

OBADIAH



GOD'S PLAN FOR ISRAEL
AND THE
END TIMES...

Obadiah 1

Edom Will Be Humbled

¹The vision of Obadiah.

Thus says the Lord GOD concerning ^(A)Edom--

^(B)We have heard a report from the LORD,

And an ^(C)envoy has been sent among the nations saying,

"^(D)Arise and let us go against her for battle"--

²"Behold, I will make you ^(E)small among the nations;

You are greatly despised.

³"The ^(F)arrogance of your heart has deceived you,

You who live in the clefts of the ^(G)rock,

In the loftiness of your dwelling place,

Who say in your heart,

'^(H)Who will bring me down to earth?'

⁴"Though you ^(I)build high like the eagle,

Though you set your nest among the ^(J)stars,

From there I will bring you down," declares the LORD.

⁵"If ^(K)thieves came to you,

If robbers by night--

O how you will be ruined!--

Would they not steal only until they had enough?

If grape gatherers came to you,

^(L)Would they not leave some gleanings?

⁶"O how Esau will be ^(M)ransacked,

And his hidden treasures searched out!

⁷"All the ^(N)men allied with you

Will send you forth to the border,

And the men at peace with you

Will deceive you and overpower you

They who eat your ^(O)bread

Will set an ambush for you

(There is ^(P)no understanding in him.)

- 8"Will I not on that day," declares the LORD,
"(Q) Destroy wise men from Edom
And understanding from the mountain of Esau?
- 9"Then your (R) mighty men will be dismayed, O (S) Teman,
So that everyone may be (T) cut off from the mountain of Esau
by slaughter.
- 10"Because of (U) violence to your brother Jacob,
You will be covered with shame,
(V) And you will be cut off forever.
- 11"On the day that you (W) stood aloof,
On the day that strangers carried off his wealth,
And foreigners entered his gate
And (X) cast lots for Jerusalem--
(Y) You too were as one of them.
- 12"(Z) Do not gloat over your brother's day,
The day of his misfortune
And (AA) do not rejoice over the sons of Judah
In the day of their destruction;
Yes, (AB) do not boast
In the day of their distress.
- 13"Do not enter the gate of My people
In the (AC) day of their disaster
Yes, you, do not gloat over their calamity
In the day of their disaster
And do not (AD) loot their wealth
In the day of their disaster.
- 14"Do not (AE) stand at the fork of the road
To cut down their fugitives;
And do not imprison their survivors
In the day of their distress.

The Day of the LORD and the Future

- 15"For the (AF) day of the LORD draws near on all the nations
(AG)As you have done, it will be done to you
Your (AH)dealings will return on your own head.
- 16"Because just as you (AI)drank on (AJ)My holy mountain,
All the nations (AK)will drink continually.
They will drink and swallow
And become as if they had never existed.
- 17"But on Mount (AL)Zion there will be those who escape,
And it will be holy
And the house of Jacob will (AM)possess their possessions.
- 18"Then the house of Jacob will be a (AN)fire
And the house of Joseph a flame;
But the house of Esau will be as stubble
And they will set them on fire and consume them,
So that there will be (AO)no survivor of the house of Esau,"
For the LORD has spoken.
- 19Then those of the [a]Negev will (AP)possess the mountain of
Esau,
And those of the [b]Shephelah the (AQ)Philistine plain;
Also, (AR)possess the territory of Ephraim and the territory of
Samaria,
And Benjamin will possess Gilead.
- 20And the exiles of this host of the sons of Israel,
Who are among the Canaanites as far as (AS)Zarephath,
And the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad
Will possess the (AT)cities of the Negev.
- 21The (AU)deliverers will ascend Mount Zion
To judge the mountain of Esau,
And the (AV)kingdom will be the LORD'S.

- 49:7-22; Ezek 25:12-14; 35:15; Joel 3:19; Amos 1:11, 12; Mal 1:4
- B. Obadiah 1:1 : Jer 49:14-16; Obad 1-4
- C. Obadiah 1:1 : Is 18:2; 30:4
- D. Obadiah 1:1 : Jer 6:4, 5
- E. Obadiah 1:2 : Num 24:18; Is 23:9
- F. Obadiah 1:3 : Is 16:6; Jer 49:16
- G. Obadiah 1:3 : 2 Kin 14:7; 2 Chr 25:11
- H. Obadiah 1:3 : Is 14:13-15; Rev 18:7
- I. Obadiah 1:4 : Job 20:6, 7; Hab 2:9
- J. Obadiah 1:4 : Is 14:12-15
- K. Obadiah 1:5 : Jer 49:9
- L. Obadiah 1:5 : Deut 24:21
- M. Obadiah 1:6 : Jer 49:10
- N. Obadiah 1:7 : Jer 30:14
- O. Obadiah 1:7 : Ps 41:9
- P. Obadiah 1:7 : Is 19:11; Jer 49:7
- Q. Obadiah 1:8 : Job 5:12-14; Is 29:14
- R. Obadiah 1:9 : Jer 49:22
- S. Obadiah 1:9 : Gen 36:11; 1 Chr 1:45; Job 2:11; Jer 49:7; Ezek 25:13; Amos 1:12; Hab 3:3
- T. Obadiah 1:9 : Is 34:5-8; 63:1-3; Obad 5
- U. Obadiah 1:10 : Gen 27:41; Ezek 25:12; Joel 3:19; Amos 1:11
- V. Obadiah 1:10 : Ezek 35:9
- W. Obadiah 1:11 : Ps 83:5, 6; 137:7; Amos 1:6, 9
- X. Obadiah 1:11 : Joel 3:3; Nah 3:10
- Y. Obadiah 1:11 : Ezek 35:10
- Z. Obadiah 1:12 : Mic 4:11; 7:10
- AA. Obadiah 1:12 : Prov 17:5; Ezek 35:15; 36:5
- AB. Obadiah 1:12 : Ps 31:18; Ezek 35:12
- AC. Obadiah 1:13 : Ezek 35:5
- AD. Obadiah 1:13 : Ezek 35:10; 36:2, 3
- AE. Obadiah 1:14 : Is 16:3, 4
- AF. Obadiah 1:15 : Ezek 30:3; Joel 1:15; 2:1, 11, 31; Amos 5:18, 20
- AG. Obadiah 1:15 : Jer 50:29; 51:56; Hab 2:8
- AH. Obadiah 1:15 : Ezek 35:11
- AI. Obadiah 1:16 : Jer 49:12
- AJ. Obadiah 1:16 : Joel 3:17
- AK. Obadiah 1:16 : Is 51:22, 23; Jer 25:15, 16
- AL. Obadiah 1:17 : Is 4:2, 3
- AM. Obadiah 1:17 : Is 14:1, 2; Amos 9:11-15
- AN. Obadiah 1:18 : Is 5:24; 9:18, 19; Zech 12:6
- AO. Obadiah 1:18 : Jer 11:23; Amos 1:8
- AP. Obadiah 1:19 : Is 11:14; Amos 9:12
- AQ. Obadiah 1:19 : Is 11:14
- AR. Obadiah 1:19 : Jer 31:5; 32:44
- AS. Obadiah 1:20 : 1 Kin 17:9; Luke 4:26
- AT. Obadiah 1:20 : Jer 32:44; 33:13
- AU. Obadiah 1:21 : Neh 9:27
- AV. Obadiah 1:21 : Ps 22:28; 47:7-9; 67:4; Zech 14:9; Rev 11:15

It All Starts in Genesis

Over and over again God mentions His judgment on a group He calls EDOM for their unrelenting, unprovoked, and carefully planned attacks against the Jews, both physically and spiritually. Now we have questions to ask and homework to do.

