

KINGDOM SPIRIT



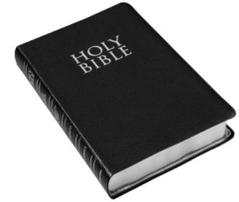
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"SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD"

Matthew 6:33



Issue 1408

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

In our last issue we interrupted our study of Revelation 16 to insert some history that I feel will help us understand Revelation better. We'll get back to our study of Revelation 16 in this issue beginning with verse 12. (Read)

When the sixth angel sounded his trumpet, we saw that the Turks, who had conquered Baghdad, begin to exercise their power over the area of the Eastern Roman Empire whose capital was Constantinople. Ultimately, the Ottoman Turks, through the use of gun powder and the newly discovered use of cannons were able to breach the walls of Constantinople and take over the Eastern Empire. Their rise to power gave them control over all of the mid-east, a good portion of Europe, North Africa, and Asia Minor. Verse 12 speaks of drying up of the Euphrates. I believe this speaks of the reversal of what we saw with the blowing of the sixth trumpet. In 1844 Britain compelled Turkey to grant religious rights to minorities. Arabia was in constant revolt, with trouble in Macedonia. Foreign capital was gaining control of Turkish industry. The Young Turk movement triumphed in 1908. Italy declared war against Turkey in 1911 to be joined the following year by Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia and Montenegro resulting in the loss of all European territory by Turkey, except Constantinople and a small amount of land on the west side of the Bosphorus. In WWI the young Turks allied themselves with the Central Powers which ultimately resulted in the Allies declaring war on her. The British over-

ran southern Palestine and captured Jerusalem and conquered Mesopotamia. Turkey's military power was broken, she could do no more. The Treaty of Sevres on August 10, 1920 reduced the possessions of Turkey to but a shadow of her former holdings. A republic was declared on Oct. 29, 1923 and the Turkish Caliphate was abolished on March 6, 1924. Turkey ceased to have a state religion in 1928. The old Turkish Empire had dried up and was no more.

Dr. Jones, in his study of the Book of Revelation makes an interesting observation that might help us better understand the purpose of these bowls or vials that are being poured out. He points out that the last four bowls are patterned historically after the original history of the Persian conquest of Babylon. This original conquest of Babylon could well be a shadow, or pattern of the final conquest of Babylon, understanding that the first conquest was of the city of Babylon and the final conquests is of a system that involves many nations and peoples. In seeing this pattern, I think it will help in our overall understanding. He points out that these last four bowls, or vials, are poured out on the sun, the throne of the beast, the Euphrates River, and the air. I am giving you an extra handout that was prepared by Dr. Jones that explains why he is relating the sun to Cyrus, King of Persia. Following is from Dr. Jones study:

First, Cyrus came to power in 550 B.C., as the rising of the "The Sun." Next, he overthrew the thrones of Medes and Lydia (546 B.C.). (the throne of the beast) Next, his army diverted the river Euphrates in order to enter the city of Babylon through the river (537 B.C.). Last, this led to the conquest of Babylon, ruled spiritually by "the prince of the power of the air" (Eph. 2:2).

Diverting the River Euphrates

Queen Nitocris was the mother of the biblical Belshazzar (Dan. 5:1). On the night Babylon fell, when the hand wrote on the palace wall, it was this queen who remembered Daniel and pulled him out of retirement to interpret the dream (Dan. 5:10-12).

Years earlier, Queen Nitocris wanted to build a bridge over the Euphrates to connect the two halves of Babylon. Up to that time, the people had to use boats to ferry the people across the river. So first she had her workmen dig a huge basin 47 miles in circumference just north of the city. At the same time she prepared large stones for the bridge. When all was ready, a canal was dug from the river to the basin, and the water was diverted. This allowed them to set the stones in the dry river bed to build the bridge over the Euphrates.

Babylon itself was a city foursquare with each side nearly 14 miles in length and a total circumference of 56 miles. The wall itself was 85 feet thick and 300 feet high. Herodotus tells us in Book 1 of The Histories,

“On the top of the wall they constructed, along each edge, a row of one-roomed buildings facing inwards with enough space between for a four-horse chariot to pass. There are a hundred gates in the circuit of the wall, all of bronze and bronze uprights and lintels.”

