"WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT FORGIVENESS OF SIN"

Ezekiel 18:1-32.
Ps. 32:1; Acts 13:38-39

(1)

"THE GOSPEL OF FORGIVENESS" (2)

INTRO: **A.-True Story From Nigeria:**

WAZIRI KAGOMA lay in the dark, wondering what had awakened him. At first he couldn't identify the crackling sound. Suddenly he smelled **smoke** & jumped out of bed. He hurried his wife & children out of the round mud hut. Their thatched roof was on **fire**. In minutes the roof collapsed, destroying most of their possessions.

Waziri spotted a man not far away still holding a burning torch. Whe the man saw he had been detected, he **ran** for home with Waziri following to identify him.

This was not the first **persecution** Waziri Kagoma & his family had experienced in his pastorate in central Nigeria, but it was by far the most serious. Furthermore, opposition seemed to be increasing. Pastor Waziri refused to take the case to cour He wanted **the Lord** Himself **to deal** with the man.

Not long afterward Waziri's 6-year-old **daughter** came home very ill. She was vomiting, & soon lost consciousness. The rushed her to the nearest hospital.

"I'M **SORRY**, the doctorysaid sadly. "YOUR DAUGHTER HAS BEEN **POISONED**. I **CANNOT SAVE HER**."

In a few hours the bereaved parents took their daughter's body home and buried it. There were only a few Christians to help, or to comfort.

The next day the district head visited Waziri. "Let me force the villagers to tell who poisoned her."

"**DON'T** DO IT. JUST **LET IT GO**," was Waziri's firm answer.

Not long after the 2nd calamity, the man who burned the Pastor's house came to see him. "I know **you burned** my **house**, Pastor Waziri told the man. "**But** I don't know if it was you who **poisoned our daughter**."

"**I didn't poison** your daughter, but I admit **I burned your house**. **Do something to me!**" The man seemed almost beside himself.

"Putting you in prison wouldn't **forgive** your **sins** or bring back our things that burned." His voice was full of concern. Pastor Waziri said, "**CHRIST CAN FORGIVE** YOUR SINS. I WANT YOU TO **RECEIVE HIM**."

"**Only that?**" the arsonist asked in amazement.

"That is a **BIG** thing. You'll have God's forgiveness now and eternal life too. As for me, **I forgive you**."

The next Sunday the man attended Church. At the clos of the service he stood up. "I CAN'T EAT! I CAN'T SLEEP! **I burned** the Pastor's **house** & when I asked him to have me punished he just told me that God would **forgive me**. Today I **want to receive the Lord**!"

Several weeks had passed when Pastor Waziri had **another visitor**. "You don't know me," he said, obviously upset. "It was I who **put poison** into food & **gave it to your daughter**. I wanted to drive you away. Now I'm going crazy. **Have me punished**

The Pastor hesitated a moment. "If a court had you hanged, that **wouldn't bring back** my daughter, or **forgive** your **sins**."

"DO SOMETHING!" the man insisted. "I can't live like this!"

The Pastor was the calmer of the two. "Here's what I'll do," he said. "I'll tell you how to have God's forgiveness."

The next Sunday the second man came to Church. ONLY the Pastor knew of his crime. At the close of the service he stood up. "I have something to say," he told the people. "I am a murderer. I poisoned the Pastor's daughter."

A murmur of amazement showed the people's reaction in their voices.

"What are you going to do with him?" someone asked the Pastor.

"Just tell him how Christ can forgive him." The Pastor himself prayed with the murderer as he received his new life and peace.....

.....NOW, 17 years later these two men are leading Elders in that Church in Nigeria...

...Because of the FORGIVENESS of God, and God's Servant.

B.-Message On Forgiveness:

1-Part of a SERIES:
- --Forgiveness of sin (this message)
- --Forgiveness of OTHERS (next message)
- --Positive side of Forgiveness--JUSTIFICATION (soon)

NEG. 2-Forgiveness or Pardon deal with the negative or minus aspect of God's dealing with our sins----TAKING AWAY OF OUR GUILT AND PENALTY

POS. 3-Justification puts God's righteousness positively to our account because of our faith in Christ

4-Our Outline:
- I.-The MEANING Of Forgiveness:
- II.-The METAPHORS Of Forgiveness:
- III.-The MESSAGE Of Forgiveness:

5-Prop:--Place to begin is to be personally sure that you have received & experienced God's forgiveness of your sins
--Can't LIVE the christian life untill you POSSESS that life, and it is received when you allow God to deal with your sins in forgiveness.

