

# The Watchmen of Ephraim

Those of us who are long time readers of this magazine greatly appreciate reading of our Israelite ancestry and God's continuous presence with us throughout history, despite our nation's faults and failings. However, God does not provide to us the knowledge of Ephraim's ancestry without purpose, and one of those reasons is that that knowledge will evidence the authority of important End Time commands to His faithful people which have lain unfulfilled for thousands of years but must now be fulfilled because Christ's return is imminent.

First, Isaiah 62:6-7, *'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.'* No one can deny that this is a prophecy for the End Time before Christ makes Jerusalem his world capital. But who are these watchmen? Where did they come from? What is the command they will proclaim?

Jeremiah 31:6-9, *'For there shall be a day, that the watchmen upon the mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the LORD our God. For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel. Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together: a great company shall return thither. They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them..... for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.'* They are God's watchmen, God's servants who have remained close to His scriptures, are aware of His Plan for this world and have been proclaiming it for 30 years, blowing the trumpet warning of the troubles ahead for Israel if God's people do not repent, first through the North West Church of God in Britain, and lately to the world through the ozwitness.net website in Australia, but never before has **this** been part of their message!

Specifically, they are from **'the mount Ephraim'**, British watchmen (From Britain or its Commonwealth). Never in the past did watchmen in Ephraim proclaim that they should go up to Jerusalem and send out both a warning message and good news to the **chief of the nations** to repent before their decimation and captivity, that a remnant will be regathered from the coasts of the earth and return to their original God given homeland, Israel in the Middle East!

The problem with the recognition of God's instructions has been that they are not all in one place, but here a little, there a little, (*For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.*' Isaiah 28:10). Also, with regard to some of God's additional End Time instructions for them, Israel, especially the leading tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh, are sometimes referred to by God as 'Babylon' because Babylon is more than just an ancient city, it is a **system** of dominion and oppression in both church and state, along with rebellion against God's laws, which Britain and the USA have recently exported around the world. Much of the prophet Jeremiah's prophecy is dual, but with very obvious references to the End Time and Millennium, when, of course, Babylon, as a great Eastern city, no longer exists.

We see this in Revelation 17 and 18. Revelation 17 is clearly about a great false church which combines with 10 **End Time** nations led by the Beast, who fight against Christ on His return. Revelation 18 is about the single richest, greatest trading nation today which has exported her 'fornication' worldwide, but which will be brought down by God in one day, Revelation 18:8, *'Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be*

*utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.* Both are pictured by God as 'Babylon', and God warns His faithful people to "*come out of her*" (Revelation 18:4), before He delivers His punishment, though He makes a distinction between 'Babylon' and the mystical, commercial Babylon, of Revelation 18.

Notice how. Zechariah 2:7, *'Deliver thyself, O Zion,[God's faithful people] that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon.'*, Jeremiah 50:42, *'They shall hold the bow and the lance: they are cruel, and will not shew mercy: their voice shall roar like the sea, and they shall ride upon horses, every one put in array, like a man to the battle, against thee, O daughter of Babylon.'*

Even the King James translators linked this chapter to Revelation 18 in the marginal reference in verse 46 to Revelation 18:9.

Notice too, the apt description of the US and UK in Jeremiah 51:13, *'O thou that dwellest upon many waters, abundant in treasures, thine end is come, and the measure of thy covetousness.'*

Are there indications of how God brings Israel low? Jeremiah 51:42,55, *'The sea is come up upon Babylon: she is covered with the multitude of the waves thereof.'* ... *'Because the LORD hath spoiled Babylon, and destroyed out of her the great voice; when her waves do roar like great waters, a noise of their voice is uttered.'* Revelation 18:21, *'And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.'* This never did happen to ancient Babylon, which is some hundreds of miles from the nearest sea, but as we saw at New Orleans, even one flooded coastal city creates catastrophe, and the US is surrounded by the seas, as is Britain, which is so closely tied to the US and now no longer part of Europe, that its consequential fall also becomes inevitable. With the US brought low and removed from the world equation, world war will follow immediately, at the Second Seal of Revelation 6, and those who did not prepare will quickly find international travel to be impossible.

So, if those who are faithful are to come out of Babylon before she is destroyed, the question is, how shall they know when to leave? And where should they go? God understands that His people will require clear evidence that the End Time Tribulation is about to begin. He has provided a miraculous worldwide sign which no one could mistake in Revelation 14: 6-7, *'And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.'*

Can you imagine the worldwide effects of this astounding event? This miracle marks the very start of the last 7 years of Tribulation before Christ's final return to establish His Kingdom here on the earth. Verses 1-5, like the rest of Revelation, are part of the alternating series of visions, in heaven, then on earth, (See The Companion Bible) which are quite separate from v 8-20, which can be put together with Matthew 24 and Revelation 6, to provide a complete overview of the Tribulation.

