

# PTNews

Prophetic Truth in the News

### **May 2024**

Published monthly by Mike Wingfield Ministries

All Bible references are from the KJV

(Examining Current Events in the Light of Bible Prophecy)

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## When They All Look UP!

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:28

By Mike Wingfield

During the April 8 solar eclipse that moved across America, God's Spirit reminded me of how utterly uniformed people are about what is about to take place across our planet. As I watched the eclipse on TV, I was reminded that there will be a day every person on earth will be looking toward the heavens. On this day, they will not be looking at a solar eclipse. They will be looking in utter awe at the supernatural heavenly sign that will accompany the King of Kings to this earth!

This recent eclipse was a rare celestial occurrence and was certainly worthy of our attention. However, that eclipse pales in comparison to the amazing supernatural events that will take place during the Tribulation Period. And especially to the last day

#### Iran Attacks Israel

On April 13-14, Iran carried out an unparalleled attack against Israel. Considering the prophetic Scriptures, this attack is very significant. See Pages 5-6 for a biblical analysis of this event.

when Christ returns to earth. Predictably, people were mesmerized by the recent solar eclipse, because of the media hype leading to April 8.

For months, we were bombarded with details of this eclipse, and its direct path across North America. We also know that the next eclipse that will sweep across America will take place in 44 years. How can scientists make these accurate and precise predictions? The Bible has the answer. In the beginning of His creation, the Lord placed the sun, moon, stars, and planets in the heavens for the benefit of man on earth. The Bible says, "And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so" (Genesis 1:14-15).

God set the order of these heavenly bodies in an exact arrangement and orbit in relationship to earth

time. Since the time of their creation, the heavenly bodies have continued to travel through space with incredibly accurate precision. God made the heavens to be a giant clock and calendar. The exact movements of the earth and the heavenly bodies are very predictable because God made them that way. People around is with woke agendas say there are no absolutes. These people need to look up! God's testimony of faithfulness and sovereign design are all around us!

As I watched the eclipse on April 8, I was drawn to comments being voiced by news reporters and people they interviewed. I was captured by the superlative words they voiced to the viewing audience. Words like "miraculous," "incredible," "amazing," and "awesome," were commonly used to describe the eclipse. Some people even called it a "supernatural moment."

As I heard these comments, I thought to myself, "These people do not know what awaits the inhabitants of earth." As we approach the end of this age, it is critically important that we inform all people that God created and appointed the position and path of the sun, moon, stars, and planets. And the same God has also informed us in His written revelation concerning what He has in store for the world. God has ordained that the incredible signs in the heavens and earth when Christ returns to earth, will be the most awesome manifestation of the power and glory of God ever witnessed by man.

I continue to be amazed and dazzled by the written revelation of God concerning man's final days on earth. The Bible refers to the unique seven-year period of the Tribulation Period as "the day of the Lord" (Isaiah 2:12; Joel 2:11). This will be the day the Lord of heaven will miraculously intervene into the affairs of man. In His wrathful anger He will pour out His vengeance upon all the wicked, rebellious inhabitants of earth. Isaiah 24:5 tells us why the Lord will do this, "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, [and have] broken the everlasting covenant." This simply means that God will have reached His final toleration point because man defiantly rejected

His spiritual and moral code of conduct that is summarized in the 10 Commandments. Man is continually defying God by attempting to change His creative order. This is at the heart of man's Artificial Intelligence rebellion. People refuse to accept "an everlasting covenant" (Genesis 17:7) that God established with Israel 3,400 years ago, giving them the Promised Land as "an everlasting possession" (Genesis 17:8).

Furthermore, the nations are once again united in their goal to destroy the Jewish people and to annihilate the modern nation of Israel. The prophet Isaiah declared that this violent rejection of Israel will be at the center of God's wrathful judgment that will be inflicted upon all the nations. Concerning the Tribulation Period, Isaiah declared, "For it is the day of the LORD's vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion" (Isaiah 34:8). The current attacks we are witnessing on Israel for defending itself against Islamic enemies are a testimony to the world's commitment that will be fulfilled when they march against God and Israel at the battle of Armageddon at the end of the Tribulation.

"Signs" are a manifestation of the power and glory of Almighty God. They are aimed at bringing mankind to a point of awe and humiliation as they recognize God's supernatural intervention into the physical world of finite man. They are designed to cause wonder and fear, bringing man to repentance and submission to God.