C.-THE MEANING OF FORGIVENESS:

"The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, & the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him

A.-The Meaning By Definition:

1-"Forgiveness" == "Remission"
- --Deals with SIN before God
- --Meaning is "TO SEND AWAY"
- --Payment of every obligation to the injured holiness of God

2-Also sometimes used of debts one man owes another

3-Sacrifice of a substitute is clearly associated with forgiveness--Ezek. 18:[illegible] 20

4-Seen in Lev. 4--SIN OFFERING is detailed there.

--Covering for sin is accomplished thru the shed blood (Lev. 4:20
--Outcome is that "it shall be forgiven them" (Lev. 4:20,26,31,35)

3

B.-The Meaning By Depiction:

1-Lev. 16 deals with the Day of Atonement for Sin (COVERING)

2-Two goats used for a composite picture

- --One goat sacrificed as a blood offering; DEATH
- --Other goat with sins confessed over him & then SENT AWAY into the wilderness as a picture of the removal of sin from the people

3-Result was a COVERING of sin until fully paid for in due time when Christ died for our sins & paid a full & final payment with the penalty of sin--DEATH ON THE CROSS

C.-The Meaning By Distinction:

1-Human forgiveness means that a penalty is remitted, or sent away without actual execution of any satisfaction for the offense

2-Divine forgiveness--RADICALLY DIFFERENT!

- --Not an overlooking of the penalty
- --But an EXECUTION of that penalty
- --This required the DEATH of the offering
  - ** Heb. 9:22
  - ** John 1:29

"And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without the shedding of blood is no remission"

3-THUS--Human forgiveness OVERLOOKS the violation & does not require a penalty paid--Takes it personally.
--Divine forgiveness REQUIRES that Divine justice be fully satisfied thru a substitutionary sacrifice
--Rom. 6:23

4-Why the difference?

5-God is holy & cannot forgive without His altogether Just & Righteous character being satisfied.

II.-THE METAPHORS OF FORGIVENESS:

7 of them

1

A.-"REMOVED":

1-Ps. 103:12--"As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us."

2-That word "REMOVED" is a powerful one

- --Not only out of sight
- --Not only out of mind
- --But "REMOVED" from us

3-How far removed ??? ?

4-ILLUS--In 1909 an Explorer named PERRY discovered the North Pole.
--In 1911 AMUNDSEN discovered the South Pole.
--But no one has yet discovered an EAST Pole or a WEST Pole, because there is none.
--If God's Word said "as far as the north is

from the south" then it would be measurable
But God's forgiveness is **IMMEASURABLE**!! He has removed our transgressions from us.
--East is removed from West by an **infinity** of distance, and so are our sins

2

B.-"BEHIND THY BACK":

1-Isa. 38:17--"Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but Thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for Thou hast cast all my sins behind Thy back."
2-**No peace** in the heart & life of the unsaved---ONLY **BITTERNESS**
3-Sinners **cannot cure** themselves of their dreadful malady
4-But....**IN LOVE** God has done so **FOR US.**
5-Soul **delivered** from the pit of corruption
6-God put these sins **BEHIND HIS BACK**!
--Whatever way God looks, He looks away from our sins
--**Never again** to be **brought up** in God's court against us
--Like a weather vane; whatever way the ARROW points, the **TAIL** is always **behind it**;;;;;So with God & our sins!!
--Evidence of His great love for us
7-11th Century Writer:

"Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the skies of parchment made;
Were every stalk on earth a quill,
And every man a scribe by trade.

To write the love of God above,
Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Though stretched from sky to sky."

3

C.-"BLOTTED OUT":

1-Isa. 43:25; 44:22--"I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for Mine Own sake, and will not remember thy sins."...."I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto Me; for I have redeemed thee."
2-Imagry of a **cloud** or some other substance that renders any tracing of man's sins back to him utterly IMPOSSIBLE
3-**Interposing** of the grace of God so that there is **a break** in our trail of sin & we cannot any longer be held accountable
4-**HOW ??**--"For my own sake" (43:25)
--"For I have redeemed thee" (44:22)
--**DIVINE INITIATIVE** is our hope & assurance, for **GOD** has blotted out our sins.
5-ILLUS--I remember reading somewhere of a lad who lived in the North of **Scotland**, who was in **great distress of soul** whenever he thought of meeting God. He was **not** very **bright**---the Scotch called him "**DAFT**". This wee lad was fearful whenever he thought of his necessity of giving account to God for his sins. Many times others heard him crying to himself: "Oh, I dinna want to meet God. I am **afeard** of God. I canna' meet Him."
People **tried to comfort** him, but they were not able to make it clear to him how he could be at peace with God. Finally in a very simple way, the **GOSPEL** was explained to him, & his

joy was unbounded as he saw something of the love & grace of God in giving His Son for him. Thereafter many was the time that they would hear him singing to himself: "I am no afeard of God noo, for I am going to heaven noo."

