be more valuable than gold (James 5:1-9) during the days of the Great Tribulation.

9. With water scarce and survival utmost, what will individual attitudes be towards one another (Matthew 10:34-36; 24:10)? _____

There will no doubt be fights to death over a few sips of water in those days, as gangs will rule the day.

10. The angel over water gives glory to God, because He judges mankind righteously. In light of the terrible devastation upon the planet and mankind, how can God stand justified by His decision to act (v. 6)? _____

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Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

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God will judge mankind for the martyrdom of His believers and prophets. He sent His messengers to forewarn and teach truths through His Word. In the last days, many believers will take hold of the testimony of Jesus and God's prophetic warnings, and the gospel of the Kingdom will be shared. A "great multitude" of victors from all nations will stand firm until the end, even to death. Those who despise the counsel of the prophets must pay for their hatred and slaughter of God's faithful; they spill the blood of the victorious saints, so they will then be given blood to drink.

11. What city has been foremost in killing God's messengers through the centuries, and during the last days (Matthew 23:34-38), whose desolation is prophesied? _____

12. In Revelation 6:9-11 the martyrs who gave their lives at the altar of sacrifice cried, "How long... until You judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?" What are the martyrs' words upon seeing the work of the third angel (Revelation 16:7)? _____

The Fourth Angel Messenger

13. The fourth angel will pour his fiery coals upon earth's source of heat and light (Revelation 16:8-9). What is the result? _____

Earth's temperature will rise as the population is scorched from the suffocating heat. Solar blasts of radiation cause burnt skin to welt into painful blisters, as the wicked taste of the fiery demise soon to overtake all of them. In agony they blaspheme God, but there is no repentance. Their hearts have been hardened, as they continued a long time unresponsive to the prophets' counsel, the Word of God and the Son's light and grace.



The Fifth Angel Messenger



14. Revelation 16:10-11 describes the fifth angel's attack on the seat of the Beast in what way? _____

Daniel 7:11-12 also describes the destruction of the Western European beast power prior to the other nations. Volcanic blasts may cause this darkness, we don't know; but, ash and raging fires would certainly cause people to "gnaw their tongues in agony" when we think how suffocating volcanic ash could be, in addition to the other plagues they will be enduring. The fifth plague plunges the enemy's realm into darkness, "because men loved darkness rather than light," (John 3:19). Yet, the rebellious population will not repent of their evil deeds against God's people, and their rejection of the Creator of the Universe. Their doom is written in the book of records.

The Sixth Angel Messenger

In Revelation 16:12-16, the sixth angel dries up the river Euphrates with his fiery bowl of wrath, so that the kings of the east can make their way westward. The sixth trumpet also mentions the angels at the river Euphrates, who will lead millions of soldiers into battle.

15. What nations are east of Israel that will likely be part of the last remnant of the world's governments? _____

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Waters in prophecy signify peoples and nations of the earth. The drying of the Euphrates may indicate an opening for military troops and hardware from the East through the removal of opposing forces in the Iraq/Iran region. Many Eastern Asian countries including China, Japan and a host of other countries will emerge from the east marching to battle. Russia, a northeastern country, and her allies, will also be part of the masses of armies racing to the Middle East for the great and final battle of the ages.



16. Why will they be gathering to Israel, according to Revelation 16:16? _____

17. How will the King of the North (Antichrist) respond to the menaces from the east and north, which threatens his newly established royal site in Jerusalem, just before his demise (Daniel 11:44-45)? _____

The Evil Triumvirate

Revelation 16:13-14 foretells a time when evil spirits come out of the mouth of the Dragon (Satan), the Beast (Antichrist) and the False Prophet. "Then I saw three impure spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. They are demonic spirits that perform signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the Great Day of God Almighty." These three evil leaders in partnership during the end-times could be referred to as the **Evil Triumvirate**. Triumvirate means "government by triumvirs; an association or group of three." Why three? Satan often counterfeits what is holy, so that he might deceive the masses; therefore, he attempts to fabricate the **Holy Trio** revealed at the Mount of Transfiguration in Christ's future glory, composed of Jesus, Moses and Elijah (Matthew 17:2-3).



