

Times Of The Nation

The following discourse was written as a constructive critique of certain scriptural interpretations being expressed by many religious leaders. The prediction of 2012 being the year we see the coming of the kingdom is not an accurate one for the reasons discussed below. The basis of his prediction lacks an accurate foundation. In Luke 21:24 he assumes -- as many bible commentaries and scholars have assumed -- that Yahshua is speaking concerning the time when Titus destroyed the Temple and the city of Jerusalem. When properly interpreted, this verse is not speaking of the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple by Titus but rather speaks instead of a prophecy taken from the prophets Micah and Daniel. In Luke 21:5-6, the Savior gives us this prophecy:

Luke 21:5-6

5 And as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts, he said,
6 As for these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

King James Version (KJV)

The bases of Yahshua's prophecy are the following verses found in Micah 3:11-12 and Daniel 9:26:

Micah 3:11-12

11 The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon Yahweh, and say, is not Yahweh among us? None evil can come upon us.

12 Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.

KJV

Daniel 9:26

26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

KJV

Notice that this prophecy predicts the coming of the Messiah and the people of the prince who would destroy the city and Temple, and that it would end with a flood. The word **people** found in Daniel 9:26 is Hebrew word #5971 in the *Strong's* dictionary. It translates **to a collection of troops**; also figuratively, **a nation**. The *Theological Workbook of the O.T.* shows the word to mean **a fighting unit**. When all the detail is taken into account concerning these verses, it becomes clear that Luke 21:20-24 is not predicting the trampling of Jerusalem by Titus, who, by the way, was only the general of *one* army of the Roman Empire. Luke 21:20 says that "when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed (*surrounded*) with *armies* (plural)." Note the passage in question below:

Luke 21:20-24

20 And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, and then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.

21 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 thereunto.

22 For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

23 But woe unto them that are with child and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people.

24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

KJV

Why am I bringing this point out? Because in this prophecy of Jerusalem being trodden down, it is speaking of a combination of nations that would surround Jerusalem. This combination of nations accurately describes what we call the United Nations today. In Luke 21:20-24, the Savior speaks of information on the time we will see this along with detail given by two prophets who spoke of this time before His (the Savior's) birth.

Notice that in Matthew 24:15 He speaks of the Abominations of Desolation prophecy previously referred to by the prophet Daniel in Daniel 9:27:

Matthew 24:15

15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

KJV

Daniel 9:27

27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation 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.

KJV

Many scholars understand this to be the missing week that is the last week of the 70 weeks of years spoken of by Daniel in the following verses:

Daniel 9:24-27

24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation 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.

KJV

This last week is to commence after Yahshua ascends to heaven to sit at the right hand of Yahweh. The people of Yahweh (Israel) and all other nation would experience 2000 years of subjection to the Kingdom of Darkness. Notice Yahshua's words in Luke 22:53 and John 12:35-36.

Luke 22:53

53 When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness.

KJV

John 12:35-36

35 Then Jesus said unto them, yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth.

36 While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spoke Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them.

KJV

This missing seven year period was to start with a peace treaty (covenant) signed by Israeli Prime Minister Rabin, U.S. president Bill Clinton, and Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat. I will not expound at this time on the prophecy noted in Daniel 9:27 but introduce it to submit the point that the treading down of Jerusalem by the Gentiles refers to the last days. Revelation 11:1-2 notes that the holy city will be treaded underfoot by the Gentiles at the time the Temple will be rebuilt. Revelation 11:2 states that the outer court -- the area outside the Temple -- is to be given to the Gentiles.

Revelation 11:1-2

11:1 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of Yahweh, and the altar, and them that worship therein.

2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.

KJV

The word **Gentiles** written in Revelation 11:2 is the Greek word **Ethnos**, which is word #1484 in *Strong's* Greek dictionary. It means **a foreign pagan nations** or **multitude or company of nations**. Notice that they would tread underfoot the holy city for 42 moons, which calculates out to three and one-half years. The Hebrew word for **tread** is **Derek**, which is word #1870 in *Strong's* Hebrew

dictionary. It means **a mode of action** or **an undertaking**. It applies to an activity to control one or bring under control, to tread, walk, lead forth, guide, and to go over. There is much to expound upon concerning this prophecy but for now I will stick to the subject at hand. However, I will say that this is speaking of the Roman Catholic Church along with the Quartet (the U.S., European Union (EU), United Nations, and Russia) to establish and bring peace to the Middle East for the purpose of making the land of Israel an International Country for the three major religion of the world.

Many religious leaders also state that when Titus destroyed Jerusalem that the event began the times of the nations. This also is not an accurate interpretation of Scripture. The times of the nations began with the captivity of Jerusalem and the tribes of Judah and Benjamin by the king of Babylon. This was the beginning of the governmental and political subjection of the nation of Israel to gentile world powers.

If you refer to Yereyah (Jeremiah) 25:9-14, you will notice verses 11-12 show that Jerusalem will be in captivity along with the surrounding nations for seventy years. These 70 years of captivity are different from the 70 years noted in Daniel 9:24-27. The tribe of Yahdah (Judah) and all the original people of the land were released from Babylon captivity exactly when the 70 year period came to pass. This circumstance made the rebuilding of the Temple possible, which paved the way for the Savior to be sacrifice for the sins of the world.