Someone said, "Little John, what makes you talk like that? Why are you not afraid of God? Have you not commited many sins." And another said: "Do you not know that God is righteous and will punish sin?

"Yes, I have sinned & all that, but I am no afeard of God. He will not punish me now."

"Well what makes you so sure? Can you explain the great doctrine of the atonement?"

Little John scratched his poor, muddled head for a moment & then he said: "Well, some day I am goin' up to meet God & He will have a big Bible-book in front of Him & He will have all the sins of the people written down in this book---a page for each one of us---and one page for Little John, but before He can read out my sins, JESUS CHRIST will be there with His bleeding hand, & He will put it down over all the page, & God will look at it, & say: 'I CANNA FIND A SIN ON THIS PAGE.' The blood of Jesus will blot them all out---and Little John will be safe in heaven."

Little John knew more than many theologians of our day, but there was one thing wrong with his theology. We don't wait until the day of judgment for the blood of Jesus Christ to blot out our sins, but it is done now, here in this world. The moment a poor sinner turns to God with faith in the Lord Jesus, his sin is BLOTTED OUT FOREVER...Praise the Lord for that!!

D.-"REMEMBERED NO MORE":

1-Jer. 31:34--"And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know Me from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD, and I will forgive their iniquity and I will remember their sin no more."

--Promise to ISRAEL when they turn to the Lord

2-Heb. 8:12; 10:17&18--"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more."..."And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin."

--Promise to the CHURCH now

3-God puts His "forgetter" to work concerning our sins once they have been forgiven because of a ONCE FOR ALL OFFERING FOR SIN

4-Forgiveness does not leave the lingering memory of the horribleness of the past----it is "remembered no more"

5-ILLUS--In a christian school not long ago a teacher asked a little boy if there was anything God could not do. The little fellow's quick reply was: "Yes, God cann't remember my sins any more after they've been forgiven because Jesus died for my sins."

--That's true.....PRAISE GOD!!

E.-"NOT MENTIONED":

1-Ezek. 18:21-22--"But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, & keep all my statutes, & do

that which is lawful & right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. (All) his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live." (6)

2-Wicked ones do have **ONE HOPE**!

3-Their one hope is in **TURNING** to the Lord and proving the reality of that "turn" by a **CHANGED LIFE**

- --Many profess to receive Christ and be saved
- --**MAYBE** all of them are **genuine**.....but **I doubt it**!!!
- --**How** can one **tell** the genuinely saved from those who merely mouth the words??
- --It is really **quite simple**
- --**Look** at their **lives** for **PROOF** — BE A FRUIT INSPECTOR
- --Look for a demonstrated **CHANGE** OF BEHAVIOR pattern

4-For those who keep God's Word & live a new life there is a **precious promise**

5-Ezek. 18:22--"All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him..."

6-God is **HONEST**-He cannot fail to mention man's sin if it is not dealt with according to God's righteous requirements

-**But** God will **not drag up** our past & make mention of **it** if it has been properly dealt with **by forgiveness** thru Christ's blood — NEVER MENTIONED AGAIN

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F.-"CAST INTO THE SEA":

1-Micah 7:19--"He will turn again, He will have compassion on us; He will subdue our iniquities; and Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea."

2-That is **tremendous**.!!

3-Do you know **HOW DEEP** "the depths of the sea" really is??

- --Deepest part is in the **PHILIPPINE SEA**
- --Oceanographers have found a spot **6½ miles** deep
- --How deep is that?
- --Over **34,300 feet** deep there
- --EMPIRE STATE BUILDING is only **1,248 feet** tall
- --**Stack 27** Empire State Buildings on top of one another & still have 624 feet of water over the top of the 27th building.
- --MOUNT **EVEREST** is the most lofty mount in the world at **29,141** feet
- --Drop Mt. Everest into the Philippine Sea and **still have 5,179** feet of water over its topmost peak
- --Doesn't it make you **SHOUT** to realize that God has **buried** your sins **THAT DEEP** ??
- **Seven tons** of pressure per square inch, so **nothing** will rise to the surface of its own volition from that depth

4-Not only has God put your sins & mine down there in the depths of the sea----but He has **posted** a **"NO FISHING"** sign, so our sins are to **stay put** down there!