In reference to the confusion that will abound during the Great Tribulation, Jesus gave a well-defined warning about false messiahs and false prophets (Matthew 24:23-26). Satan, along with the demonic Antichrist and the False Prophet, will attempt to take the place of Messiah and the two witnesses. Lucifer will surely speak words of comfort and hope, like those of Yeshua. The three may offer healing and perform miracles to gather to themselves a worldwide military alliance. They will likely declare that weapons must be mobilized against the massive stone (Daniel 2:34-35, 44-45), which is heading towards Planet Earth. The politicians comply around the globe, and the battle of the Great Day of God Almighty is made ready.

Revelation 16:15 affirms that even though this period in prophecy is distinguished by the prophetic timeline of 40 days, still Jesus proclaims, "I come like a thief!" Matthew 24:36-44 tells us the no man knows about that day or hour when the final destructive events of the Great Day of the LORD will begin, not even the angels in Heaven. "Blessed is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed," (v. 15).

Jesus said that if the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into and destroyed. Then he tells His elect, "so you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him"; because, despite many warnings the Great Day of the LORD will still arrive unexpectedly upon the earth-dwellers, and they will not escape God's wrath. For further study, see Luke 12:39-40; 1 Thessalonians 5:2;

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2 Peter 3:10; and, Revelation 3:3. *The expression "I come like a thief" is always associated with the Day of the LORD and divine wrath, not a secret rapture.*

18. Revelation 16:15 confirms there will be believers on earth awaiting the Great Day of the LORD—the Day of blessing. How do we know? _____

The 144,000 sealed elect must not deny Christ in the face of death or lose faith, but stay awake to prophetic warnings and keep their clothes of righteousness, so they will not be found naked at the return of the LORD; and, they most certainly will.

19. What day does Daniel 12:12 identify as the Day of blessing for those who wait for their salvation? _____

Day 1,335—"Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days," some 40 days or so after the abomination is set up in the Jerusalem Temple. However, even the days will be cut shorter than 24 hours, and with the upheaval of the trumpet and plagues, with days and nights difficult to distinguish, it will be impossible to know the day and hour of Messiah's triumphant revelation in the sky.

20. What will those who have not worshiped the Beast, but waited for their Redeemer, proclaim (Isaiah 25:9 KJV)? _____

21. Revelation 14:14-16 tells us the Son of Man will wait for the Father's word, for what? _____

Messiah waits for word from the Temple to reap the harvest of souls.

22. Acts 1:6-7 validates the Father's control over this moment in time. How? _____

23. Matthew 24:21-22 clarifies the pointlessness of trying to predict the very day or hour of the Great Day of the LORD. What confirms this? _____

Armageddon

Revelation 16:16 testifies about the gathering of kings and militaries together to battle and identifies the location as "Armageddon." Revelation 19:19 also speaks about this gathering of politicians and their armies to war against the King and His army that is traveling towards earth. Megiddo, in Old Testament times, was identified as a place of battle where Israel fought with Gentiles armies; for example, in Judges 5:19. Both Ahaziah and Josiah died at Megiddo (1 Kings 9:27; 23:29-30). Armageddon is in Israel (see the map below); King Solomon enlisted slaves "to build the LORD's Temple, his own palace, the supporting terraces, the wall of Jerusalem and Hazor, Megiddo and Gezer," 1 Kings 9:15.



The prophet Zechariah (12:10-11) tells of the day Israel sees the returning Messiah; they "will mourn" and "grieve bitterly for Him." On that day "the weeping in Jerusalem [Israel] will be great, like the weeping of Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo," when King Josiah died.

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Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

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In the days leading up to Armageddon, God will "gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped," (Zechariah 14:2). Then, the Great Day of the LORD will commence when the conquering King and His armies come down to battle earth's military powers that destroyed Jerusalem. Almighty declares, "I will set out to destroy all the nations that attack Jerusalem" (12:9) at the battle of Armageddon.



24. How does John describe the Armageddon events at the opening of the sixth seal (Revelation 6:12-17)? _____

A massive earthquake will rock Planet Earth; and, global turmoil will escalate. The sun will be blackened, the moon will turn to red blood, and fiery sky debris will begin to fall to earth. The heavens above will part like a scroll at the return of the King of the Universe, as an opened door. The kings, princes, generals, the rich, the once mighty in power, along with the slave and free (in other words, every single man and woman) will fear for their lives. However, their greatest horror is facing God Almighty who they eventually see sitting on the throne and heading towards earth, and from the wrath of the conquering Lamb! Why? Because the Great Day of wrath is come and who can remain alive? The sixth seal and sixth bowl take us to the very edge of eternity and the completion of the Day of the LORD, when all enemies will be conquered.

