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Our God of Prophecy

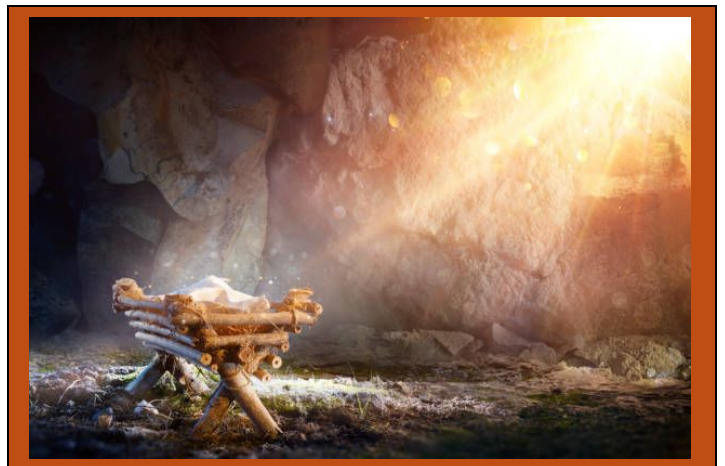
“Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: ... I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory.” **Isaiah 46:9-10, 13**

By Mike Wingfield

This is the time of the year when we think about the wonderful events surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem. The birth, life, and resurrection of Jesus create a special joy within us as we marvel over how the Son of God joined humanity and became God in flesh.

The writers of the gospels were constantly reminded by the Holy Spirit that events in the life of Jesus were prophetically declared by God hundreds of years before they took place. Jesus' life and ministry were preordained by God in heaven. The Apostle John wrote that Jesus was the **“Lamb slain from the foundation of the world”** (**Revelation 13:8**). Jesus was foreshadowed throughout the Old Testament as the Lamb of God who would shed His blood for the redemption of mankind. He was prefigured by the

Passover Lamb. When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the shepherds in the nearby fields were caring for their sheep. These sheep were destined to become sacrifices at the temple in Jerusalem. When John the Baptist introduced Jesus he declared,



“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

After His resurrection, Jesus told His followers that He had fulfilled the prophecies about Himself contained in the Scriptures ([Luke 24:44](#)). Throughout the New Testament, the apostles continued to remind people that Jesus had fulfilled all the ancient prophecies that proved He is the eternal Son of God and the promised Messiah. At the same time, they pointed to the ancient prophecies from the same prophets that proclaimed the expected return of Messiah at the end of this age.

The prophecies of the first and second comings of Messiah are central to God’s revelation to mankind. To ignore or minimize any of them is to act with sinful pride and arrogance in the face of the One and only true God. Anyone who thinks he knows more than God is a fool. The one who thinks this way does not know the God of the Bible. Isaiah wrote about His infinite knowledge and wisdom when he wrote, ***“Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and [showed] to him the way of understanding” (Isaiah 40:13-14)?***

The Bible is a revelation from God about Who He is and what He has, is, and will do from eternity past to the end of time on this earth. A casual reading of the Bible quickly overwhelms the reader to remind him that he is living in the presence of an infinite God. In the Bible, God reminds us that He is in a league of His own. He alone is God and there is none like Him.

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In Isaiah’s day, Israel was guilty of worshiping other idols and gods. They, like so many sinful human beings, wanted a god who would be like them. They longed for a god they could understand and manipulate. Nothing has changed. Man does the

same thing today. Many have mentally created a god or idol which they worship and serve. The Bible repeatedly declares there are no other gods. They are only the fabrications of our sinful imagination, with a little bit of demonic help from hell. The aged Apostle John closed His first epistle with the words, ***“Little children, keep yourselves from idols” (1 John 5:21).***

Men tend to forget who God is. They want to think of Him in terms of being like man. We were created in the image of God ([Genesis 1:27](#)). However, we are finite creatures. God, and God alone is infinite! God asks us, ***“To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him” (Isaiah 40:18)?*** An immeasurable and unfathomable mental chasm exists between the Creator and all His creation. The human mind will never begin to comprehend the incredible and astounding greatness of our God of prophecy! While considering the greatness of God, the Psalmist cried out, ***“Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain unto it” (Psalm 139:6).*** Exploring the greatness of God in the Scriptures, while living in the reality of His personal holy presence will always cause man to be humbled before Him. There is no room for pride in the presence of the true living God!

This should be the mindset of those who think about the words, ways, and will of God. To do otherwise is to distort the words, ways, and will of God. This is why God’s prophetic Word is often misunderstood. To properly understand the prophetic declarations of the God of Israel, we must not forget who He is.

I am convinced this is what creates so much confusion in our times. Do you know that most of the pastors and churches in America and the world do not believe that God’s promises and covenants made to the Jewish people are still viable today? This is called Replacement Theology, or Dominion Theology. They believe God has canceled His promises to Israel and has transferred them to the church. They claim that the modern nation of Israel is not the work of God. They refuse to believe that what is taking place in the Middle East is a divine fulfillment of the prophetic Word of God.