Jeremiah 25:9-14

9 Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith Yahweh, and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations.

10 Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the candle.

11 And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy year

12 And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith Yahweh, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations.

13 And I will bring upon that land all my words which I have pronounced against it, even all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah hath prophesied against all the nations.

14 For many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of them also: and I will recompense them according to their deeds, and according to the works of their own hands.

KJV

Notice Jeremiah 25:14 shows that many nations and great kings will make slaves of them after the 70 years of Babylonian captivity are fulfilled, which also marks the beginning of the times of the nations. It can also be seen in Jeremiah 27:6-7 that after the 70 years in Babylon had ended, the land and its people were once again under subjection to a succession of Gentile Nations.

Jeremiah 27:6-7

6 And now have I given all these lands unto the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him.

7 And all nations shall serve him, and his son, and his son's son, until the very time of his land come: and then many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of him.

KJV

The questions might be raised as to when the 70 weeks of years began and what is the difference between the 70 weeks of years and the 70 years of captivity. The answers to these questions are as follows: The 70 weeks of years are based upon a counting of seven years (seven times seven), which is the count to the Jubilee years. Notice Leviticus 25:8-10:

Leviticus 25:8-10

8 And thou shalt number seven Sabbaths of years unto thee, seven times seven years; and the space of the seven Sabbaths of years shall be unto thee forty and nine years.

9 Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the Day of Atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land.

10 And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubilee unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.

KJV

The seventy years of captivity was a flat 70 year period. Now notice II Chronicles 36:20-23 and Ezra 1:1-5. These verses provide the detail of the 70 weeks of years and their commencement. Notice the proclamation given in II Chronicles 36:22 by Cyrus. It is written here to help guide you to the prophecy of the 70 weeks of years:

II Chronicles 36:20-23

20 And them that had escaped from the sword carried him away to Babylon; where they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia:

21 To fulfill the word of Yahweh by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her Sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate she kept Sabbath, to fulfill threescore and ten years.

22 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD spoken by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, Yahweh stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

23 Thus said Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the Father of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? Yahweh be with him, and let him go up.

KJV

Ezra 1:1-5

1:1 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of Yahweh by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

2 Thus said Cyrus king of Persia, The Father of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.

3 Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the Father of Israel, (He is Yahweh,) which is in Jerusalem.

4 And whosoever remained in any place where he sojourned, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, besides the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.

5 Then rose up the chief of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, with all them whose spirit Yahweh had raised, to go up to build the house of Yahweh which is in Jerusalem.

KJV

Refer once again to Daniel 9:24-27:

Daniel 9:24-27

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25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation 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.

KJV

Notice verse 25 shows that from the command issued by Cyrus to restore and rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple to the time of the Messiah, would comprise a period of seven weeks of years. The times of the Gentiles began with the captivity of Jerusalem under the kingdom of Babylon. The revelation of the secret of the missing week of seven years lies within the proper interpretation of the end days of the nations.

Notice Daniel's words in Daniel 7:25 when he speaks of a time, times, and the dividing of time, which breaks down to a period of three and one-half years:

Daniel 7:25

25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

KJV

The 70 weeks of years with the last week of seven years will end the time of the nations and the captivity of many Children of Israel who are still scattered throughout the nations of the earth today.

The last comment I will make concerning Luke 21:32 where many religious leaders state that this speaks of the current generation and the 1967 six day war. The verse reads as follows:

Luke 21:32

32 Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled.

KJV

Many of these leaders state that this war ended the times of the nations is without scriptural foundation. The word generation written in Luke 21:32 does not speak of a time that a father generates a seed (son), which has been determined to be 40 years but rather is speaking of the end of one age and the beginning of another. Notice that Matthew 24:3 is the period that establishes the time during which the Savior speaks about the end of the world.

Matthew 24:3

3 And as he sat upon the Mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?

KJV

The word **world** written in Matthew 24:3 is the Greek word **Aion**, which is word #165 in Strong's Greek dictionary. It means **an age, era, a period of indefinite duration (time viewed in relation to what takes place in a time period)**. This is speaking of the end of the age i.e., the end of the era of 6000 years. This 6,000 year period is given to us in Genesis 6:3:

Genesis 6:3

3 And Yahweh said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

KJV

The phrase **120 days** is believed by many scholars to mean 120 cycles of Jubilees (120 times 50 which equals 6000 years). The "Plan of Yahweh" spans 7,000 years of which one thousand of these years is given to establish the Kingdom of Yahweh here on earth. Turn to 2 Peter 3:1-9 Notice one day is thousand years to Yahweh this speaking of the great day of Yahweh:

II Peter 3:1-9

3:1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Savior:

3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word Yahweh the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word, are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the Day of Judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with Yahweh as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 Yahweh is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

KJV

Notice also Rev.20:1-3:

Revelation 20:1-3

20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

KJV

In conclusion, I haven't written this critique with the intent of demeaning anyone's work. My perception of their work thus far indicates to me that they possessed the type of analytical mind required to piece together scriptural puzzles. I look forward to speaking with many of the leaders concerning many of the things I've expressed here. However I cannot at this time expound on some aspects of what I have written but do look forward to meeting him and others to engage in discussions on the Plan of Yahweh and other pertinent scriptural subjects.

Yibniyah Hawkins

Eyes On The Truth