The entire seven years of the Tribulation will be marked by continual supernatural events in both the heavens and the earth. The Bible calls them "signs." This word could also be translated as "wonders" or "miracles." In other words, a sign is a supernatural event that is the direct work from the hand of God. These signs are a manifestation of the power and glory of Almighty God. They are aimed at bringing mankind to a point of awe and humiliation as they recognize God's supernatural intervention into the physical world of finite man. They are designed to

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For example, near the beginning of the Tribulation, the Lord will strike the world with a massive global earthquake that will trigger a multitude of volcanic eruptions (Revelation 6:12). This will accompanied by great signs in the atmospheric heavens. "And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places" (Revelation 6:13-14).

As a result of these devastating and threatening signs on the earth and in the heavens, the people of earth will all flee to the mountains to find some shelter from the supernatural storm of God. They will cry out to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand" (Revelation 6:16-17)?

The Tribulation Period will be filled with deadly and destructive signs that will bring about an unparalleled global death toll and global devastation that will destroy civilized humanity as we know it in these modern times (Isaiah 24).

By God's design, the climax of all these signs will culminate on the final day of the Tribulation Period. Α multitude Scriptures give the awesome

details of this final day when the Messiah, the King of Kings, the Lord Jesus, will be unveiled in all His glory, power, and majesty (Psalm 18:7-15; 97:3-6; Micah 1:3-6; Nahum 1:5-8).

When the final day comes, all the inhabitants of earth will look up to the heavens to see the sign of the coming of the Son of Man. The apostle John said, "and every eye shall see him" (Revelation 1:7). Matthew recorded the words of Jesus about this day. "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. ... Immediately

after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (Matthew 24:27, 29-30).

Yes, people cheered with amazement as looked toward the sky to see the recent solar eclipse. However, when people all look up at the sign of the coming of the Lord in the heavens, they will have a different reaction. Luke reports about their response on that day, "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory (Luke 21:25-27).

Unlike the predictable eclipse Americans just witnessed, the earthly and heavenly signs that will unfold during the Tribulation are unparalleled in human history. And these coming events are not on

> radar of the world's astronomers. The human mind and all our God-given senses have never experienced what will transpire in God's final chapter of man's rule on earth.

God has promised that He will not only violently shake the earth (Isaiah 2:19-21), but also the

heavens above (Hebrews 12:25-26).

What the Lord will do in the future is reminiscent of what He did in the days of Moses when He set His people free from the cruelty and unjust oppression of the most powerful nation on earth in those ancient times – Egypt. Before Moses was sent to Egypt with His divine assignment, the Lord told him what would happen, "And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of

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Abraham, giving his descendants the Promised Land.

Egypt. But Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you, that I may lay my hand upon Egypt, and bring forth mine armies, and my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them (Exodus 7:3-5).

God unleashed His arsenal of terror upon Egypt because they refused to yield to His will to allow His people to go into the Promised Land that God had given them (Exodus 6:1-8). In a similar way, God is calling His people from their exile from the land of Israel for 2,000 years. He has promised, "For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather

you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land" (Ezekiel 36:24). The world has wrestled with God concerning the land of Israel and the Jewish people from the beginning of the modern nation of

Israel to this day. It now appears that we are entering into the final phase of the world's attack upon the Jewish people. The final chapter of this war between God and the nations will be concluded during the Tribulation Period.

It is important to note what happens to those who oppose God. He hardens their hearts and leads them to their demise. Throughout the Exodus account, the Scriptures remind us that Pharoah hardened his heart against the call to let the Jewish people leave Egypt. Then, suddenly in the narrative, the Bible says that God hardened Pharaoh's heart. This hardened heart of Pharaoh led to His own demise, the death of his people, the destruction of his nation, and the death of his army in the Red Sea (Exodus 7-11, 14). God unleashed His divine power in a series of deadly plagues.

A similar development took place during Israel's conquest of the Promised Land. God hardened the hearts of the people living in the land of Canaan so

that they would war against Israel, ultimately bringing them to their demise. Joshua 11:20 reports, "For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts, that they should come against Israel in battle, that he might destroy them utterly, and that they might have no favour, but that he might destroy them, as the Lord commanded Moses."

History is repeating itself. It is very apparent that the global population has reached the spiritual point of no return. Except for a small remnant of true believers, the nations are in rebellion against God. They reject His commandments. They are attempting to confuse and rearrange His creative order. They refuse to recognize and honor the everlasting covenant that God established with Abraham, giving

his descendants the Promised Land in "an everlasting covenant" (Genesis 17:7). God has given the Jewish people their land as "an everlasting possession" (Genesis 17:8).

When Pharaoh refused to honor God's commands concerning letting Israel go to the Promised Land, all of Egypt faced the terror of the Lord. God sent ten devastating and deadly plagues upon them. As history replays itself on a global scale, the leaders of the world are refusing to obey God and allow His people to live in all the land He gave them. As a result, God is hardening their hearts to draw them into the final conflict with Him. Soon, the world will enter a time of the wrath of God. He will devastate the world as we know it.