These proponents of this false teaching are guilty of ignoring the plain biblical declarations of God. Their teaching ignores the greatness of God. In their little twisted minds, they think of God as being like man. They believe God can cancel His eternal covenants. They believe God can ignore the oaths He has made. That would make God a liar, and the Bible says that God cannot lie. The Bible, while speaking about the promises God made to Abraham, says that it is ***“impossible for God to lie”*** ([Hebrews 6:18](#)).

God, and God alone, is eternal ([Isaiah 57:15](#))! Everyone and everything else has a beginning, but not God! When God makes a promise, He sees all of time to the end when the fulfillment of that promise will come to pass. His memory does not fail, and He will never change.

God and God alone has all power and authority. God and God alone is present everywhere in His creation. God and God alone knows all things about everything, visible and invisible. God has no competition. The devil and his demons, or all the nations under Satan’s deceptive spell, cannot stop or delay the perfect timing of God’s eternal plan decreed from the foundation of the world.

Too many people today serve a god that is not the God of the Bible. The God of the Bible has determined that the Jewish people and the nation of Israel are at the center of His eternal plan. God calls Himself the God of Israel. He continually refers to Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He is and will always be ***“the holy one of Israel”*** ([Isaiah 45:11](#)). God is still on His throne in heaven and has not changed who He is or what He will do for His chosen people Israel ([Malachi 3:6](#)).

Today, many foolish people think they can change the prophetic declarations and oaths of Almighty God. Near the end of the final book of the Bible, God warns all mankind they are not to change the prophetic statements of the entire Bible. If they do, they will face the horrific judgments of the book of Revelation.

In [Romans 11](#), the Apostle Paul speaks to those who believe God has cast off Israel because of the Jewish rejection of Jesus as Messiah. He speaks to the church and warns the church to not ignorantly boast about their spiritual position, thinking that God has broken His eternal oath to Israel ([Romans 11:16-24](#)). He firmly states that ***“the gifts and calling of God are [irrevocable]”*** ([Romans 11:29](#)).

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Those who say God has forsaken Israel are guilty of thinking that God is like man and will not have mercy upon Israel and forgive their sins. In [Psalm 89](#), God speaks of the covenant He made with King David about a future descendant sitting upon the throne of David and ruling over the nations of the world. In [2 Samuel 7:12-16](#), God made the following promise to King David, ***“And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: but my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.”*** Notice that God repeatedly said the Davidic throne was established forever.

Years later, God reaffirmed this covenant with David and made it clear that His covenant would be an exercise of His mercy and faithfulness. In **Psalm 89:27-37** God said, ***“Also I will make him my firstborn, Higher than the kings of the earth. My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, And my covenant shall stand fast with him. His seed also will I make to endure for ever, And his throne as the days of heaven. If his children forsake my law, And walk not in my judgments; If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments; Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail. My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. His seed shall endure for ever, And his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven.”***

Several times in Scripture, God called upon the sun and moon to be faithful witnesses to the perpetuation of His covenants with Israel. Listen carefully to **Jeremiah 31:35-37**, ***“Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD.”***

Notice that God gave two incredible proofs of His power to guarantee that He will NEVER forsake His chosen people, Israel. First, if the sun or moon ever disappear then God could turn away from His people. This is impossible. Should the light and heat of the sun and moon disappear, the earth would

become a ball of ice, and all life would cease to exist. Therefore, God’s promises to Israel are secure. Furthermore, God said if man could ever measure the outer limits of space and explore the boiling interior of planet earth, He would forsake Israel. Scientists humbly admit they have not been able to see the end of the outer reaches of space. They believe there are millions of galaxies in space. Distances in space are measured in terms of light years (the time it takes to travel to a point in space for an earth year, traveling at the speed of light – 186,000 miles per second. A spacecraft named Voyager was launched on September 5, 1977 and will reach some of our closest stars in tens of thousands of years. Israel is secure!

The prophetic declarations of God written in ancient times demonstrate that the Bible is unique and there are no other gods (**Isaiah 46:9-10**). The Bible is not just a book; it is the holy book! Like God, it is in a league all its own. No other book of any other religion has declared thousands of precise predictions with impeccable accuracy like the Bible.

Those who reject God’s eternal covenants with Israel are not listening to the heart of God, which does not change.

God has made these incredible predictions, not just because He is sovereign and has all authority. He has made these declarations about Israel and the land of Israel because they are the expression that flow out of His heart. God is not just some cosmic robot or heartless dictator. He is not a lifeless idol! Too often we forget that the triune persons we call God have personality. They have feelings. As a person, God acts with purpose. His purposes are bound up in Israel, and the land of Israel as a reflection of His heart. The Bible expresses that God acts with jealousy (**Deuteronomy 5:9**). He grieves (**Judges 10:16**). God loves (**Jeremiah 31:3**) and hates (**Psalm 5:5**).

Those who reject God’s eternal covenants with Israel are not listening to the heart of God, which does not change. God’s love for Israel is based upon His infinite mercy (**Psalm 89:28**). Please listen to the heart of God. He has declared that He will discipline Israel for their sin (**Psalm 89:30-32**). But in **Psalm**

89:33 He declares, ***“Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.”***

In the Bible, God’s kind of love is not just an expression of His feelings, but an act of His will. God’s love for Israel is God’s choice. His choice is not based upon the object of His love. His love flows from His heart of mercy and willingness to forgive.