5-If God won't remember & won't dredge up what He has forgiven, then we ought not to be dragging them up either!!

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G.-"PUT AWAY":

1-Heb. **9:25-26**--"Nor yet that He should offer Himself often, as

the High Priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; for then must He often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the age hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself."

2-Levitical system of O.T. sacrifices were such as to make a **PERPETUAL REMINDER** of sins, for they only were a **temporary** covering (O.T. term "atonement") for sin.

3-Looked ahead to a **full** & **final** dealing with the sin problem by Messiah

4-That's **why Jesus came**--Mt. 1:21--"..thou shalt call His Name JESUS: for He shall **save** His people from their sins."
--Lk. 2:29-30--"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word: for mine eyes have seen **Thy Salvation**."
--Heb. 9:26b (above)

5-M.G.P.--"Do not ever come to think of forgiveness as a **little** thing or **light** thing! It comes to us at no less cost than the shame and agony of our Lord and Savior. It is God's **unspeakable gift**."

6-Col. 2:13--"And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you **all** trespasses."

III.-THE MESSAGE OF FORGIVENESS:

A-Forgiveness Is Found In Christianity:

1-Christianity is THE **ONLY** RELIGION in which **forgiveness exists** → **Not** in the Pseudo-Christian CULTS either!!

2-The **MOSLEM**--Prays & fasts
--Gives alms & goes on a pilgrimage
--He neither **gives** pardon nor **seeks** it
--Because he views himself as already a **possessor of righteousness**, because he is **A MAN**

3-The **HINDU**--**Caught** in the "**wheel of life**"
--Sins and goodnesses of this life are woven into an existence in lives to come as he is **incarnated again** and **again** as a worm, a dog or some other being
--His only hope is to find **RELEASE** into nothingness

4-The **CONFUCIANIST**--Draws from religions of early China
--**Lofty concept** of a God Who watches & judges
--**No involvement** by God in the affairs of men
--**No forgiveness**; just cold, observant disapproval

5-The **JEW**--Incipient forgiveness is taught in O.T.
--But always "**ON CREDIT**" thru annual sacrifices
--**Anticipations** of the coming of Messiah as a Sin-Bearer
--Judaism was **fulfilled** at the Cross.

EXPERIENCE

6-In CHRISTIANITY--Groping is past
--Expectancy gives way to
--God FREELY FORGIVES sinners
--Sin is blotted out & finally dealt with
--Pardon is FREELY AVAILABLE TO ALL

B.-Forgiveness Is Found In Christ:
1-In the "religions" of the world you find a SYSTEM of rules & rituals that give neither forgiveness nor peace
2-In Christianity you find a PERSON Who offers:
--Forgiveness of sin
--Life before God
--PETER's words--Acts 10:43
--Paul's words--Acts 13:38-39

"To Him give all the prophets witness that thru His Name whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins

3-What OUTCOME to this message?
--Acts 10:::Cornelius & his household heard, believed, saved, baptized & went on to grow & serve their Lord
--Acts 13:::Gentiles wanted to hear & believe
--Jews opposed the message and its messengers
--Therefore Paul & Barnabas "turn to the Gentiles" and successfully preached this message of FORGIVENESS throughout the Roman world
4-Only Christianity is able to bring a sinful man into a right relationship with a holy God:
--See ourselves as SINNERS (Rom. 3:23)
--Realize we are alienated from God; HELPLESS
--Know that God LOVES us (John 3:16)
--Believe that Christ DIED for our sins to pay their full price and penalty as our Substitute
--RECEIVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS by receiving God's Son personally (John 1:12)

CONCLUSION:

Be it known unto you therefore, men & brethren that thru this Man is preached unto you forgiveness of sins: And by Him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

A.-Recap:
1-MEANING of forgiveness=="To take away; remove"
--Like the 2 goats in the "PICTURE" of forgiveness in Day of Atonement
--Requires execution of a death penalty.
2-METAPHORS of forgiveness: 7 of them
--"Removed" (Ps. 103:12)
--"Behind God's back" (Isa. 38:17)
--"Blotted out" (Isa. 43:25; 44:22)
--"Remembered no more" (Jer. 31:34; Heb. 8:12; 10:17-18)
--"Not mentioned" (Ezek. 18:22)
--"Cast into the sea" (Mic. 7:19)
--"Put away" (Heb. 9:26)
3-MESSAGE of forgiveness--Thru Jesus, the SAVIOR
--ONLY through Him
--Our experience as we've trusted Him
--Our message to the world...TO YOU

B.-Personal Application:
1-ILLUS--Years ago, NICHOLAS, the First-CZAR of Russia, was

occasionally in the habit of throwing aside the garb of royalty, attiring himself in the uniform of a lower officer, and going about to find out how things were going with his soldiers. On one occasion he had a favorite--a young man--the son of an intimate friend of his, to whom he had given a position in a border fortress in charge of the money used for paying the soldiers.