** Where does all this **hatred** come from?

** Who exactly is this people group called Edom?

To Understand, Go To the Beginning! Genesis means the Beginning!

Edom's desire is to wipe the Jews off the face of the earth and to seize their possessions, their inheritance, homes, and property. Before we can handle this **Book of Obadiah**, let's discover just who **Edom is**. The war today in the Middle East starts in Genesis 16 with the spiritual conflict between **Ishmael** and **Isaac**, who are stepbrothers. This bitter conflict then continues in Genesis 25:23 with **Esau** and **Jacob**, who are fraternal twins! In each account, the first birth is after the flesh, and the second birth is after the Spirit.

Remember that God promised **Abram** that He would cut an everlasting covenant with his seed from **Sarai**. (Gen.17:16) God's plan was short-circuited when **Sarai** grew tired of waiting for the promise and substituted her Egyptian maid **Hagar** to **Abram** to father a child. Thus was **Ishmael** conceived after the flesh. But **GOD** was waiting for **Isaac**, the spiritual son of the promise.

Isaac is the Son after the Spirit- Genesis 17

"And GOD said unto Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be. And I will bless her, and give you a son of her: yes, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be born of her. Then Abraham fell on his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, 'Shall a child be born of him that is 100 years old? And shall Sarah, that is 90 years old, bare?" And Abraham said unto GOD, "O, that Ishmael might live before thee!" And GOD said, "Sarah, your wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and you shall call his name Isaac; and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him."

"As for Ishmael, I have heard thee; Behold I have blessed him and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; 12 princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto you at this set time next year;"

It is the same for us! Our first birth is after the flesh. Sin reigns in our hearts and we follow whatever our flesh dictates. Only by the 2nd birth, do we want to follow after the Spirit. The conflict continues still.

Ishmael is the Son After the Flesh - Genesis 16

"Now Sarai, Abram's wife had borne him no children and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar. So Sarai said to Abram, 'Now behold, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Please go in to my maid; perhaps I will obtain children through her.' And Abram listened to the voice of his wife.

After Abram had lived 10 years in the land of Canaan, Abram's wife Sarai took Hagar the Egyptian, her maid, and gave her to her husband Abram as his wife. He went in to Hagar and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, Sarai was despised in Hagar's sight. And Sarai said to Abram, " May the wrong done to me be upon you. I gave my maid into your arms, but when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her sight. May the LORD judge between you and me."

But Abram said to Sarai, ' Behold, your maid is in your power; do with her what is good in your sight.' So Sarai treated her harshly, and Hagar fled from her presence. Now the angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. He said, 'Hagar, Sarai's maid where are you going?' And she said, "I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai.' Then the angel of the LORD said, 'Return to your mistress, and submit to her authority.' Moreover, the angel of the LORD said to her, 'I will multiply your descendants so that they will be too many to count.' The angel of the LORD said to her further, 'Behold, you are with child, and you will bear a son; and you shall call his name ISHMAEL (whom God hears) because the LORD has given heed to your affliction.

" He will be a wild donkey of a man. His hand will be against everyone, and everyone's hand will be against him. And he will live to the east all his brothers."

" Then Hagar called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are a God who sees," for she said, "Have I remained alive here after seeing HIM?" Therefore the well was called Beer-lahoi-roi. (The well of living after seeing) Behold it is between Kadesh and Bered. And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called his son Ishmael. Abram was 86 years old when Hagan bare Ishmael to Abram."

***** Kadesh and Bered occupy the Sinai Peninsula

**** Ishmael's 12 sons become the mighty princes who populate the Arab nations.

So Abraham, God's man, went into Hagar, the Egyptian maid, (Egypt=the world system) and Ishmael, the son of the flesh was birthed. Then Abraham went into Sarah (God's appointed woman) at God's appointed time (25 years after the promise was made to Abraham) and by the supernatural grace of GOD (after Sarah was too old to bare a child), Isaac was born, the son of the Spirit.

Ancient Family History

The next part of Abram's family history seems harsh to us. Just remember that Hagar and Egypt represent bondage to the world patterns and not God's patterns. There are far-reaching consequences to living in the world instead of living for GOD. Let's jump back into the study! God changes Abraham's name and tells him with surety that SARAH will bear him a son called ISAAC and that GOD will establish HIS COVENANT with ISAAC for an everlasting covenant and his descendants after him." Abraham pleads for Ishmael, whom he loves. God replies in Gen. 17:20.

"As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold I will bless him and will make him fruitful and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall become the father of 12 princes, and I will make him a great nation."

"But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you at this season next year."

And Abraham at 99 years old was circumcised -that very day along with 13-year old Ishmael and all the men of Abraham's household. Genesis 21 tells the next part of the family history. Isaac is born exactly when God said (vs.2 -Abraham is 100) and is circumcised the 8th day.

Now comes a disturbing account between Isaac and Ishmael.....Gen. 17:9

'The child was weaned and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. Now Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, mocking. Therefore Sarah said to Abraham, "Drive out this maid and her son, for the son of this maid shall not be an heir with my son Isaac.' The matter distressed Abraham greatly, because of his son. But God said to Abraham, ' Do not be distressed because of the lad and your maid, whatever Sarah tells you, listen to her, for through Isaac your descendants shall be named.'

Chapter 21 continues with Sarah confronting Abraham, then Abraham confronting Hagar, and she and Ishmael are cast out. What a mess we create when we move ahead of, outside of the plan of GOD!

Spiritual Principles**

1. **Whatever you sow in the flesh**, (because you want it, because it makes you well-liked, more popular, more connected, because you don't have to change bad habits or relationships) **.you WILL reap in the flesh!** We need to starve the flesh, not FEED it!
2. **Whatever you sow in the Spirit** (creative ideas, time, money, relationships built by the Spirit, ministry to others, mercy, helps, intercession, encouragement)**you will also see birthed in your life!**

Ishmael Sporting With Isaac?