Just as God destroyed the Egyptians in the Red Sea, God will devastate the rebels that oppose Him when He returns from heaven. He will set the redeemed global Jewish population free so that they will enter into the Promised Land and enjoy the reign of their Messiah for 1,000 years.

Friends, God's playbook is being carried out before our very eyes. "Get ready for the shout that will take us out!"

### Iran Attacks Israel

"And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog [Russia, Iran, and others], before their eyes" (Ezekiel 38:16)

On April 13, the world stunningly witnessed an unprecedented Iranian air assault on Israel. For the first time, Iran directly attacked Israel instead of hiding behind its proxy terrorist groups. More than 300 attack drones, ballistic missiles, and cruise missiles were launched from Iran's own territory. Israel considers this attack to be a "declaration of war" (World Israel News, April 14, 2024).

In a public statement only hours after Iran's attack, Israeli President Isaac Herzog said, "This is like a real war. I mean, this is a declaration of war. ... The last thing that Israel is seeking in this region since its creation is to go to war, we are seeking peace.

"We are peace seekers. We went to peace with our

neighbors time and time again. Unfortunately, it all started on the 7th of October when a proxy of Iran, Hamas, led an unbelievably brutal massacre against Israeli citizens and the rest is history. We know it. So we should put it in perspective."

"We were attacked last night from four corners of the Middle East with proxies shooting at us, firing missiles and ballistic missiles, drones and cruise missiles. It is about time the world faces this empire of evil in Tehran" (World Israel News, April 14, 2024).

With the help of the United States, United Kingdom, France, and Jordan, about 99 percent of the missiles never reached their intended targets in Israel. Israel and its partners destroyed the missiles in their 1074-mile flight. As this was taking place, I was reminded

of Isaiah 54:17, "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper."

In a very limited retaliatory strike, on Wednesday, April 17, Israel attacked a military base in Iran that was only a few miles from one of Iran's major nuclear sites. During this attack, Israel used a missile that had technology to evade radar. This missile damaged some of Iran's defense battery systems that protect one of Iran's major nuclear sites from an air attack. Obviously, Israel is sending a powerful message to Iran that they and their nuclear bases, and other strategic economic and military facilities are in Israel's crosshairs. It is only a matter of time!

Friends, I believe that these developments are leading the Middle East toward the final conflict of the endtimes. Obviously, the first major war will be the one mentioned in Ezekiel 38-39. It does appear that we are witnessing the events that will bring about the

Gog and Magog invasion mentioned by Ezekiel 3,600 years ago.

This invasion of Israel, as prophesied by Ezekiel, will be by an assault of a specific coalition of enemy nations. That coalition includes Russia, Iran, Sudan, Libya, and Turkey. For the first time in modern history, these nations are friends and are a part of an evil coalition that hates Israel. In the photo on this page, note the leaders of Iran, Turkey, and Russia depicted together.

Ezekiel wrote that something would happen to cause this group of nations to attack Israel. God said, "Behold, I am against thee... and I will put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth" (Ezekiel 38:3-4). A few verses later, Ezekiel wrote that something would take place so that these nations have things that will come into their minds so that they will "think an evil thought" (Ezekiel 38:10). Could it be that Israel's retaliation against Hamas and Iran would trigger these evil thoughts that would drive them to attack Israel?

As previously mentioned, we can learn a very valid principle of God's actions in leading nations to attack Israel so that He might destroy them. In the book of Joshua, God had called His people to enter the land of Canaan and destroy all its inhabitants. God aided Israel in this accomplishment by making the hearts of the nations of Canaan so filled with hate toward Israel that they were drawn to attack them. Joshua 11:20 states, "For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts [the nations of Canaan], that they should come against Israel in battle, that he might destroy them utterly, and that they might have no favour, but that he might destroy them, as the LORD commanded Moses."

Since the invasion of Hamas on October 7, we have witnessed an incredible global explosion of hatred against Israel and the Jewish people. It stands to reason that an Israeli attack upon Iran would trigger a reaction by Iran and its allies. Today, those allies

are the ones mentioned in **Ezekiel 38**. Are we watching the divine hook in the jaw of Iran and its allies? Is the battle of Gog and Magog on the immediate horizon? It appears that it is imminent!

Friends, conditions in the Middle East are ripe for the Gog and Magog nations to attack Israel. Iran, Russia, and Turkey already have troops in Syria and could be ready at a moment's notice to invade Israel.

In the Bible, Iran [Persia] is mentioned more than 200 times. This nation is depicted as a major enemy of Israel in the last days. Therefore, it is important for us to watch the developments of our time.

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