

# GOD'S PROPHECIES

FOR

PLAIN PEOPLE

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**Chapter Seven -**

**The Jews' Sensational Age-Ending**

Stepping off a train one day at a station in Maryland, my curiosity was arrested by a large basket of birds taken from the express car at that station. As the train pulled out, I observed the express agent and his helpers, as they took careful record of the time of day, and then opened the basket and released about fifty pigeons. The birds rose into the air perhaps a hundred feet, circled round and round for a few minutes, and then, as if by common consent, and without a leader so far as I could see, they all started in a straight line for home. The agent told me where they came from naming a point in New Jersey exactly a hundred miles away. "How long will it take them to get home?" I asked.

The agent replied, "Oh, they will be there within three or four hours."

I went on my way with a renewed sense of the wonderful works of GOD. How any one can consider a homing pigeon without thinking of the GOD who made the homing pigeon is beyond my ken.

Israel is a nation of homing pigeons. And the day is coming when the world will be amazed by such a home-coming on the part of this nation as will compel the world to say, "**This is the finger of God.**"

I have not gone far afield for my symbolism. In Isaiah, the SPIRIT of Truth has employed the same figure:

**"Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows? Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the Lord thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee"** (Isaiah 60:8, 9).

**After the "Fishers" and the "Hunters"**

The Exodus of Israel from Egypt was a marvelous event in the history of nations; but there is coming an Exodus which will throw that first Exodus into eclipse, - an Exodus of Israel out of all

lands into their own land. In Jeremiah, it is written:

**"Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that it shall no more be said, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; But, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he had driven them: and I will bring them again into their land that I gave unto their fathers. Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks" (Jeremiah 16:14-16).**

Almost exactly similar language is found in Jeremiah 23:7, 8, but there it is preceded, in verses 5 and 6, by a promise showing that this repatriation of Israel has a close relation to the return of MESSIAH to reign:

**"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."**

In the 6th verse of Isaiah 27 there is a promise that GOD **"shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit."** In a later article in this series we are to consider the time "When the Jews Become Mankind's Glory." In the present study my task is to show from the Scriptures the circumstances of the End-Time, so far as the Jews are concerned.

The wholesale return of the LORD's chosen people to their own land will be preceded by the return of a remnant in unbelief. I say "in unbelief," because only unbelievers would be so deceived by the Beast King as to make a treaty with him, as was brought out in the article, *"The Beast King and the False Prophet,"* in last week's issue.

Indeed, there is even now a remnant of unbelieving Jews in Palestine, and by the agreement of the nations they are to have a Jewish state there, subject to Gentile sovereignty. So the stage is already set for the scenes of the End-Time, to be enacted after the Church has been caught away to meet her LORD.

During the seven years' absence of the Church from the Earth, this unbelieving remnant will turn to the LORD, together with a remnant of Jews throughout the world; and these will be the evangelists of the End-Time, witnessing to the Gentiles of the approaching Kingdom in the person of the King who is about to come **"in the clouds of Heaven, with power and great glory."** This preaching will be in fulfillment of our LORD's words in Matthew:

**"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14).**

It is not **"The Gospel of the Kingdom"** that is committed to the church to preach, but the **Gospel of the grace of GOD.**\*\* The Kingdom of Heaven is not now at hand. The LORD is at hand. The Gospel we preach is the good news of the death and resurrection, in our behalf, of Him who was

delivered up for our offenses and raised again for our justification. But in the time of the Great Tribulation the Jewish evangelists will have to testify to the coming Kingdom, and then - when the testimony has reached all nations - then shall the end come.

*\*\*Editor's Note: There are not different Gospels in the Bible: God only has one plan of salvation. Even Paul preached about the Kingdom of God in Acts 19:8.*

The end spoken of is the end of the Jewish age, interrupted by the coming in of the church, and programmed to run its course for another week of years after the church is completed and caught away to meet the LORD in the air.

At the end of the seven years, the final "week" of Daniel's seventy, the Second Coming of CHRIST to the Earth will take place.

**"Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him" (Revelation 1:7).**

**"For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together. Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from Heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in Heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of Heaven with power and great glory" (Matthew 24:27-30).**

### **The Greater Exodus**

Then will come the greater Exodus of Israel. Our LORD speaks of it in the verse following those just quoted:

**"And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of Heaven to the other" (Matthew 24:31).**

The "elect" in this Scripture is Israel. Their gathering is often the theme of the Old Testament prophets.