When Cyrus and Darius came to conquer Babylon, they met with little success at first. Herodotus tells us,

“The siege dragged on, no progress was made, and Cyrus was beginning to despair of success. Then somebody suggested or he himself thought up the following plan: he stationed part of his force at the point where the Euphrates flows into the city and another contingent at the opposite end where it flows out, with orders to both to force an entrance along the river-bed as soon as they saw that the water was shallow enough. Then taking with him all his non-combatant troops, he withdrew to the spot where Nitocris had excavated the lake (which was then a marsh) and in this way (reopening the canal) so greatly reduced the depth of water in the actual bed of the river that it became fordable, and the Persian army, which had been left at Babylon for the purpose, entered the river, now only deep enough to reach about the middle of a man’s thigh, and, making their way along it, got into the town...”

The Babylonians themselves say that owing to the great size of the city the outskirts were captured without the people in the centre knowing anything about it; there was a festival going on, and they continued to dance and enjoy themselves, until they learned the news the hard way. That, then, is the story of the first capture of Babylon.

We’re told in Rev. 16:12 that the purpose of all this, in God’s planning, is so **“that the way**

of the kings of the east might be prepared.” I believe that we today are at the point that the kings of the east are preparing to move. The objective is the total destruction of the city of Jerusalem and of course, the Zionist state of Israeli. It remains yet to be seen just who all will be among the kings of the east, but certainly, at this point Iran (the Persia of Daniel’s day) appears to be at the head of list. We have reached the point in our studies that we are looking at future events. We need to be careful from here on, so far as future events are concerned, to distinguish between prophecy, i.e. thus saith the Lord, and personal opinion. I just stated my opinion. Even though I believe it is backed up by prophecy, it is still my opinion. But as we look at prophecy, we can be assured of certain things that will happen. For example, Jeremiah tells us in Jer. 19:11 after God had instructed him to take a potters earthen bottle and break it in the sight of the elders and priests, **“And shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaketh a potter’s vessel, that cannot be made whole again: and they shall bury them in Tophet, till there be no place to bury.”** We know that the city of Jerusalem, the city Jeremiah is speaking of, has been destroyed several times only to be rebuilt again. But this prophecy tells us there will be a final destruction after which it cannot be rebuilt.

(Read Rev. 16:13-16) John doesn’t specify exactly when he saw the unclean spirits like frogs, he just tells us that he saw them come out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. In verse 14, we’re told that these spirits are **“spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”** In Dr. Jones’ study, he presents in some detail just what these frog spirits are and how they are working. I would like to quote his information:

The Three Frogs

In comparing the sixth trumpet with the sixth bowl, we also should be aware of another parallel. During the time of the sixth trumpet, the Mighty Angel of Rev. 10 was presented to the world, and with it the “little book” (due to the printing press), the Reformation, and the “everlasting gospel” being preached in the great

missionary movement of the 1800's. But in the sixth bowl we have a similar but opposite counterpart in the three frogs sent to gather the nations to Armageddon.

These frogs come out of the mouths of the dragon, beast, and false prophet. The frogs should be seen as the unclean counterpart to the sword that comes from the mouth of the Lamb (Rev. 19:15). The frogs essentially represent unclean words—a false and violent gospel—that convince nations to go to their destruction.

13 And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs. 14 for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty... 16 And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon ["Armageddon"].

The dragon represents the highest power on earth that is hidden behind the scenes—Witchcraft with all its occult manifestations—who teach "order from chaos." They are the planners, who create chaos and destruction in order to build upon its ruins their New World Order. They call themselves Luciferians.

The beast represents the power of the organizational Christian Church System that allowed men to usurp the rule of Christ. This in turn allowed violent men to take control of the Church System in order to lead them into chaos, disillusionment, and finally into destruction.

The false prophet represents the power behind Islam. The powers of the "dragon" knew that they could easily motivate many Muslims into angry and violent reaction by creating a Zionist "State of Israel" and then demanding justice for the theft of their land. The powers behind all of these religious movements induce their sincere followers to fight over the city of Jerusalem. Their purpose and goal is to destroy Judaism, Christianity, and Islam in one final blow and to replace them with Luciferianism as the one-world religion.

Luciferianism Moves to America: 1801 A.D.

The Bible makes no real distinction between Satanism, Luciferianism, Wicca, and other forms of the occult, but lumps them all together

under the name "Witchcraft." So for our purposes, this is how we will define Witchcraft.

A Luciferian group known as the Order of the Palladium (or Sovereign Council of Wisdom) was founded in Paris in 1737. Palladism had been brought to Greece from Egypt by Pythagoras in the fifth century before Christ. This cult was introduced to the inner circle of the Masonic lodges. It was aligned with the Palladium of the Templars, who brought it into Masonry.