This young man fell into bad habits; he took to gambling, and by and by, led on and on by the will-o'-the wisp that lures the gambler to his doom---had gambled away all his own wealth and then had taken from the government funds entrusted to him. He had taken just a few rubles at a time & had no idea of the amount he had stolen.

He received notice on the following day an official was coming from the court to examine the books and count the funds he had on hand. He felt he could never face the exposure of that day and so on the night before, closed his door and sat there with his books before him. He opened the safe and counted the little money left there---jotting down carefully the amount on a sheet of paper---and then made a note of the various amounts he had taken unlawfully. As he added it up, he wrote the figures---and under them he wrote:

"A GREAT DEBT; WHO CAN PAY?"?

He knew it was impossible for him to settle the debt. Looking at the record of his thievery he thought: "What a failure I have been." He made up his mind that he would not live to face the disgrace of the next day---he would blow his brains out as the clock struck Twelve that night and leave all the papers that would show what he had done wrong. As he sat at his desk thinking upon the way he had thrown away the opportunities the Czar had given him, suddenly he felt himself overpowered with drowsiness, and in spite of the desperateness of the situation, he fell asleep.

It so happened that night, the Czar Nicholas, dressed as a lower officer of the guard, entered the gate of that fortress by giving the proper PASSWORD, and moved down thru the halls of the building. Every light should have been out according to regulations, but as he came down the main hall he saw the light shining under a door. He went up to the door & listened, but there was no sound. He tried the know & the door opened; he looked inside & saw the sleeping officer---the money---the papers---the opened safe---and he wondered what it meant. TIP-TOEING over he stood behind the man & looking over his shoulder read the paper before him. In a second the whole thing became clear. The young man had been stealing systematically for months.

The Czar's first thought was to put his hand on his shoulder & tell him that he was UNDER ARREST. The next moment his heart went out to him in compassion; he remembered his boyhood friend who was this officer's father, and thot how BROKENHEARTED he would be if his son were arrested. Then he happened to see that pitiful question, "A GREAT DEBT: WHO CAN PAY?"?

Moved by a generous impulse, he reached over, pick-

ed up the pen that had fallen from the hand of the sleeping man, wrote just **one word** under that line, tiptoed **out**, and **closed** the door.

For an hour or so the man slept, then, **wakening** suddenly, he saw it was long past midnight. He sprang to his feet---picked up the **revolver**---put it to his forehead, and was just about to pull the trigger when his **eye caught** the paper----

---and the **one word** on the sheet of paper which he knew had not been there when he went to sleep. It was the name, "**NICHOLAS**". Dropping his gun, he said, "**Can it be**?" He went to one of his files & got out some documents that had the **genuine** signature of the CZAR & compared them with the one word written under the line, "**A GREAT DEBT; WHO CAN PAY?**"

It was the **real signature** of the Czar. He said out loud: "The Czar has been here tonight. **He knows** my guilt & yet **he has undertaken** to pay my debt. **I need not die.**"

And so instead of taking his life, **HE RESTED UPON THE WORD OF THE CZAR** as indicated by that name written on the paper. He was not surprised when early in the morning a messenger came from the royal palace with a sack of gold---with **exactly the amount** that was missing from the safe. When the Inspector came, he found **EVERYTHING IN ORDER**. That was because....

.....NICHOLAS HAD **PAID IN FULL** the officer's debt.

That is only a **human illustration**, but **it pictures** so beautifully what the LORD JESUS CHRIST has done for each one of us when **He forgave** our sins, and **paid in full** the debt we owed because of sin.

ONE WORD spoke peace to that officer's heart...NICHOLAS!

ONE WORD has spoken **peace to my heart**; that word is **JESUS**; the Name of my Savior, for God "hath made Him to be sin for us, Who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." (2 Cor. 5:21)

2-God's Call--Ezek. **18:30b-32**--"**Repent** and **turn** yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. **Cast away** from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die,...? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD wherefore **turn** yourselves, and live ye."

3-What is **YOUR ANSWER**? ??