The agony we are feeling here over Ishmael being cast away from his father Abraham is very great. Why is Sarah so selfishly ambitious and hard-hearted toward this son of Hagar? Why would GOD allow this break-up of the family? Could there be something more in the text that we don't understand? The word "mocked" in 21:9 has an interesting understanding in the Hebrew text (6711 **tsachaq**) - it can mean to sport with in an intimate, sexual way. Is there another example of **tsachaq** in the Word? Yes, in Genesis 26:8 we find Jacob has told Abimelech that Rebekah is his sister (Remember how Abraham used into this same defense mechanism 2 times with Sarah) so the Philistines wouldn't kill him to get his wife. The taking of another man's wife in ancient cultures is an aggressive challenge to his lands, his possessions and his authority to rule. Many times taking a man's wife is a hostile takeover instead of lust. We read that Abimelech knew the truth of their relationship when he happened to see Isaac sporting (**tsachaq** -6711) with Rebekah.

Avi Lipkin (Sleeping In America - DVD Koinonia House 2004) states that this word **tsachaq** (or mocks, sports) definitely has a sexual innuendo. He comments that Arab domination has involved forced sex or "submission to Allah" and implies subjugation under a master. At the beginning of Mohammed's aggressive campaign to make Islam the religion of all Arabs, he made a practice of killing all men would not submit to Islam (infidels) and by offering their lands and their women and children as war prizes to his soldiers. (Certainly present day Islam in the Sudan, Indonesia, Nigeria, and many other countries follows this pattern of conquest)

If there is any truth in the Hebrew understanding of the text, then how would Sarah have felt to see a 16 or 17 year-old, almost-grown Ishmael **sporting** with a defenseless 3 or 4-year-old Isaac. (Mothers nursed their children up to 5 years of age)

What we do know is that God separated Ishmael and Isaac and gave them each 12 sons who would become 12 powerful tribes...the Arabs and the Jews! Each will play a part in God's end times events.

"Jacob I Have Loved, But Esau I Have Hated"

In the very next generation from **Isaac** and **Ishmael**, the conflict continues and intensifies. Back to Genesis 25: 19 to pick up where we left off!

19. Now these are the records of the generations of **Isaac**, Abraham's son: Abraham became the father of **Isaac**,

20. And Isaac was 40 years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel, the Aramean of Paddan- Aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife

21. **Isaac** prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD answered and Rebekah his wife conceived.

22. But the children struggled within her; and she said, "If it is so, why am I this way?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.

23. The LORD said to her, "**Two nations are in your womb; and two peoples will be separated from your body; and one people shall be stronger than the other, and the older shall serve the younger.**"

24. When her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb.

25. Now the first came forth red, all over like a hairy garment; and they named him **Esau** (meaning red).

26. After his brother came forth with his hand grabbing on to **Esau's** heel, so his name was called **Jacob**, (the grabber) and Isaac was 60 years old when she gave birth to them.

27. When the boys grew up, **Esau** became a skillful hunter, a man of the field, but **Jacob** was a peaceful man, living in tents.

28. Now Isaac loved **Esau** because he had a taste for game, but Rebekah loved **Jacob**,

29. When **Jacob** had cooked stew, **Esau** came in from the field and he was famished.

30. And **Esau** said to **Jacob**, "Please let me have a swallow of that red stuff there for I am famished." Therefore **Esau was called Edom (red)**.

31. But **Jacob** said, " First sell me your birthright."

32. **Esau** said, "Behold, I am about to die; so he swore to him, and sold his birthright to **Jacob**."

33. And **Jacob** said, "First swear to me;" and so he swore to him, and sold his birthright to him.

34. Then **Jacob** gave **Esau** bread and lentil stew; and he ate and drank, and rose and went on his way. This **Esau despised his birthright**.

The Birthright and The Blessing

In a Hebrew family, **half of the father's inheritance** was passed to the firstborn son as his **birthright**; the oldest son was the pride of the family, the first of his father's strength. Every child received the **father's blessing** when he laid his hand upon their head and called forth spiritual promises into their life. The oldest son was entitled to both the birthright and a blessing. To sell something so important for a bowl of stew shows Esau didn't value the priority GOD felt for the firstborn. Esau is a man after his stomach (the flesh) and will not honor and guard the things of the Spirit. Esau also will not honor his parents or GOD when he picks 2 Hittite women to marry. Isaac and Rebekah were so deeply grieved by his pagan wives Judith and Basemath, that they sent Jacob away to get the favored wife. **If you marry pagan wives, you will have pagan children!**

Jacob Deceives Isaac With A Kiss

Genesis 27 tells more of this drama between the brothers and it gets much worse!

1. Now it came about, when **Isaac** was old and his eyes were too dim to see, that he called his older son **Esau** and said to him, "My son." And **Esau** said to him, "Here I am."
2. Isaac said, "Behold now, I am old and I do not know the day of my death."
3. "Now, then, please take your gear, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field and hunt game for me;
4. and prepare a savory dish for me such as I love, and bring it to me that I may eat, so that my soul may bless you before I die."
5. Rebekah was listening while Isaac was speaking to his son **Esau**. So when **Esau** went out to the field for game to bring home,
6. Rebecca said to her son **Jacob**, "Behold, I heard your father speak to your brother Esau, saying,

7. "Bring me some game and prepare a savory dish for me, that I may eat, and bless you in the presence of the LORD before my death."
8. Now, therefore, my son, listen to me as I command you.
9. "Go to the flock and bring me 2 choice young goats from there, that I may prepare them as a savory dish for your father, such as he loves."
10. "then you shall bring it to your father, that he may eat, so that he may bless you before his death."
11. **Jacob** answered his mother Rebekah, "Behold, **Esau** my brother is a hairy man and I am a smooth man." (Smooth enough to deceive!)
12. "Perhaps my father will feel me, then I will be as a deceiver in his sight, and I will bring a curse upon myself and not a blessing."
13. But his mother said to him, "Your curse be upon me, my son; only obey my voice, and go and get them for me."
14. So **Jacob** went and got them, and brought them to his mother; and his mother made savory food such as his father loved.
15. Then Rebecca took the best garments **of Esau** her elder son, which were in her s house, and put them on **Jacob** her younger son.
16. And she put the skins of the young goats on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck.
17. She also gave the savory food and the bread, which she had made, to her son **Jacob**.
18. Then he came to his father and said, "My father." And Isaac said, "Here I am . Who are you, my son?"

Lie # 1
19. **Jacob** said to his father, "I am **Esau your firstborn**. I have done as you have told me. "Get up please and eat of my game, that you may bless me."
20. Isaac said to his son, "How is it that you have it so quickly, my son?" And **Jacob** said, "Because the LORD your GOD caused it to happen for me. Lie # 2
21. Then Isaac said to **Jacob**, " Please come close, that I may feel you, my son, whether you are really my son Esau or not."

22. So **Jacob** came close to Isaac his father, and he felt him and said, "The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau."

23. He did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so Isaac blessed Jacob.

Lie #3

24. And he said, "Are you really my son Esau?" And Jacob said, "I am."

25. So he said, "Bring it to me and I will eat of my son's game, that I may bless you." And he brought it to him, and he ate, he also brought him wine and he drank."