**"For the Lord will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob" (Isaiah 14:1).**

**"And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the Lord in the holy mount at Jerusalem" (Isaiah 27:12, 13).**

**"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. . . . And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Isaiah 35:1, 10).**

**"Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, give up; and to the south, keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth" (Isaiah 43:5, 6).**

**"Thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders" (Isaiah 49:22).**

One of the most striking passages on the subject is in Isaiah 66:

**"For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they (the nations) shall come, and see my glory. And I will set a sign among them, (Israel) and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles. And they (the Gentiles) shall bring all your brethren (Israelites) for an offering unto the Lord out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the Lord, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the Lord" (Isaiah 66:18-20).**

### **The Time of the New Covenant**

Quotations have been made from Isaiah and Jeremiah. Let us now look at the prophecy of Ezekiel, which abounds in testimony touching our subject. In chapter 34, which is almost wholly devoted to denunciation of the false shepherds of Israel, it is written,

**"As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country" (Ezekiel 34:12, 13).**

Again in Ezekiel 36, we read:

**"For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land" (Ezekiel 36:24).**

When Israel is thus restored to the land of promise, the whole nation will be turned to the LORD:

**"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. And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be My people, and I will be your God" (Ezekiel 36:25-28).**

That will be the time of the New Covenant with Judah and Israel, when, according to Jeremiah 31:31-34, no one in all the nation shall say to his neighbor or brother, Know the LORD, for they shall all know Him, from the least to the greatest.

To go on with Ezekiel: The famous vision of the Valley of Dry Bones, in chapter 37, is a picture in detail of Israel's regathering unto the land, and their conversion to GOD. This chapter will come before us in a later article, but the student will do well to read it in connection with the present study. There is no need of misunderstanding its meaning, for the whole matter is carefully explained in the chapter itself.

Israel's regathering is delayed "**until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in,**" or until the church is completed and taken up to meet the LORD; meanwhile, the nation is blinded: "**For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins**" (Romans 11:25-27). The blindness is not complete, for some Jews are being saved even now, a remnant according to the election of grace (Romans 11:5). Neither is it final; as we have already seen, it is only *until* the present outgathering work is finished.

The 39th chapter of Ezekiel, in its closing paragraph, has the matter stated clearly:

**"Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name; After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid. When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; Then shall they know that I am the Lord their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there. Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord God" (Ezekiel 39:25-29).**

All this is to be accomplished for them only "**after they have borne their shame.**" They are a greatly humiliated and afflicted people. But this will not be for ever. Hear the word of the LORD through the prophet Zephaniah:

**"Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. The Lord hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the Lord, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any**

**more. In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack. The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing. I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden. Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee: and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out; and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame. At that time will I bring you again, even in the time that I gather you: for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth, when I turn back your captivity before your eyes, saith the Lord"** (Zephaniah 3:14-20).

No one will attempt to maintain that all these wonderful predictions were fulfilled in the return of a pitiable remnant of Israel in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah. No; the promises are too big for that. The LORD has said to the mountains of Israel that He will multiply men upon them, "**all the house of Israel, even all of it**" (Ezekiel 36:10); and He has also promised that when Israel is finally restored to the land, it will not be for a temporary stay there: through his servant Amos he says:

**"And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God"** (Amos 9:15).

Did you notice, as we read the 60th chapter of Isaiah, that when the Jews move back home they will take with them their money? Read it again, and observe the 9th verse: "**their silver and their gold with them.**" What will "little old New York" do then, with all its Jewish bankers and merchants missing, together with their silver and their gold?

The day is coming when the financial center of the world will be no longer in New York, nor in London, but in Jerusalem, the political and spiritual capital of Worldwide Empire, the City of the Great KING, the Joy of the whole earth.

And in that day the Jew will come into his own. No longer dispersed among the nations, no longer despised of all men, but exalted to become a Kingdom of priests, "**the head, and not the tail**" (Deuteronomy 28:13).

**"And it shall come to pass, that as ye were a curse among the heathen, O house of Judah, and house of Israel; so will I save you, and ye shall be a blessing: fear not, but let your hands be strong . . . Thus saith the Lord of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you"** (Zechariah 8:13, 23).

**"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem."**

~ end of chapter 7 ~

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