It is however, not only Ephraim and Manasseh whom God brings down in the 1<sup>st</sup> of those 7 last years. Jeremiah 50:33 tells us that Judah also will go into captivity, and that is hardly surprising when her protector, the 'world's policeman' is brought low. *'Thus saith the LORD of hosts; The children of Israel and the children of Judah were oppressed together: and all that took them captives held them fast; they refused to let them go.'* **This never occurred in the past!**

It seems that when America falls, the surrounding Arab nations immediately attack, but are only able to take the West Bank and East Jerusalem before Europe and the Beast steps in to fulfill its

coming 'league', or alliance with Judah, cf. Daniel 10:14, 11:23, Zechariah 14:2, though with duplicitous intent. *'Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.'* .... *'And after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people.'* (A nominal force)... *'For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and **half of the city** shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.'*

Zechariah 14:2 *specifically* refers to the 7<sup>th</sup> year of tribulation just before Armageddon, but Daniel 9:27 indicates that it will be 3 ½ years before the watchmen's work in Jerusalem ceases at the halfway point through the Tribulation. *'And he [the Beast] shall confirm the covenant [league] with many for one week: and in **the midst of the week** he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation [The work of God's watchmen] to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.'*

Yes, there is additional purpose for our fleeing from "Babylon" when the first angel of Revelation 14 reaches the whole world with the news which so shocks the atheists! Jeremiah 50:28, and 51:10, *'The voice of them that flee and escape out of the land of Babylon, to declare in Zion the vengeance of the LORD our God, the vengeance of his temple.'* (For persecuted Saints)... *The LORD hath brought forth our righteousness: come, and **let us declare in Zion the work of the LORD our God.***

Lest some still doubt *where* that work should commence when God brings down Israel, Jeremiah 51:50, says - *'Ye that have escaped the sword, go away, stand not still: remember the LORD afar off, and **let Jerusalem** come into your mind.'* And 51:6, *'Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this is **the time of the LORD'S vengeance**; he will render unto her a recompense.'*

So, let us learn more about the message God requires to be broadcast from Jerusalem to the world. Isaiah 40:1-11. I include here verses 9-11 in a more modern version, for clarity (NIV.) *'You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news **to Jerusalem**, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, Here is your God!'' See, **the Sovereign Lord comes with power**, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.'*

*Ezekiel 37:19, 22, 24, 27, 'Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand. ....And I will **make them one nation** in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:...And **David my servant shall be king** over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them...My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, **I will be their God**, and they shall be my people.'* This is the message of the Kingdom of God here on this earth!

After the US and Britain have fallen at God's hands, He explains why He allows their invasion and captivity, Ezekiel 36:16-19, *'Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, when the **house of Israel** dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their doings: their way was before me as the uncleanness of a removed woman. Wherefore I poured my fury upon them for the blood that they had shed upon the land, and for their idols wherewith they had polluted it: And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the*

*countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them.’ Is this End Time? Verses 24-28, ‘For I will take you from among the heathen, and **gather you out of all countries**, and will bring you into your own land. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. **A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you:** and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.’*

This is the reason why the remnant need to repent, for only **the repentant** will be re-gathered into the Holy Land, Ezekiel 20:37-38. *‘And I will cause you to **pass under the rod**, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.’* Only then will the Holy Land be restored, Ezekiel 36:33, 35, *‘Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded...And they shall say, This land that was desolate is **become like the garden of Eden**; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited.’*

Another part of the watchman’s message is a warning not to fall for the worship of the Beast, leader of the United States of Europe, Revelation 14:9-10. *‘And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.’*

The Beast’s control of Israel grows over the first 3½ years of the ‘tribulation of those days’, before the Great Tribulation (cf. Matthew 24:29 and 21), until he is finally able to persecute the watchmen who warn against his worship, at the 5<sup>th</sup> seal of Revelation 6, and shut down their broadcast, Daniel 11:33, 35. *‘And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days ... And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, **even to the time of the end**: because it is yet for a time appointed.’* Their work will have brought many to repentance, worldwide. Daniel 12:3, 7, *‘And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever ...And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.’*

Then, their work will have been completed, and they flee from Jerusalem, south towards the mountains of Jordan before the armies of the Beast completely surround the city. **Luke 21: 20-21**, *‘And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto.’*

Our next article will explain what God says will happen next, but remember, many of these things cannot occur except that the few will heed **the watchmen of Ephraim’s proclamation**, and begin to prepare their lives so that they will be ready to fulfill God’s commands when the first angel of Revelation 14 flies. Will you accept this pre-announcement warning to *begin* to prepare? Sadly, God tells us that even most of His people who **are** capable, will reject it! Jeremiah 6:17,19. *Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Harken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken. ... Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their*

*thoughts, because they have not hearkened...unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it.'*

Thankfully, the faithful will obey. On Christ's return **with** His Bride, Revelation 17:14, *'they that are with him are called, and chosen, **and faithful.**'*