26. Then his father Isaac said to him, "Please come close and kiss me, my son.

27. -29. So he came close and kissed him; and when he smelled the smell of his garments and said, "**See, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field which the LORD has blessed. Now May GOD give you the dew of heaven and the fatness of the earth, and an abundance of grain and new wine; May peoples bow down and serve you; Be master of your brothers, and may your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be those who curse you and blessed be those who bless you.**"

30. Now it came about, as soon as Isaac had finished blessing **Jacob**, and **Jacob** had hardly gone from the presence of Isaac his father, that **Esau** his brother came in from his hunting.

31. Then he also made savory food, and brought it to his father; and he said to him, "Let my father arise and eat of his son's game that you may bless me."

32. Isaac, his father said to him, "Who are you?" And he said, "I am **Esau**, your firstborn."

33. Then Isaac trembled violently, and said, "Who was he then that hunted game and brought it to me, so that I ate of all of it before you came and blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed."

34. When **Esau** hears the words, of his father, he cried out with an exceedingly great and bitter cry, and said to this father, "Bless me, and even me also, my father."

35. And Isaac said, "Your brother came deceitfully and has taken away your blessing."

36. Then he said, "Is he not rightly named **Jacob**, for he has supplanted me these two times? He took away my birthright and behold, now he has taken away my blessing. And he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?"

37. But Isaac replied **to Esau**, "Behold, I have made him master, and all his relatives I have given to him as servants; and with grain and new wine I have sustained him. Now as for you, then, what can I do, my son?"

38. **Esau** said to his father, "Do you not have only one blessing, my father?" And he lifted his voice and wept.

39. Then Isaac his father answered and said to him,

40. **"Behold, away from the fertility of the earth shall be your dwelling. And away from the dew of heaven. By your sword alone you shall live, and your brother you shall serve, but it shall come about when you become restless, that you will break his yoke from your neck"**

41. So **Esau** bore a grudge against **Jacob** because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him; and **Esau** said to himself, "The days of mourning for my father are near; **** then I will kill my brother Jacob.**" ******

This is the root of the Middle East hatred of the Jews!

42. Now when the words of her elder son **Esau** were reported to Rebekah, she sent and called her younger **son Jacob**, and said to him, "Behold, your **brother Esau** is consoling himself concerning you by planning to kill you."

43. -45. "Now, therefore, my son, obey my voice, and arise and flee to Haran to my brother Laban. Stay with him a few days, until your brother's fury subsides, until your brother's anger against you subsides and he forgets what you did to him. Then I will send and get you from there. Why should I be bereaved of both of you in one day?"

46. Rebekah said to Isaac, "I am tired of living because of the daughters of Heth (terror); if **Jacob** takes a wife from one of the daughters of Heth like these, from the daughters of the land, what good will my life be to me?"

Jacob is exiled from his home for 20 years, renamed **Israel** by GOD and moves to Shechem. For deceiving his father, **Jacob** is in turn deceived **3 times** by his own family: he was tricked into the wrong wife on his wedding night by his uncle; he is lied to by Rachel over stealing the household gods; and finally lied he is deceived by his 10 sons over Joseph's death.

****What a price we pay for the spiritual seed we sow.****

Rebekah dies without ever seeing her beloved son again. In defiance **Esau** takes a third pagan wife, the daughter of Ishmael and moves to Mt. Seir, **Edom**. There is a final meeting between **Jacob and Esau** and another **false kiss**. The seed of **Ishmael and Esau** produces Israel's forever enemies. (**Amalek**, Israel's first battle after the Exodus, is **Esau's grandson!**)

OBADIAH, A Study of the End Times!

Everything that has been happening in the world seems to be centered on the Middle East Peace Process and how all the nations of the world will eventually align themselves on one side or another. The world's desperate need of Arab oil, hence Arab friendship, and Arab hatred of the Jews while claiming to be dispossessed from their Arab homeland of Israel, has brought all the nations into the conflict. The Arabs hold their oil over the heads of state to ensure the world's cooperation in ridding them of their lifelong enemies, the Jews! How does God view man's plan to destroy Israel, his firstborn? We have lots to study, so let's dig into the key words in Obadiah, a judgment against Edom.

Edom is the people group who have descended from Esau, the twin brother of Jacob, who becomes Israel.

Genesis gives us the beginning of the conflict between the two brothers, and the spiritual nature of Esau's hatred.

Gen 25:23- birth of twin sons to Isaac and Rebekah and struggle within the womb by Esau and Jacob. God's prophecy that the older will serve the younger. Esau sells his firstborn's birthright to Jacob for a bowl of stew - He gives up his whole spiritual inheritance for the cravings of the flesh. Esau is ruled by the flesh, or by the world. Esau has already married into the world against his parent's wishes and God's command by taking 2 pagan Canaanite wives, the daughters of Heth ("terror"). Jacob then tricks him out of his father's blessing as well and Esau hates his brother and determines to kill him. Jacob must flee because Esau is stronger and so he is sent far away with his parent's blessing for a suitable wife. This inflames Esau even more, and in revenge or spite he takes another unsuitable wife, this time the daughter of Ishamel and reunites the very house of Isaac with the house of Ishmael. He marries the world again! So Ishmael scorns Isaac, the seed of the covenant, and Edom hates Jacob, the next seed of the covenant. However the hatred that Esau bears for Jacob demands death and continuously cries out for vengeance against his lost inheritance. Jacob never hates Esau and seeks restoration, but he senses danger to all that he loves and possesses. The seed of Esau-Ishmael has evolved into the Arab Muslim nations and the seed of Jacob is the nation of Israel. The key word in this struggle is an unrelenting hatred and violence between brothers which will only be satisfied with the death of the Jews

Parallel Passages on Edom: Jeremiah 48-49 Ezekial 35-36 Amos
Isaiah 34:8-10: 63:3 Psalm 83; 137:7-9 Judges 11:17 Romans 9
**NOTE - The Amalekites are the grandsons of Edom (Gen. 36)

Petra – The Cleft of the Rock – Obadiah Vs. 3

To understand the prophetic importance of Petra as the future hiding place of the Jews during the last half of the Tribulation, we are going on a tour of Petra, ancient and modern, its history and its inhabitants!

Ancient Petra – is the rose, red-walled in lost city near ancient **Bozrah** (modern day Buseirah) that was the capital of **Edom**. Also known as **Mr. Seir**, Esau claimed this mountain wilderness for his family after GOD sent him out of the (Canaan) Israel in Gen. 36:1-6. **Bozrah**, meaning "the sheepfold," is 30 miles SE of the Dead Sea in modern day **Jordan**. **Bozrah** was an important city on the King's Highway in Bible times and GOD highlights **Bozrah** in end time's prophecy. **Obadiah's prophecy** against **Edom's** treachery and violence to **Israel** is matched by **Amos 1:11-12**:

This is what the LORD says, "For 3 sins of Edom, even 4, I will not turn back. Because he pursued his brother (Israel) with a sword, stifling all compassion, because his anger raged continually and his fury flamed unchecked, I will send fire upon Teman that will consume the fortress of **Bozrah**."