Hundreds of times in the Bible, God refers to Israel as “my people.” God has a unique covenant with only one nation and ethnic group – Israel and the Jewish people. He has set them apart and high above all other nations. In the truest sense of the word, they are His people. In **Matthew 25:40**, Jesus referred to the Jewish people as ***“my brethren.”*** With this comment, Jesus said to those to whom He was speaking, that what they did to His people they had done to Him.

When you attack Israel, you are attacking God! God said that those who touch them, touch ***“the apple of his eye”*** (**Zechariah 2:8**).

This means that the Jew is the central focus of God in His eternal plan. As goes

God’s divine will and purpose, so goes the nation of Israel. God’s will and the nation of Israel are intertwined in the mind and heart of God! That is why Israel is the target of hell and all the devil’s demons!

In His eternal sovereignty, God has determined how things will end for His people. He knows that a day of great repentance for all living Jews will ultimately bring the final, entire, living nation to salvation (**Zechariah 13:8-9; Romans 11:26**). When Jesus descends to earth on the last day of the Tribulation Period the last of the living nation of Israel will repent and be saved (**Zechariah 12:11-13:6**).

Please listen to the passion of God’s heart that looks to the end of this age and sees His final work of redemption come to fruition since the time of the

calling of Abraham 4,000 years ago. God says, ***“For Zion’s sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name. Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married. For as a young man [marries] a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee. I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O***

Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth” (**Isaiah 62:1-7**).



Many times in the Bible, God speaks from His eternal perspective as if all the sins of Israel have already been forgiven. There will come a time when all the wars, terrorism, violence, hatred, and death shall end for the Jewish people. God’s Spirit will be poured out upon them, and they shall repent and receive the full measure of all the promises God has made unto them.

God called Isaiah to make this promise to Israel 2,700 years ago when he wrote, ***“Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD’s hand double for all her sins”*** (**Isaiah 40:1-2**).

These words of hope do not only give hope to the Jewish people, but to all people of faith in the God of prophecy. The faith we experience in Christianity is the same faith that was exercised by Abraham 4,000 years ago. In a real sense, we Gentile believers are the spiritual seed of Abraham ([Galatians 3:6-14](#)). This does not mean God has canceled His promises to Israel. It does not mean that the church has replaced physical Israel.

We worship the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He has not changed. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. He was raised in Nazareth of Galilee. He died in Jerusalem and ascended from the Mount of Olives. He is coming back. When He returns, He will stand upon the Mount of Olives ([Zechariah 14:4](#)). He will rule over all the nations from Jerusalem ([Zechariah 14:16-21](#)).

Trump's Peace Plan for the Middle East

At the heart of President Trump's plans for peace in the Middle East is his desire to see the former enemy nations of Israel make true peace with Israel. His desire is commendable. However, we know that the Bible says true peace will not come to the Middle East and the entire world until the return of Jesus as the Prince of Peace.

At the center of President Trump's plan is the unification of Arabs and Jews in the Abraham Accords. His greatest efforts are connected to convincing Saudi Arabia and its Crown Prince, Muhammed bin Salman, to join the other members of these Accords.

At a recent meeting between Trump and bin Salman at the White House, President Trump pressed bin Salman to join the Abraham Accords. Bin Salman informed Trump that he wanted to make peace with Israel. However, he refuses to sign the peace agreement unless Israel agrees within the next five years to allow the creation of a Palestinian State on land that is called Judea and Samaria.

Within hours after this comment, the Israeli Prime Minister responded by saying that Israel will never allow the existence of a Palestinian State on any property on the land west of the Jordan River. It appears that it is now up to President Trump to continue the negotiations between Saudi Arabia and Israel to reach an agreement.

From a biblical perspective, a false peace agreement will be made between Arab/Muslims, along with Saudi Arabia. This agreement will be for seven years ([Daniel 9:27](#)). Are we watching the negotiations that will formulate the peace treaty between the Antichrist and Israel? If we are, look for someone to introduce a process of seven years that would be aimed at bringing some kind of peace between Israel and her enemy Islamic neighbors in the Middle East.

According to [Isaiah 28:14-22](#), the leaders in Israel will be deceived into joining an agreement with those who lie and are plotting the destruction of Israel. Speaking to the future leaders of Israel, God calls this false covenant a **"covenant with death"** and



"your agreement with hell" ([verse 18](#)). This false covenant will ultimately create horrific terror and a major war ([verses 18-20](#)). Israel will be rescued by God by supernatural intervention at Armageddon ([verses 21-22](#)).

It appears we are watching the final stages of events leading to the false peace process that will begin the Tribulation Period. How awesome to be living in these last of the last days. We have a privilege to be living in these times at the close of the Church Age. We also have a very serious responsibility to warn this present generation to flee from the approaching wrath of God that will be poured out during the Tribulation.

"Be ready for the shout that will take us out!"