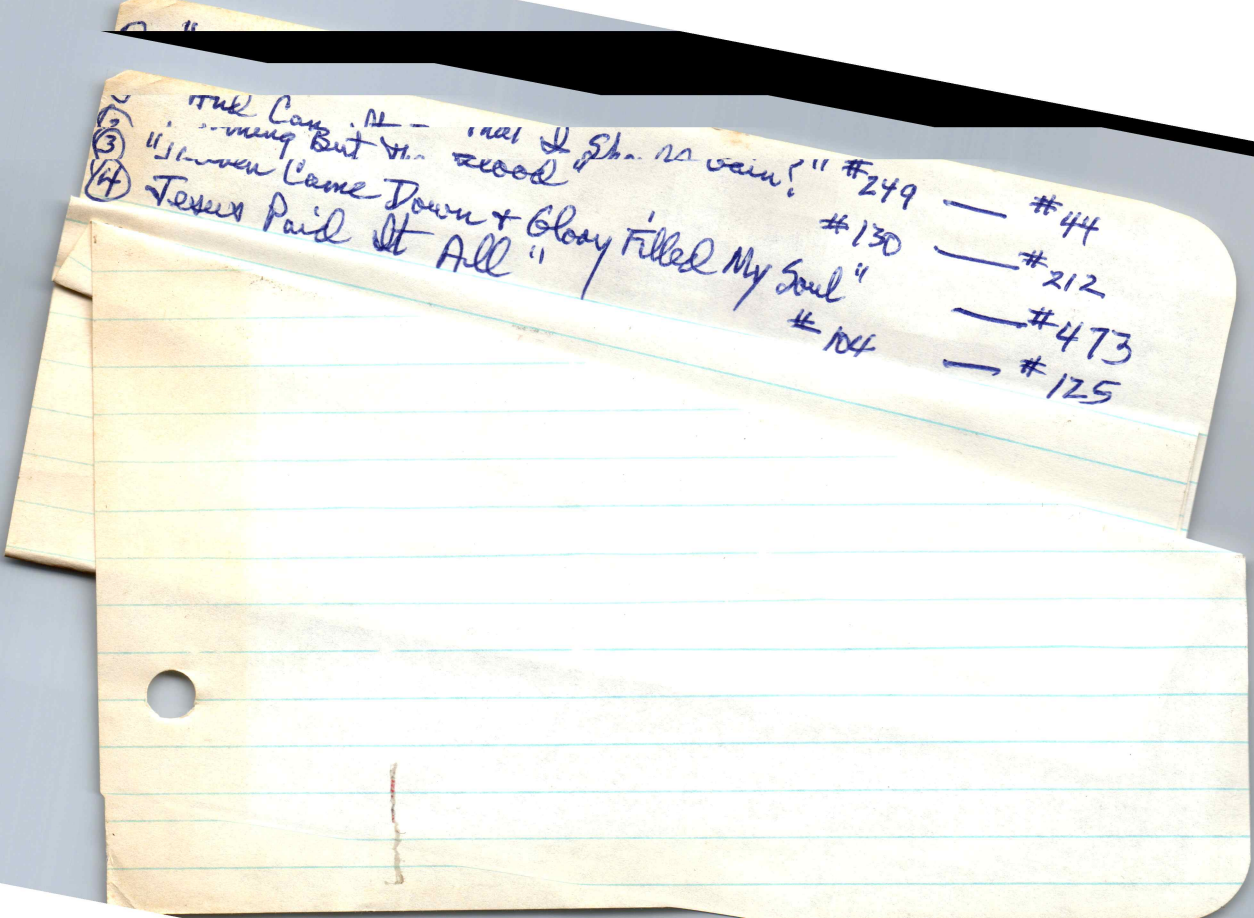
4-Jesus' own **warning** was: John **8:24**--"...if ye believe not that I am (he), ye shall die in your sins."

5-Your **only hope** of forgiveness is in **the LORD JESUS** CHRIST as....

YOUR SAVIOR. Won't you **receive** forgiveness today by receiving Him now?

MAKE SURE!

ARE YOU sure? Have you experienced forgiveness?


"#249 — #44
#130 — #212
" — #473
#104 — #125

5

THE FOUR M'S OF MISSIONS

Ezek. 22:30

Intro: Questions of Pertinence:
1-How shall we accomplish our "Unfinished Task?"
2-By what principles shall we proceed?
3-What is to be our plan of attack?
4-What shall be our mode of operation?
5-Is it possible to accomplish the task of world evangelization in our generation?