The Nabateans, ancient Arab tribes, took over **Bozrah** in 600 BC and named **Petra**. a walled-in city fortress 20 miles away as their capital. This vast mountain fortress can only be entered on foot from the east and on horseback through **El Siq**, a dramatic mile long narrow entrance only 9' -30' high, snaking through 100-500' high walled cliffs through a "cleft in the rock." If you have seen Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, you watched Harrison Ford race through **El Siq**. Inside the walled city of **Petra** is a complete fortress hideout with a complete water supply system, and houses and tombs carved right into its walls; it could sustain a huge population for a long time.

In the terrible final half of the Tribulation, the *Coming World Leader (A/C)* will inhabit Jerusalem and set himself up in the Temple as God, forcing all to take his mark of loyalty or die. (Rev.13) This **abomination of desolation** (Mathew 24:15-16) of is the very event that causes the Jews to flee to a hiding place.

"Therefore when you see the **abomination of desolation** which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the Holy Place, let the reader understand, then those in Judea must flee to the **mountains**,"

*****Petra is only a few hours by car from Jerusalem!**

This time will be so horrific, that 2/3 of the Jews will be martyred by the Antichrist. One third will survive by fleeing the city and hiding out in the wilderness for 3 ½ years. [The Next Holocaust and the Refuge in Edom \(Koinonia House: Missler\)](#)

"It will come about in all the land," declares the LORD, "that 2 parts in it will be cut off and perish, but the third will be left in it. And I will bring the third part through the fire, refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on my name, and I will answer them; I will say, "They are my people," and they will say, "The LORD is MY GOD." Zechariah 13:8-9

Daniel's Prophecy Concerning Edom, Ammon, and Moab in 11:41

_"He, (the A/C) shall also enter into the glorious land, (Israel) and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even **Edom, Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon** (present day **Jordan**)."

Revelation Chapter 12:14 Adds Another Piece of the Puzzle!

"And to the Woman (Israel) was given 2 wings of a great eagle, that she might fly **into the wilderness**, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, times, and a half (3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years) from the face of the serpent (Devil).

God Declares that Bozrah is the Sheepfold for Israel

A sheepfold is the safe haven from all danger as they rest, waiting for the dawn. In Micah: 2:12, God says:

"I will surely assemble all of you, Jacob, I will surely gather the remnant of Israel. I will put them together like sheep in the fold (**Bozrah**); like a flock in the midst of its pasture they will be noisy with men."

Jesus Will Return to Bozrah! Isaiah 63:1-6

__At the end of the Tribulation as the Anti-Christ gathers all the armies of the world to wipe out the Jews and Jerusalem, Jesus Christ will return to Earth (Rev. 19) as the Avenger of Blood to kill the enemies of GOD and to deliver Israel.

"Who is this who comes from **Edom**, with dyed garments from **Bozrah**? This that is glorious is His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save."

"Why is Your apparel **red** and Your garments like the one who treads in the wine press?"

__"I have trodden the wine press alone, and from the peoples there was no man with me. I also trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; and their **lifeblood** is sprinkled on my garments, and I stained all my raiment. For **the Day of Vengeance** was in My heart, and My year of Redemption has come. I looked and there was no one to help, and I was astonished and there was no one to uphold; so My own arm brought salvation to me, and My wrath upheld Me. I trod down the peoples in My anger and made them drunk in My wrath, and **I poured out their lifeblood in My wrath.**"

Will Petra be the future hiding place for the Jews?

God's Indictments Against Edom

Seven times in Obadiah 12-14, GOD renders judgment against Edom for crimes against Israel. These charges are so serious that GOD intends to destroy the **house of Esau**.

1. *"You should not have gloated over your brother's misfortune" (12)*
We have all watched Arabs celebrating in the streets, firing guns after horrific terror attacks to Jews and in the US.
2. *"You should not have rejoiced over Judah's destruction" (12)*
Many Muslims believe that Hitler should have finished the job of exterminating the Jews.
3. *"You should not have boasted over their distress" (12)*
Islamic imams preach venomous "death to the Jew" sermons Every Friday from the mosque on the Temple Mount
4. *"You should not have entered the gates of My people." (13)*
The Palestinians claim the Jewish lands and Temple are theirs. Their bulldozers are destroying all evidence of the ancient Jewish Temple and dumping it in the desert.
5. *"You should not have gloated over their calamity" (13)*
 Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorist groups are eager to claim dead bodies as their religious duty to Allah. Al Jazeera gloated when it showed up close videos of the beheadings of Americans and Europeans during the liberation of Iraq.
6. *"You should not have looted their wealth" (13)*
The Jewish settlers are being forced to give their lands, businesses, and homes to the very Palestinian terrorists who had been blowing them up.
7. *"You should not have stood at the fork of the road to cut (14) down their fugitives. Muslims stood at the crossroads in Europe during the Holocaust and turned in their Jewish neighbors.*
8. *"You should not have imprisoned their survivors" (14)*

God did destroy the ancient Edomites just as He promised, but is there not also a future fulfillment Of Obadiah? The hidden key is in verse 10: "Because of the violence to your brother Jacob..." The Hebrew root word for violence, is **Hamas**, the **Islamic Resistance Movement**, the primary Palestinian terrorist organization in the world! Centuries ago, GOD condemned Muslim terrorism against Israel before Hamas even existed!

In the Day of Their Distress

Seven times God reiterates His anger against Edom's unrelenting, systematic hatred and irrational violence against Jacob...in the day of their distress!

When Israel is at her weakest and most vulnerable point, Edom Attacks! What day does the enemy of GOD attack?

1. The Day of Israel's misfortune (vs.12) once
2. The Day of Israel's destruction (12) once
3. The Day of Their Distress (12) two times
4. The Day of Their Disaster (13) Three times

1. The first time was when Israel was coming out of the wilderness after living as slaves in Egypt. They asked their kinsmen, the Edomites, for permission to pass through their lands because they were weak.

2. When the Romans burned the Temple in 70 AD, and massacred the Jews, the Edomites committed terrible atrocities against the Israelites.

Psalm 137:7 "Remember, O LORD, against the sons of EDOM the Day of Jerusalem, who said, "Raze it, Raze it to its very foundation. O, Daughter of Babylon, you devastator. How blessed will be the one who repays you with the recompense with which you repaid us. How blessed will be the one who seizes and dashes your little ones against the rock."

3. Surely during our generation, the greatest day of calamity for the Jews was the Holocaust. Hitler had a modern day spiritual **Edomite** partner in the genocide of the Jews. The grand mufti of Jerusalem, **Hajj Amin Al Hussein** moved to Berlin to conspire with the Nazis to perfect the Jew's extermination. He created an especially sadistic Bosnian SS unit of Muslims and personally visited the death camps to plan faster methods of killing the Jews.

4. **Saddam Hussein**, the butcher of Baghdad, and recently deposed dictator of IRAQ is now of trial for war crimes against the US, the Jews, and fellow Muslims is also a present day **Edomite**.