The Seventh Angel Messenger

Revelation 16:17 introduces the Seventh Angel. Michael pours out his fiery bowl of coals into the air after having snatched them from the burning altar in Heaven's Temple. Elohim responds from the Temple, "It is done!" The question remains, "What is done?" The events of the seventh seal and the seventh trumpet parallel the seventh bowl. We know this with certainty, because at the breaking of the seventh seal (8:1-5), the sounding of the seventh trumpet (11:15-19) and the pouring out of the seventh bowl (16:17-21) the great worldwide portents—lightning, rumblings (voices), peals of thunder and a severe earthquake—occur as signposts for this monumental moment. In other words, the events of the seventh seal, trumpet and bowl are synchronized actions, and all occur at a specific point on Heaven's Festival Calendar—pinpointed to a specific day on *The Kingdom Calendar* Pt. 18—the Yom Kippur Day of Atonement, which at the voice of God He brings to pass (no matter what time of the year or calendar day it may be).

Therefore, the seventh seal, trumpet and bowl take us back in time from Day 1,335 and the Great Day of the LORD to the very beginning of the Day of the LORD, at Yom Kippur. This Day ushers in that moment in time when the prayers of retribution from all the believers are turned against the wicked (8:4-5); when the kingdom of the world will just have been awarded to the Son of Man and He will begin to reign; and, when the nations will become enraged. It is the time for judging between those who will live and who will die, and the Day for rewarding the dead in Christ in the first resurrection.

This Day, the final and prophetic Day of Atonement, transports us to the opening of the Holy of Holies in the Temple by the High Priest—as in the Old Testament imagery—when the door of the Temple in Heaven opens to expose the Ark of the Covenant, wherein are found the Ten Commandments, so the world may see the Law by which they all must be judged (11:15-19).



25. The question remains concerning the proclamation from the Temple, "It is done." What has been accomplished in Heaven? _____

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The work of the Judgment Court in the Sanctuary will be completed at the voice of the Seventh Angel.

During the 1,150 day counting period the Judgment Court will be in session, which will end just before the Day of the LORD. According to Daniel, Heaven's daily activities will be interrupted and taken away by Satan's attack on God's Sanctuary, and the Man of Sin's evil practices on earth. The heavenly Sanctuary will be trampled underfoot during the court proceedings (8:11-12); for 2300 evenings and mornings (1150 days) the judgment will continue (8:13-14); thrones will be set up and books of evidence opened (Daniel 7:9-10). Near the end of this period, the Son of Man will enter before the Ancient of Days to receive His just Kingship (7:13-14); the Father will pronounce a decision in favor of the righteous believers (7:21-22); the Little Horn's domain will be officially stripped from him and given to the believers (7:26-27); and, in the end Michael will stand to execute the sentence of death upon Antichrist and all the wicked who have followed him (11:45; 12:1). It is at this moment the words are heard, "It is done"; Satan's demise is certain, and Messiah's reign inaugurated. Judgment then begins at the house of God in Jerusalem, where truth was to have been proclaimed, but instead was extinguished so Antichrist might reign from Jerusalem.

26. How does the words of Messiah "It is finished" in times past portray similar events that will be repeated at the end of time, when the declaration is made once again (Matthew 27:51-52)? _____

At the crucifixion, the veil at the Jerusalem Temple was torn open exposing the Holy of Holies where the Ark and Mercy Seat of God once resided. There was an earthquake in Jerusalem and a special resurrection, where a small number of saints rose to life. In similar manner, at the end of time when God's voice is heard throughout the earth, Heaven's Temple door will be opened and the world will see the Ark of the Covenant—the golden fixture holding the Ten Commandments, and Jerusalem and the whole earth will quake with immense commotion. Graves will be opened, and a great multitude of tribulation victors will be resurrected and taken to safety inside Heaven's Temple (Daniel 12:1-3) for the Feast of Tabernacle celebration.

27. How massive will the earthquake be, according to Revelation 16:18? _____

28. Hebrews 12:26-27 describes the magnitude of seismic activity, even to the point that the sun, moon and stars above are moved out of place. What is written? _____

At the Voice of God, the earth will be moved from its very foundations.