Biblical perspective in "The Four M's Of Missions"
1-Message
2-Methods
3-Means
4-Men

I.-THE MESSAGE OF MISSIONS:

A.-What It Is Not:
1-Social
2-Economic
3-Political
4-Industrial
5-Educational
6-Cultural
7-Though it fosters all of these indirectly
8-No degree of reformation, however great; No attainment in morality, however hig; No culture, however attractive; No humanitarian or philanthropic schemes and societies, however useful, No baptism or other ordinances, however administered can help the sinner to take even one step toward heaven.

B.-What It Is:
1-Jesus Christ Himself
2-Acts 4:12---UNIQUE
3-Nothing more, nothing less, nothing else!
4-Bread of God come down from Heaven
5-It is our job as DISCIPLES to feed the multitude

C.-Simile By Moody:
1-God is not looking for recipie devisers--Bread is provided.
2-God is not looking for better bakers--Bread has experienced Calvary
3-God is looking for DELIVERY BOYS
4-"Give YE them to eat"

II.-METHODS OF MISSIONS:

A.-Biblically--Mt. 28:18-20:
1-Evangelization
2-Identification
3-Indoctrination

B.-Practically--In Terms Of Methods:

1-Mechanical Methods:
*Radio--TGNA; 600 recorded decisions per year
*P. A. Systems
*M.A.F. Planes---Illus of Don Berry
*Gospel Recordings---Illus--Indians of Guat.--"It must be true"
*Television & Films
2-Educational Methods:
*Literacy campaigns
*Schools for National children
*Schools for Missionary children
*Correspondence courses
*Brief Bible Institutes
*Formal Bible Institutes & Seminaries--ILLUS Indian boy in Mexic
3-Medical Methods:
*Dispensaries
*Clinics
*Hospitals
*Leprosariums
*Nurses, Doctors, Technicians
*Nurses & Technicians training schools
4-Literacy Methods: "MR. PAGE"
*-Printing--Tracts--ILLUS---40% literacy; more effective w/ thos
--Booklets who can't read!
--BMA materials
--Hymnals--ILLUS---"Three Books"
--VBS materials
--SS materials
--Christian magazines--ILLUS--"Our Africa"
*-Distribution--Colporteaurs
--Missionaries
--Pastors
--Believers
--Churches
--Bookstores
5-General Methods
*Translation--ILLUS--Story of Cox & Conob N. T.
*Strategic areas--Indians
--Nationals
--Country centers
--City areas
--Open country
*Evangelism--Person to person
--House to house
--Street corners
--Markets & Plazas
--Tents & Churches
*Youth--S.S.
--Children's classes
--Church societies
--C.E.F.
--Camps & Conferences
*GOAL----------CHURCHES growing solidly in the soil of C. A., Africa, Asia, Europe, & EVERYWHERE.

1 Cor. 9:19-22

III.-THE MEANS OF MISSIONS:

A.-Our Problem:
1-Faster communications & transportation
2-Better methods are constantly arising
3-BUT, not making proper impact
not reaching the lost in sufficient numbers.

B.-Examination Of The Problem:
1-Plan & Promote
2-Promote & Plan
3-FINE, but not adequate!
4-Needs activation by SPIRITUAL MEANS & NOT FLESHLY MEANS
5-Zech 4:6

C.-Solution On Spiritual Terms:
1-Salvation experience
2-Conscious Yielding--Rom. 12:1-2
3-Direction or Guidance--Scripture; Ps.119:105
--Prayer; Jas. 5:16
--Circumstances; Acts 16:7-9
--Spirit; Rom. 8:16 & 14; Acts 16:10
4-Constant Witness--Acts 1:8---170 times commanded in N. T.
5-Consecrated Giving--10,000% interest
6-Consistent Living
7-These are the spiritual channels of POWER
8-Results--Joy & Peace in own heart
--Heart of God satisfied
--Souls saved
--Church established
--God glorified
9-A. H. Strong--"What are churches for, but to make missionaries? What is education for, but to train them? What is commerce for, but to send them? What is life itself for, but to fulfill the purpose of missions, the enthroning of Jesus Christ in the hearts of men?"