5. The most recent member of this notorious **Edomite** family actually was the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize and originator of suicide bombers. **Yassir Arafat** is the President of the Palestinian Liberation Organization. His lies and propaganda have given rise to worldwide anti-Semitism (hatred of the Jews) and the current Road Map to Peace. After his death, it was discovered that he changed his name to hide his identity. He was the nephew of Hajj Amin al Hussein.



Hajj Amin al-Husseini

The Muslim grand mufti of Jerusalem, Hajj Amin al-Husseini (*pictured, left*) was a nationalist Palestinian religious leader. In the 1930s he organized Arab attacks against the British and Jews in Palestine and Iraq. Fleeing British authorities, Husseini was greeted with open arms by the Nazis in Berlin.

During World War II Husseini sympathized publicly and privately with the Nazis' antisemitism as well as with their anti-British policies. He spent most of the war in Berlin and reportedly visited several camps. Husseini obtained a promise from Hitler that after Germany conquered the Middle East, the Jews who resided there would suffer the same extermination as the European Jews.

Husseini recruited thousands of European Muslims for service in the *Waffen-SS*. He escaped trial for war crimes, and after 1946 he spent the rest of his life entertained in various Middle Eastern capitals.

Photo: [Central Zionist Archives](#) / [United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Photo Archive](#)



The Mufti of Jerusalem salutes the Bosnian SS division



At the eve of the "final solution" to the "Jewish Problem", the Mufti (*Yasser Arafat's father's brother*) and Adolf Hitler confer in Berlin, November 21, 1941

“ Just As You Drank On My Holy Mountain” The Battle For the Temple Mount

Obadiah mentions all of the charges against Edom that GOD will judge “As the Day of the LORD draws near on all the nations” in verse 15. GOD’s righteous anger will bring destruction on EDOM for what they have done on His Holy Mountain and again in verses 17 and 21 on Mt. Zion. These verses can only refer to holiest site in the world according to Israel, the Temple Mount in Jerusalem where all of the Jewish Temples have stood.

1. The Mountain where Abraham offered Isaac
2. The Tabernacle of David
3. Solomon’s Temple destroyed by the Babylonians
- Z 4. Zerubbabel’s Temple /Herod’s Temple destroyed by Rome
5. The Future Tribulation Temple

Since the complete destruction of Herod’s Temple in 70 AD by the Roman legions under Titus, there has been no Temple for Israel, no way to offer sacrifices and no way to atone for their sins for almost 2000 years!

The Muslims built the Al Aksa Mosque on the abandoned Temple platform and also the gold-capped Dome of the Rock. This site is the third holiest site in all Islam because Mohammed ascended from there on his “Night Journey.” Mohammed never entered the city of Jerusalem and the Koran never mentions Jerusalem. The Muslims pray facing Mecca. Yassir Arafat recently declared that there never was a Jewish Temple on this site in an attempt to justify the Muslim claim to the Jewish Temple Mount. Revelation 11 tells us that there will be a future Jewish Temple on that very site and that the Anti Christ will desecrate it by placing an idol of worship, the “abomination of desolation” and will require all to bow down and worship. So The Temple Mount is the most explosive piece of real estate in the whole world and will play a very important role in end time events. Remember the Road Map to Peace dictates that Jerusalem be divided between Palestinians and Jews.

The miracle of the 1967 Six Day War in Jerusalem was not only did the Jews defend themselves from the vast Arab nations who attacked and outnumbered them; they also regained precious land, the whole city of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount Platform, for the first time since its 70 AD destruction. In an unwarranted gesture of peace, General Moshe Dayan of Israel, offered the sacred platform back to the Muslim authorities so that they could continue to worship at their mosque. The Muslims promptly repaid this kindness by forbidding the Jews entrance to the platform at all. Make no mistake, the future battles of Revelation will be fought over this very place and as Obadiah says in vs. 17...“that the house of Jacob will possess their possessions.”

Who Will Possess the Disputed Territories?

God outlined the exact land grants in Israel that He would give to the Jews in Genesis - from the Euphrates River to the Egyptian Sea. Because of their disobedience, they were cast out of the land and dispersed to the nations. For almost 2000 years, there was no Israel and no Jews in the land. But because of the world's guilt over the Holocaust, and the rise of Zionism, the UN voted to give the Jews a homeland in Palestine and on May 14, 1948, the nation of Israel was born in a day. The city of Jerusalem was partitioned; half belong to the Jews and the half where the Temple Mount stood to the Muslims. The very next day, 6 mighty Arab nations attacked tiny Israel and GOD supernaturally protected His People. Over and over again, the Arab nations attacked and the Jews were shielded by the hand of GOD from their enemies. During the 1967 Six Day War, the Jews not only defended themselves from slaughter, they captured additional lands necessary for their survival: The Golan Heights from Lebanon, the West Bank from Jordan, and the Gaza Strip from Egypt. These 3 areas are called "the disputed territories" by the world and the current Road Map to Peace demands that Israel return these areas to the former Arab nations.

Obadiah 19-20 announces God's Answer to Who Will Possess the Land! No other place in the Bible names these exact disputed areas in connection with the Day of the Lord!

1. "Then those of the Negev (Sinai Peninsula) will possess the mountain of Esau(Mt. Seir in Jordan).
 2. Those of the Shephelah the Phillistine plain (This is the Gaza Strip, and location of the infamous Philadelphia Corridor where the Arabs have smuggled weapons through underground tunnels from Egypt right into their homes. See photo)
 3. Also the territory of Ephraim and the territory of Samaria (This is the West Bank of the Jordan River. Without this area, the land of Israel is indefensible from attack. It will be only 9 miles wide.)
 4. And Benjamin will possess Gilead (Present day Jordan, the East Bank)
 5. And the exiles of this host of the sons of Israel who are among the Canaanites as far as Zarephath (S. Lebanon) and the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad will possess the cities of the Negev.
- Obadiah's Final Word: "There shall not be any remaining of the house of Esau"

"The Kingdom Shall Be The LORD's"

TITLE DEEDS OF ISRAEL

Deut. 1:7-8, Josh. 13, Micah 7:11-17

Num. 34, Rom 11:26, Gen. 15:18-21

Joel 3:2 "I will gather all nations...and plead with them there for MY people and for MY heritage ISRAEL whom they have scattered among the nations and parted (partitioned) MY LAND. "The land is mine" Lev. 25:23 GOD