In 1801, Isaac Long, a Jew, is said to have brought a statue of Baphomet to Charleston, South Carolina, where he helped to establish the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Baphomet represents Masonic wisdom and is, in effect, their god, whether recognized as such or not. Isaac Long apparently chose Charleston because it was geographically located on the 33rd parallel of latitude.

There are many low-level Freemasons who think that their Order is or was closed to both Jews and Roman Catholics. This misconception probably arose after 1869 when Grand Commander Albert Pike became the head of the Ku Klux Klan. However, out of the original eleven founders of the Lodge in Charleston, S.C., no less than four were Jews: Israel de Lieben, Abraham Alexander, Emanuel de la Motta, and Moses Clava Levy.

At least four more were Roman Catholics from Ireland and France: Thomas Bartholomew Bowen, John Mitchell, Jean Baptiste Delahogue, and Comte de Grasse.

There were at least two Protestants: Isaac Auld and Frederick Dalcho (1770-1836)

The final one, James Moultrie, was a member of St. Philip's Church in Charleston and was buried there, but I do not know if this was a Catholic or Protestant Church. All of this information was published in 1964 by the Supreme Council, 33°, in Washington D.C. under the title: History of the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A. 1801-1861, by Ray Baker Harris, 33°.

Albert Pike was Isaac Long's successor, and he changed the name of the Order to the New and Reformed Palladian Rite (or Reformed Palladium).

Albert Pike: The Illuminist Luciferian

Pike also worked closely with Giuseppe Mazzini of Italy (1805-1872) who was a 33° Mason, who became head of the Illuminati in 1834, and who founded the Mafia in 1860. Mazzini was a high-level planner for the Italian revolution in 1848. Together with Mazzini, Lord Henry Palmerston of England (1784-1865), and Otto von Bismarck of Germany (1815-1898)—all 33° Masons—Albert Pike used the Palladian Rite to bind all Masonic groups under one umbrella.

Mazzini recruited Pike into the Illuminati in order to create an American branch of Illuminists that would operate inside American Freemasonry as a most secret society within a secret society.

Mazzini wrote a letter to Pike dated January 22, 1870, instructing him on how to use Freemasonry as an instrument of Luciferian Illuminism: "We must allow all the federations to continue just as they are, with their systems, their central authorities and their diverse modes of correspondence between high grades of the same rite, organized as they are at the present, but we must create a super rite, which will remain unknown, to which we will call those Masons of high degree whom we shall select. With regard to our brothers in Masonry, these men must be pledged to the strictest secrecy. Through this supreme rite, we will govern all Freemasonry which will become the one international center, the more powerful because its direction will be unknown."

This explains Pike's meteoric rise in Masonry. Until 1853 he had never even heard of the Scottish Rite (p. 244 of Ray Harris' book, *History of the Supreme Council*). On page 254 Harris says that Pike was elected to receive the 33° on April 25, 1857. Pike became an "active member" of the Supreme Council on March 20, 1858 (p. 257). He was elected Grand Commander on Jan. 2, 1859.

Pike's Plan for the New World Order

Canadian Naval Commander William Guy Carr (1895-1959) wrote on page 224-225 of his book, *The Red Fog Over America*,

"One reader put me in touch with the Rev. Father Eustace Eilers, of the Passionist Missions, Birmingham, Alabama. After an exchange of credentials Father Eilers provided me with a copy of 'The Mystery of Freemasonry Unveiled' written by His Eminence Cardinal Caro Y Rodriguez of Santiago, Chile, first published in 1925. This book confirmed everything I had said regarding

the way the Illuminati established control of universal Freemasonry AT THE TOP... Cardinal Rodrigues substantiated what he published by documentary evidence undoubtedly obtained from the Secret Archives of the Vatican. He says that not one Mason in one hundred, below the 32nd degree, even suspects the Illuminati are in control AT THE TOP. Those 32nd degree Masons who have been in contact with us, since, agree with what he says...

"To prove this statement the Cardinal quotes from a letter signed by General Albert Pike...

"The letter is dated August 15th, 1871. It is addressed to Pike's Illustrious Brother Gussepini (Joseph) Mazzini, who had directed the Illuminati's revolutionary program, in accordance with Weishaupt's plan, since 1834... "On page 188 the Cardinal names several authorities who made reference to Pike's letter and plan in 1895 and 1896."