Daniel writes of this moment: "Praise be to the Name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are His. He changes times and seasons [with massive earthquake]; He deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. He reveals deep and hidden things; He knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with Him," Daniel 2:20-22.

29. How does the following verses add to this picture of volcanic activity and galactic upheaval that will cause this planet to sway from its axis, even changing rotational intervals and the seasons, at the voice of God (Job 9:5-8; Isaiah 13:13; 24:20)? _____

The whole earth will heave and swell, and the waves of the sea will flow over the land. Seaports will be swallowed up by the angry waters. Earth's surface will break up, and the very foundations will give way.

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Large mountain ranges will sink, and islands and peoples will disappear into the dark watery deep. The global-wide earthquake will turn Jerusalem--the united city into a divided city, as major cities of the world tumble into ruins with unimaginable loss of life. From New York to Los Angeles, Beijing to Moscow, Paris to Berlin, Cape Town to Cairo, Rio de Janeiro to Caracas... the great cities with their skyscrapers will collapse one after the other, as 100-pound fireballs will fall from the heavens to destroy and burn what remains. Imagine the worst of all global events, and our minds cannot comprehend all that is to come during the 40 days of the Great Tribulation. Luke 21:22, 25-28 sums up the Tribulation events this way, "For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written... There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people...There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. At that time, they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

The 144,000 elect of the twelve tribes of Israel will be saved and gathered out of the final turmoil when the Son of Man appears in power and great glory: Jeremiah 30:7 reminds us, "Alas! for that Day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the Time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it." "No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from Me," declares the LORD," Isaiah 54:17.

Jerusalem: Three Religions, One City



Revelation 16:19-20 declares that cities around the globe will fall into heaps of ruin, and the united Great City Jerusalem itself will be split into three parts. Why? The city is known for her three religions—**Judaism, Islam and Christianity**. These three merge in the last days under the banner of the Evil One. However, this unity is short-lived for at the great earthquake, during the pouring out of the seventh bowl of God's wrath, the city will be split into three parts—physically and symbolically tearing apart the three religions that united under one voice during the counting days of the end.



30. Why is Jerusalem judged, and what is the meaning of Babylon's great divide (Ezekiel 5:2; 5-6; 12-13)? _____



Jerusalem's leaders will rebel against God's Law to follow the false Shepherd, even more than the nations around her. Therefore, a third will be burned with fire, a third killed with military action, and a third (144,000) will be scattered to the wind to be pursued.

31. How does the prophet Zechariah describe this event (13:8-9)? _____

32. What is said about the massive earthquake in the land of Israel in Ezekiel 38:19-23? _____

Revelation 16:20 exposes the magnitude of the earthquake upon the whole planet, even to the point that "every island" will break apart and will sink into the sea, and "the mountains" ranges will dissolve away.

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

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33. What rains down upon mankind that adds to the horror of this moment in time (Revelation 16:21)?

34. Luke 17:25-26 supports this fact. How? _____

35. Daniel predicts Jerusalem will be rebuilt during the last days (9:25-26), even though her final demise is certain. Ezekiel prophesies destruction against her hastily built walls in what way (13:10-16)? _____

Elijah's Warnings Go Unheeded

Malachi 3:1-2 prophesies, "I will send My messenger [Elijah] who will prepare the way before Me" for 1,260 days—Pt. 9 to Pt. 17. "Then... the LORD... will suddenly come to His Temple" in Jerusalem; "the Messenger of the Covenant"—Michael, "whom you desire, will come... but who can endure the day of His coming?"

Jeremiah adds significant details into this "time of visitation," (Pt 18) when Messiah will suddenly descend in the darkness of the stormy night to His Temple to destroy and cleanse it from the abomination that will be set up in it. The false prophets will promise Jerusalem's safety and world peace, but they will be wrong: "For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace. Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? Nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the *time of their visitation* they shall be cast down, saith the LORD," (8:11-12; KJV).

Jeremiah 9:9-11 warns, "Shall I not *visit them* for these things? saith the LORD: shall not My soul be avenged on such a nation as this? For the mountains will I take up a weeping and wailing, and for the habitations of the wilderness a lamentation, because they are burned up, so that none can pass through... And I will make Jerusalem heaps, and a den of dragons; and I will make the cities of Judah desolate, without an inhabitant," (KJV).

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