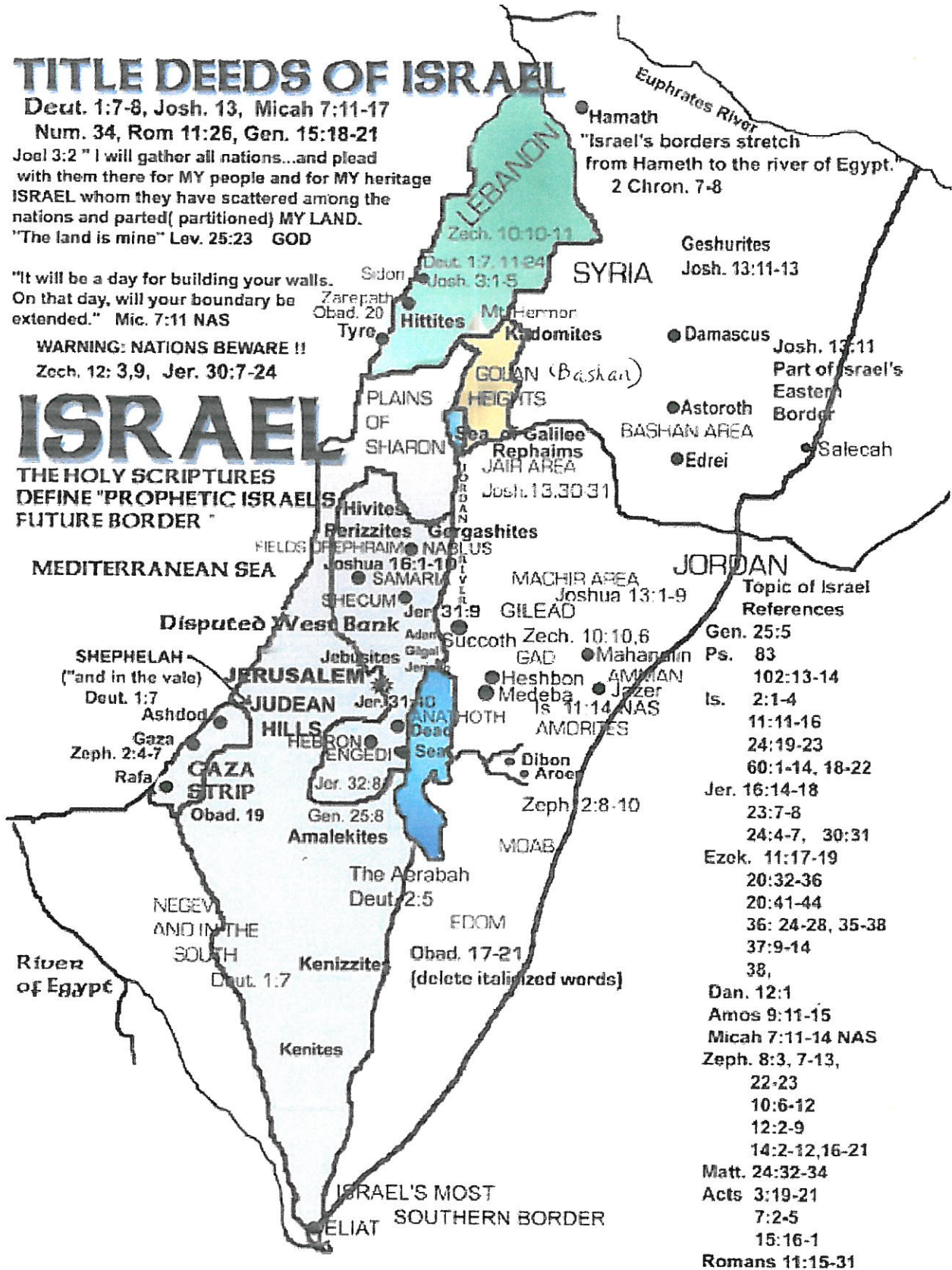
"It will be a day for building your walls. On that day, will your boundary be extended." Mic. 7:11 NAS

WARNING: NATIONS BEWARE !!

Zech. 12:3,9, Jer. 30:7-24

ISRAEL

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES DEFINE "PROPHETIC ISRAEL'S FUTURE BORDER"



Geshurites
Josh. 13:11-13

"Israel's borders stretch from Hameth to the river of Egypt." 2 Chron. 7-8

SYRIA

Damascus Josh. 13:11
Part of Israel's Eastern Border
Astoroth
Edrei
Salecah

GOLAN (Bashan)
HEIGHTS

BASHAN AREA

PLAINS OF SHARON

Sea of Galilee
Rephaims
JAH AREA
Josh. 13:30-31

JORDAN

Topic of Israel References

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Hivites

Perizzites Gergashites

Fields of Ephraim NABLUS

Joshua 16:1-10

SAMARIA Jer. 31:9

SHECUM Jer. 31:9

Jebusites Succoth Zech. 10:10,6

JERUSALEM Jer. 31:10

JUDEAN Hills Heshbon GAD Mahanaim

HEBRON ENGEDI Jer. 32:8

AMMAN Is. 11-14 NAS

AMORITES

AMORITES

MOAB Zeph. 2:8-10

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Gen. 25:5

Ps. 83

102:13-14

Is. 2:1-4

11:11-16

24:19-23

60:1-14, 18-22

Jer. 16:14-18

23:7-8

24:4-7, 30:31

Ezek. 11:17-19

20:32-36

20:41-44

36: 24-28, 35-38

37:9-14

38,

Dan. 12:1

Amos 9:11-15

Micah 7:11-14 NAS

Zeph. 8:3, 7-13,

22-23

10:6-12

12:2-9

14:2-12,16-21

Matt. 24:32-34

Acts 3:19-21

7:2-5

15:16-1

Romans 11:15-31

River of Egypt

NEGEV AND IN THE SOUTH Deut. 1:7

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Israel Plans To Pull Out of Weapons Smuggling Corridor

Israel has reached an agreement in principle with Egypt to pull out of the volatile Philadelphia Corridor on the border with the Gaza Strip. The corridor is a haven for tunnels used to smuggle weapons from Egypt to Palestinian terrorists in Gaza. These weapons have fueled the Palestinian terror war for four-and-a-half years, while Egypt turned a blind eye.

At a meeting between Egyptian President **Hosni Mubarak** and Israeli Defense Minister **Shaul Mofaz** in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt agreed to deploy 750 police on its side of the border to prevent weapons smuggling. Israel, in turn, would abandon the corridor as part of its planned withdrawal from Gaza this summer.

The pullout from Philadelphia would also include a Palestinian commitment to prevent weapons smuggling. As a first step, Palestinian security forces uncovered and destroyed a 16-meter (52-foot) deep weapons-smuggling tunnel. Since then, the

Palestinians have reportedly sealed 12 more tunnels.

But it's hard to be optimistic. The fact that the Palestinian police are suddenly discovering tunnels underscores the fact that they've known about them all along, and colluded with the terrorists in weapons smuggling. From the bitter experience of the past four-and-a-half years, it would be irresponsible—and even stupid—to put Israel's security into the hands of the Palestinians, not to mention their partners in terror—the Egyptians.

It's obvious that neither of them will seek out the tunnels the way Israel has because it's not their children and families who are threatened by these weapons. It's even possible that terrorists, God forbid, could use these tunnels to smuggle in weapons of mass destruction.

Critics of the pullout warn that if Israel abandons the Philadelphia Corridor, terror groups will quickly rearm for the next Palestinian uprising.