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Albert Pike's 1871 letter to Mazzini proposed three world wars needed to accomplish their purposes:

"The First World War must be brought about in order to permit the Illuminati to overthrow the power of the Czars in Russia and of making that country a fortress of atheistic Communism. The divergences caused by the "agentur" (agents) of the Illuminati between the British and Germanic Empires will be used to foment this war. At the end of the war, Communism will be built and used in order to destroy the other governments and in order to weaken the religions."

"The Second World War must be fomented by taking advantage of the differences between the Fascists and the political Zionists. This war must be brought about so that Nazism is destroyed and that the political Zionism be strong enough to institute a sovereign state of Israel in Palestine. During the Second World War, International Communism must become strong enough in order to balance Christendom, which would be then restrained and held in check until the time when we would need it for the final social cataclysm."

"The Third World War must be fomented by taking advantage of the differences caused by the "agentur" of the "Illuminati" between the po-

litical Zionists and the leaders of Islamic World. The war must be conducted in such a way that Islam (the Moslem Arabic World) and political Zionism (the State of Israel) mutually destroy each other. Meanwhile the other nations, once more divided on this issue will be constrained to fight to the point of complete physical, moral, spiritual and economical exhaustion... We shall unleash the Nihilists and the atheists, and we shall provoke a formidable social cataclysm which in all its horror will show clearly to the nations the effect of absolute atheism, origin of savagery and of the most bloody turmoil. Then everywhere, the citizens, obliged to defend themselves against the world minority of revolutionaries, will exterminate those destroyers of civilization, and the multitude, disillusioned with Christianity, whose deistic spirits will from that moment be without compass or direction... will receive the true light through the universal manifestation of the pure doctrine of Lucifer, brought finally out in the public view. This manifestation will result from the general reactionary movement which will follow the destruction of Christianity and atheism, both conquered and exterminated at the same time.”

The frog of Freemasonry is Witchcraft (Luciferianism). The frog of Judaism and evangelical Christianity is militant Zionism. Islam’s frog is militant Islam fighting Zionists and Christians. Few sincere followers of these frogs know that they are being used for a sinister purpose and will ultimately be betrayed by their unknown leaders.

On the other hand, these Luciferians are also blinded by their own pride and do not realize that the God of Heaven is using them to destroy all of man’s religious systems on earth to prepare the way for the Kingdom of God. That peaceable Kingdom will not be ruled by violent men.

We have a little more to discuss concerning the three frogs that we will take up in our next lesson. JRL

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF JEREMIAH

We are ready this issue for Jeremiah 44. (Read Jeremiah 44:1-10) God gives Jeremiah instructions to recall to the people the wickedness in burning incense to other gods in the land of Judah in spite of the prophets that God sent to them to try to get them turn back to God. He says that they can now see the result of their wickedness in what has happened to Jerusalem and the cities of Judah. He then asks why they have not learned from what happened, but instead have continued to burn incense to false gods in Egypt. He asks if they have forgotten the wickedness of their fathers and of the kings of Judah and their own wickedness and that of their wives. They are not humbled at all.

(Read Jeremiah 44:11-14) God then tells

the people that He is going to set his face against them for evil and destroy all of the people of Judah that have come to Egypt. He says that none will escape or remain, and then in verse 14, adds at the end of what He is saying, **“for none shall return but such as shall escape.”** This sounds a little strange since He has said that none shall escape. We have to wait until verse 28 for an explanation.

(Read Jeremiah 44:15-19) This sounds like the men of Judah talking at first, but verse 19 ends with **“without our men.”** The margin of my Bible says of this phrase, “without our husband’s permission.” It appears that the women are the ones telling Jeremiah that they are going to continue worshipping the queen of heaven. They say that when they were doing this in Jerusalem that they had plenty to eat and were well and saw no evil. They can’t seem to understand that their worshipping the queen of heaven is the reason for their displacement and discomfort now. I am not so sure that the people of today might take the same attitude as conditions get worse because of the judgment of God and especially so with the role that women in general are taking today.

