

New Features on Prewrathministries.org

This issue for June 2007 is coming out a little late. The beginning of summer has been very busy for me. We ran a May special for the powerpoint® presentation and it went well. For those who have purchased the presentation, it would be helpful to me if you could send me testimonials about how the study was received, any notable comments about the study, and also any suggestions for improvement that you might feel are warranted. I am amazed at the emails I receive of those who had come to a pre-wrath conclusion long before the “pre-wrath” view became the name for it. Please pray that God will continue to use this ministry for His glory.

The Sign of the Day of the Lord

One of the greatest deciding factors that convinced me of the validity of the pre-wrath view was the understanding that the biblical name for the rapture was the “Day of the Lord” as the Apostle Paul called it in **1 Thess. 5:2** and **2 Thess. 2:2**. But also, the understanding that the Day of the Lord was to be preceded by a sign. When I understood that, I found that the sign was mentioned in the Old Testament, the New Testament, and in the book of Revelation. By following the “sign” of the Day of the Lord, all of prophecy began to fit together and make sense as it had never done for me before. Just to give a few examples, the sign is mentioned in:

Joel 2:31 (NIV) The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.

Isaiah 13:13 (NIV) Therefore I will make the heavens tremble; and the earth will shake from its place at the wrath of the LORD Almighty, in the day of his burning anger.

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Feature Article: The Salvation of Israel

By Elbert Charpie

One of the most significant principles of end-time prophecy is the redemption of the chosen people of Israel. This was God’s plan when He called Abraham, and it has not changed over the ages. The Apostle Paul spoke of the significance of Israel:

Rom 11:25-26 (NIV) I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. **{26}** And so **all Israel will be saved**, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob." (emphasis added)

When the prophet Daniel prophesied about the 70th week, he pointed out the specific purpose and the subject of the 70th week...

Dan 9:24 (NIV) Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for **your people** and **your holy city** to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy *(emphasis added)*.

The whole reason for the last ‘seven’ (seven years) is for “your people” and “your holy city.” In Revelation it speaks of the woman who gives birth to a child and how the dragon waits to destroy the child, but as soon as the woman gives birth the child is snatched up to God and the woman is protected in the wilderness. Most Bible scholars agree that the woman represents Israel.

Rev 12:13 (NIV) When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. **14** The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent's reach.

Then in the wilderness we are told that the Lord will deal with Israel personally...

Ezek 20:35 (NIV) I will bring you into the desert of the nations and there, face to face, I will execute judgment upon you. **36** As I judged your fathers in the desert of the land of Egypt, so I will judge you, declares the Sovereign LORD. **37** I will take note of you as you pass under my rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant. **38** I will purge you of those who revolt and rebel against me. Although I will bring them out of the land where they are living, yet they will not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

Then the Lord (Jesus) will lead Israel on a 3 day journey to Jerusalem.

Hosea 6:1-3 (NIV) Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. **{2}** After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence. **{3}** Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.

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The Salvation of Israel *(Continued from page 1)*

Micah 2:12-13 (NIV) "I will surely gather all of you, O Jacob; I will surely bring together the remnant of Israel. I will bring them together like sheep in a pen, like a flock in its pasture; the place will throng with people. {13} One who breaks open the way will go up before them; they will break through the gate and go out. Their king will pass through before them, the LORD at their head." (emphasis added)

Isaiah 63:1-4 (NIV) Who is this coming from Edom, from Bozrah, with his garments stained crimson? Who is this, robed in splendor, striding forward in the greatness of his strength? "It is I, speaking in righteousness, mighty to save." {2} Why are your garments red, like those of one treading the winepress? {3} "I have trodden the winepress alone; from the nations no one was with me. I trampled them in my anger and trod them down in my wrath; their blood spattered my garments, and I stained all my clothing. {4} For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and the year of my redemption has come.

After the Lord begins His journey, many other Jews will join the march who did not make it to the wilderness. We are told in **Zechariah 13:8-9** that by this time 2/3's of Israel will have already perished.

Hosea 11:10-11 (NIV) They will follow the LORD; he will roar like a lion. When he roars, his children will come trembling from the west. {11} "They will come trembling like birds from Egypt, like doves from Assyria. I will settle them in their homes," declares the LORD.

One of the most touching passages about his time is... **Zec 12:10** (NIV) And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

Lastly, we are told that others besides Jewish people will be joined to this band of followers.

Isaiah 14:1 (NIV) The LORD will have compassion on Jacob; once again he will choose Israel and will settle them in their own land. *Aliens will join them* and unite with the house of Jacob. (emphasis added) It is exciting to know that Israel will finally accept Jesus Christ as their true Messiah. This is the fulfillment of what began when God promised to make Abraham's descendants into a great nation. God's purposes have not changed—what He began He will finish.

The Sign of the Day of the Lord *(Continued from page 1)*

Matt 24:29 (NIV) "Immediately after the distress of those days "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken." 30 "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. 31 And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

Acts 2:20 (NIV) The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

2 Pet 3:10 (NIV) But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

Rev 6:12 (NIV) I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, 13 and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. 14 The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. 15 Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. 16 They called to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! 17 For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"

For me, to line up the sign in these and many other places made the prophecies come alive and make sense. For years I struggled with seemingly contradictory statements in prophecy, and assumptions I had been taught about what the scriptures mean. But to understand the consistency of the teachings concerning the Day of the Lord and the sign of the Day of the Lord, brought to life the truth of the scripture and that God, indeed, had a plan that He was implementing all along from the very beginning. Not only did the "Sign" help my understanding of end-time prophecy, but it also increased my faith that God is a God that finishes what He starts. It also made me realize how hidden the things of God are to the wise and learned, and how open they are to the eyes of childlike faith.