RISKY BUSINESS: Palestinian police uncover a weapons-smuggling tunnel in Gaza, but is it a real attempt to fight terror or just a show?

Psalm 83

1. Oh God, do not remain quiet:
Do not be silent and, O GOD, do not be still.
2. For behold, your enemies make an uproar
And those who hate you have exalted themselves.
3. They make shrewd plans against Your people
and conspire together against Your treasured ones
that the name of Israel may be remembered no more
4. They have said, "Come, and let us wipe them out as a
nation, that the **name of Israel be remembered no more**
5. For they have conspired together with one mind:
Against You they make a covenant:
6. The tents of **Edom** and the **Ishmaelites**,
Moab, and the **Hagrites**;
7. **Gebal** and **Ammon** and **Amalek**,
Philistia with the inhabitants of **Tyre**;
8. **Assyria** has joined with them;
They have become a help to the children of **Lot**.
9. Deal with them as with **Midian**
As with **Sisera** and **Jabin** at the torrent of Kishon,
10. Who were destroyed at Endor,
Who became as dung for the ground.
11. Make their nobles like **Oreb** and Zeeb
And make all their princes like **Zebah** and **Zalunna**
12. Who said, "Let us possess for ourselves
The pastures of GOD.
13. Oh my GOD, make them like the whirling dust,
The chaff before the wind
14. Like the fire that burns the forest
And like a flame that sets the mountains on fire,
15. So pursue them with Your tempest
And terrify them with your storm
16. Fill their faces with dishonor,
That they may seek your Name, O LORD.
17. Let them be ashamed and dismayed forever,
And let them be humiliated and perish,
18. That they may know that You alone, whose name is the
LORD, are the MOST HIGH over all the earth!

Conspiracy Against Israel and GOD

Psalm 83

As believers, we are already part of the **New Covenant in Jesus!** GOD first wanted to bless Israel so they would bring the gospel to us, but Israel refused the gift of Jesus and is living in unbelief, still awaiting the Messiah to come. Jesus will come again and the Jews will know Him and receive Him. As Hosea 5:15 says, "I will go away and return to My place until they acknowledge **the offense** and seek My Face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me."

But there is another group that is forming a **covenant** with a different plan and a different pay-off. Who are these nations that conspire together to wipe out Israel and wage war against GOD? Let's connect their ancient names and tribes with the modern day people groups and nations!

EDOM - SE PALESTINE, ISRAEL AMMON – N. of Moab, W. Jordan

ISHMAELITES - ARAB EMIRATES AMALEK – S. Israel, E Sinai

MOAB - E. of Dead Sea, JORDAN PHILLISTINES – Gaza Strip

HAGRITES - Egypt

TYRE – Sur, Lebanon

GEBAL - Lebanon

ASSYRIA- Iran, Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Egypt

*****This is a future Muslim co-alition of nations that have never unified together before! ***This could not happen until Israel is rebirthed as the nation of Israel and living in the land. (May 1948)**

Who are these enemies that God personally names? What is their crime against Israel? MIDIAN = SAUDI ARABIA

Sisera and Jabin Jabin is King of Hazor and Sisera is his general
Killed by Jael in Judges 4:1-24 |

Oreb and Zeeb Princes of Midian killed by Gideon
Judges 7:24-25

Zebah and Zalmunna Princes of Midian killed by Gideon
Judges 8:12,21

HOW JEWS, CHRISTIANS AND MOSLEMS SEE THE LAST DAYS

JEWS

According to the Tenach (Old Testament) and the Talmud (Sanhedrin 97b), there will be 10 signs heralding the coming of the Redemption. They are known as the birth pangs of the Messiah.

- ♦ The world will either be in a state of complete righteousness or complete degradation.
- ♦ Truth will decrease and lies prevail.
- ♦ Inflation will be out of control.
- ♦ The Jews will return to their Biblical homeland and the desert will bloom.
- ♦ There will be fewer and fewer wise and righteous people.
- ♦ Many Jews will give up the hope for redemption.
- ♦ The young will treat the old with disrespect.
- ♦ Learning will be rejected because people will desire a life of ease.
- ♦ The whole world will turn against Israel.
- ♦ The Jews will fight each other (secular against religious).

In the war of Gog and Magog, God will defeat Israel's enemies and confirm that the nation of Israel is His chosen people. Earthly redemption will last 6,000 years. Afterwards, eternity will come.



CHRISTIANS

In Jesus' end-time teachings (Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 21; Revelation), He speaks of the following signs:

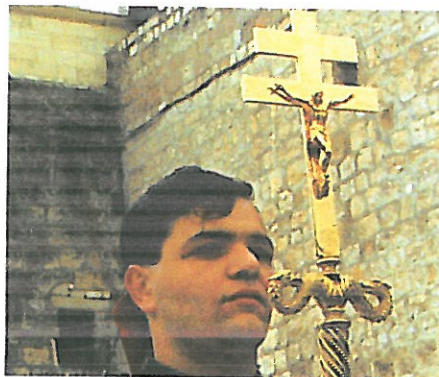
The Beginning of Birth Pangs

- ♦ Wars and rumors of wars among the nations
- ♦ Famine and plagues (epidemics)
- ♦ False messiahs
- ♦ The return of the Jews to the Land of Israel
- ♦ The restoration of Israel

The Birth Pangs

- ♦ The Gospel spreads to all the nations of the earth
- ♦ Many false prophets arise
- ♦ The Jerusalem Temple will be reestablished
- ♦ The abomination of desolation
- ♦ Hatred of the nations toward Israel
- ♦ Uncontrollable anarchy
- ♦ Signs in the heavens and natural disasters
- ♦ Tribulation
- ♦ People's indifference to the signs of the times

After the battle of Armageddon, the Messiah will appear in the clouds and the thousand-year reign will begin. Satan will be bound in chains. When the millennium ends, God creates a new heaven and earth and the New Jerusalem descends from heaven "made ready as a bride adorned for her husband" (Rev. 21:2). "The tabernacle of God is among men...and God Himself shall be among them" (Rev. 21:3).



MOSLEMS

Major and minor signs will precede the arrival of the Last Days. (Koran Sura 21:96, 27:82, 43:61).

Minor Signs

- ♦ Bloodshed among Moslem groups
- ♦ Increasing war in the world
- ♦ Time contracts, with days becoming shorter
- ♦ Religious awareness decreases
- ♦ Atheists become very common
- ♦ Moslems infiltrate all nations on earth

Major Signs

- ♦ Gross materialism
- ♦ Women outnumber men
- ♦ The Moslems defeat the Jews in a holy war
- ♦ Initially, Moslems and Christians fight together against the unbelievers

Afterwards, the Moslems defeat the Christians in another holy war: "On Saturday we kill the Jews and on Sunday the Christians!"

Gog and Magog triumph. At the end of time, the world is destroyed, and only true Moslems are saved, with the most honorable places of heaven filled by martyrs who gave their lives for Allah in holy war. After the earth is destroyed, it is recreated and prevails 50,000 years.

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