(Read Jeremiah 44:20-28) Jeremiah tries to explain that their worshipping their idols and no-gods was the cause and the situation they were now in was the effect. The effect is God is turning His back on them and none of them will escape. However, in verse 28 He says **“Yet a small number that escape the sword shall return out of the land of Egypt into the land of Judah, and all the remnant of Judah, that are gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall know whose words shall stand, mine, or theirs.”** This is important. It would be well if we remember the job that God gave to Jeremiah. **“See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.”** (Jer. 1:10) We have seen Jeremiah in the midst of the rooting out and pulling down and destruction of kingdoms and the next few chapters of Jeremiah will tell us more of this activity. But we haven’t seen him building or planting. Also God has promised him that He will deliver him from his enemies. Also we have seen that Baruch has been promised that he would have his life for a prey, i.e. he would be protected from his enemies. And the fact that it has been mentioned that

the king’s daughters are with this group tells us that they too are being preserved. How many more who might be in this group to escape out of Egypt we don’t know for sure, but I think we can be assured that Jeremiah, Baruch and the king’s daughters are part of that small remnant. I am going to forgo delving into the story of these people for the moment as we need more prophetic information to make the story complete, so once we have that information in our study, we’ll go further into the future of this small group as they escape out of Egypt and go back to Judah.

The first verse of Jeremiah 46 gives us the theme for the next few chapters, **“The word of the LORD which came to Jeremiah the prophet against the Gentiles.”** The word “Gentiles” is from the Hebrew “goi” which simply means nations or a collective body. It is not a proper name, so should not have been capitalized in the King James translation. What follows is a series of prophecies concerning the nations surrounding Israel and Judah. This series of prophecies were probably given to Jeremiah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim, some eighteen years before Judah was taken into captivity. (Read Jeremiah 46:2-12) Egypt is the first nation in the series, probably because at the time of the prophecy, Judah was subject to Egypt. Four years earlier, Pharaoh-necho had defeated and killed Josiah and then had taken Jehoahaz, Josiah’s son captive to Egypt after he had been crowned king and had made Jehoiakim, his brother, king in his place. So at that time Egypt was more an enemy to Judah than Babylon.

If you remember the story, Pharaoh-necho was on his way to Carchemish and Josiah went out to do battle with him. Pharaoh-necho tried to talk him out of fighting with him as he said he had nothing against him, but Josiah would not back off and ended up being killed. Pharaoh-necho proceeded on to Carshemish and met King Nebuchadnezzar in battle and was defeated and returned home.

The people of Judah, though they were in subjection to Egypt, had come to rely on Egypt for their protection rather than listen to Jeremiah and some of the other prophets. The object of this series of prophecies was to warn the people of Judah that they could not depend on any of these other countries so that they might listen to Jeremiah and repent and turn to God as their defense against aggressive nations around them.

Egypt was so strong at the time that it would appear that these prophecies of Jeremiah against Egypt were wrong. It appears that the main part of the Egyptian forces were mercenaries from other nations like Ethiopia, Lidia and Libia. God warns of a great battle that Egypt is going to lose as it will be God taking vengeance on Egypt. He tells them to go to Gilead and take balm for her injuries, but tells her she shall not be cured. He indicates the enemy will come from the north.

(Read Jeremiah 46:13-26) God tells Jeremiah that it will be Nebuchadnezzar and his army that will come from the north. He says that these hired men, the mercenaries that make up the major part of the Egyptian army, will not stand before him, but rather will run in defeat and go back to their own countries. In verse 19, **“O thou daughter dwelling in Egypt”** is probably a reference to the Jews that were living there. We have already seen that God told the Jews that were in Egypt at the time of the fall of Jerusalem, that they would die by the sword, pestilence or famine, or they too would be taken into captivity. This prophecy, tell us that this would happen some eighteen to twenty years before it actually happened. The reason was their worshipping idols. The **“multitude of No”** in verse 25 probably should have been rendered, Amon of No, which was a sun god idol. They had other gods as well, plus many worshipped the Pharaoh, so God says He is going to punish them all.

(Read Jeremiah 46:27-28) God reassures the people of Judah and of Israel that while God is going to make a full end of several of the nations we will be discussing, He will not make a full end of the Judah and Israel. Rather He tells them He is going to save them from afar, but He is going to correct them and He will not leave them totally unpunished. Israel is already in captivity and Judah is going to go into captivity, but they will come out of their captivity and will ultimately be at ease and rest.

(Read Jeremiah 47) This prophecy is against the Philistines. **“Behold, waters rise up out of the north”** is a symbol of the Chaldean, or Babylonian army. Verse 1 says that this word came to Jeremiah before Pharaoh smote Gaza. I would assume that this might have been during the same campaign that put Judah in subjection to the Pharaoh since these campaigns usually took several years to complete. So it would not have

been expected that Babylon would be the one who would ultimately destroy the Philistines. Baldness in verse 5 is a sign of mourning. Unlike some of the other nations, God doesn't indicate that the Philistines will survive this being conquered by Babylon. This may be the last of them as a nation, my speculation.

(Read Jeremiah 48:1-10) Judgment is pronounced on Moab. Remember that Moab was one of the sons of Lot by his own daughters following the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Their land was on the east side of the Jordan River. God names several of the cities of Moab telling of their coming destruction. This prophecy is to serve as a warning that the people might flee from the coming destruction. Vs. 10 is interesting in that God indicates that He is going to hold the destroyer (King Nebuchadnezzar and his Babylonian army) responsible for how well they conduct their job of bringing judgment on the people of Moab.

(Read Jeremiah 48:11-13) The “Nebo” spoken of here is a city of Moab, not the mountain where Moses is buried. Moab is one country that had not gone into captivity up to the time of this prophecy. As a result, they had become quite complacent about the danger of a foreign conquerer. They gave credit to their false god. But God says that they are going to be ashamed of Chemosh, a national idol of both Moab and Ammon, as the Israelites were of Bethel, a reference to the golden calves that Jereboam set up when he became the first king of Israel.

(Read Jeremiah 48:14-25) Moab had boasted of being mighty and having men strong in war. But God, knowing the end from the beginning, asks how they can say that when they will be destroyed by the conquerer that is coming. Vs. 15 says, **“Moab is spoiled, and gone up out of her cities,”** meaning that her cities have gone up in burning. Keep in mind this is a prophecy of what is coming—it hasn't happened yet, but the prophecy reads as if it had already happened. God then lists a number of the cities of Moab that are going to be destroyed.

(Read Jeremiah 48:26-47) Moab's sin was that he magnified himself against God. This was done in the worship of their idols, but more than that, they were a very arrogant people. In verse 29, note the repetition of terms indicating this

pride and arrogance. **“We have heard the pride of Moab, (he is exceeding proud) his loftiness, and his arrogancy, and his pride, and the haughtiness of his heart.”** This was evident in their refusal to let the people of Israel cross their land as they came up out of Egypt. They defied God at every turn it seemed. God continues to list cities that will be destroyed and indicates in verse 37 that there will be great mourning in Moab. But He promises to cause to cease the priests that offer in the high places and that burn incense to their false gods.

Probably referring to Nebuchadnezzar, He says in verse 40, **“Behold, he shall fly as an eagle, and shall spread his wings over Moab.”** Then He says in verse 42, **“And Moab shall be destroyed from being a people, because he hath magnified himself against the LORD.”** However, He says in verse 47, **“Yet will I bring again the captivity of Moab in the latter days.”** As we have discussed before, a nation can be destroyed without destroying all the people. I believe that is what is happening here. There is no more mention of Moab in Scripture from this time on with the exception of a singular mention in the book of Daniel. Even there it would not indicate that Moab survived as a nation or a people. However, it would not surprise me if in the future after the return of Christ, that there would be people of Moabite descent once again recognized as such.

(Read Jeremiah 49:1-6) Here we find the judgment of Ammon, a half-brother of Moab. Though this is a short judgment, the judgment is the same as has been given for Moab. The word “daughters” in verse 2 probably refers to the smaller cities and towns of Ammon when it says that they will be burned with fire. Their sin that is

being dealt with here is when the tribes of Israel living on the east side of the Jordan were taken captive by the Assyrians, Ammon moved in and claimed the land that belonged to Gad, or in some early Bibles, it was land that belonged to God. Also they were trusting in their riches, but were to find out how worthless those could be when judged by God as He was going to bring Nebuchadnezzar down on them. Again, God says that he will **“bring again the captivity of the children of Ammon.”** While this means that they would be released from captivity, I believe it would apply the same as I think it will for Moab since they also are not mentioned Biblically from this time on. We will continue with God’s judgment of the nations next issue. JRL

(Read Jeremiah 49:7-22) Next is the judgment on Edom, or Esau, who inhabited the land mostly south of Judah. As we have mentioned before, there has always been tension between Esau and Jacob and their descendants. Jacob apparently learned his lesson as he was returning home and fearful of meeting with Esau, but before he met him he had an experience of wrestling with a man all night in which he lost the match, but gained the name of Israel, or ruling with God. But from that point on, it seems that every time an enemy came against Israel, there seemed to always be an element of Edom with them. This unbrotherly treatment of Israel is the reason for this judgment. In verse 8 God warns the inhabitants of Dedan to flee the area because He says He will bring calamity on Edom. Dedan is a descendant of Abraham through Keturah, so apparently is not involved in the sins of Esau, so God is warning them to get out of the way as He is bringing Nebuchadnezzar upon Edom in his full fury.