IV.-THE MEN OF MISSIONS:

A.-Body Of Deliverance Needed:
1-May have Message, Methods & Means & still not DELIVER the goods
2-God's plan centers in "A MAN"
--implementation of message, methods & means is dependent upon MEN
--not angels
--not winds
--but "men of beautiful feet"
--Acts 8:31
--Generic sense, not masculine; ALL BELIEVERS!
--without us, the job won't be done
--ILLUS--Doreen Palmer
3-Body is necessary
--for providing salvation (Christ had to become incarnate)
--for delivering of salvation to men
--In 1878 General Charles Gordon wrote from the Sudan to

his sister on the need for Christian missionaries in that great, dark land: "Where will you find an apostle? I will explain what I mean by the term. He must be a man who has died entirely to the world; who has not ties of any sort; who longs for death when it may please God to take him; who can bear intense dullness of these countries; who seeks for few letters; and who can bear the thought of dying deserted. No there are few, VERY, VERY FEW men who can accept this post. BUT NO HALF MEASURE WILL DO....A man must give up everything, understand EVERYTHING to do anything for Christ here. No half measure; no three-quarter measure will do. AND YET, WHAT A FIELD."

B.-Will YOU Be God's Man?

1-Ezek. 22:30
2-Sought among His people; in the synagogue
3-Sought for some, not all for SPECIAL SERVICE
4-Will it be you?
5-Expected to stand in behalf of God--2 Cor. 5:20
6-Epitaph written that day---"But I found none"

7-Epitaph being written today--HERE; NOW

8-Needs--Statement by IFMA

"The needs for this total mobilization of the evangelical mission task force as expressed through a survey of 87 evangelical mission societies and boards are:

*MISSIONARY PERSONNEL--18,347
*Radio Stations--------20
*Bible Institutes, Seminaries & colleges-----100 minimum
*Hospitals & medical training centers-------50 minimum
*Printing presses------24
*Bookstores & reading rooms-------200 minimum

9-COST---Yes, but it costs NOT to serve too!!!
--Jonah
--Ezek. 22:31
--Remember what it COST CHRIST

10Will YOU be God's man????????

Concl: MESSAGE--eternally the same
METHODS--constantly improving
MEANS----Spiritually powerful
MEN------Perennially lacking

Towards the end of the 1st century Henry M. Stanley went to Africa to search for ONE MAN, David Livingston, and found him. Will YOU go to Africa or some other corner of the world to seek a MULTITUDE?

Will YOU be God's man TODAY, and UNTIL He comes?

"PALESTINE REPOSSESSED---THE FUTURE OF THE LAND" Ezekiel 36:1-15

INTRO: A.-"Out Of Bounds":

1-In Military Service, permission to enter a city or area is a privilege, & not a right. You carry identification & a pass indicating that the one in command has granted you the privilege of access, usually because of the quality of your service.

2-SO IT HAS BEEN with Israel-----But she has been EXCLUDED from the right of entry into Jerusalem because of the spiritual service which she HAS NOT RENDERED

3-Lk. 21:24--"...they shall fall by the edge of the sword, & shall be led away captive into all nations & Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles UNTIL the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

B.-Biblical Order Of Events For Israel:

1-Determined in each case by the progress of the context

2-Hosea 3:3-5--3:3 Harlot with the nations
--3:4 Spiritually destitute
--3:5 "AFTERWARD" ** Return to the land
** Repentance of sin

3-Joel 2--2:1-10 Invasion from the NORTH following Israel's return to the land
--2:11 The Lord's Army comes
--2:12-17 Repentance in Israel
--2:18-27 Deliverance of Israel
--2:28-29 Outpouring of the Spirit
--2:30-32 General restatement of signs

4-Ezekiel 36-48
--36--The LAND restored to the people
--37--The PEOPLE restored to the land
--38--Russia's rise & threat
--39--Russia's defeat
--40-48--Millennial scene in Israel

C.-Our Message:

1-History
2-Promises
3-Present
4-PROP: --To know the facts
--To be expectant
--To use our knowledge now

I.-PREVIOUS HISTORY OF THE LAND:

A.-Early History:

1-Given to Abraham--Gen. 13:15-17
--Repeated 141 times acc. to Feinberg, in unconditional promise

2-Passed on to Sons & to the nation

3-Three dispersions promised:

--Into Egypt
--Into Babylon
--Into ALL nations
--Dispersions & desolations due to ISRAEL'S SIN.....Ezek. 36:16-19

4-Three Regatherings promised
--Under Joshua out of Egypt
--Under Ezra & Nehemiah out of Babylon
--Under MESSIAH; yet to be accomplished
--No longer to be "the people of the wandering feet"

5-Distinctiveness of Israel--DUFF-FORBES--"...that which lifts Israel above and beyond all these garlanded glories of man's generous regard is the possession of a relationship. A relationship singular, unique, awe-inspiring. Israel is God's land. He who made the minds which framed the stanzas, composed the melodies, & conjured the appelations; and Whose Divine fiat brought forth the earthly subjects of them all, was yet pleased to pin upon the upturned bosom of the soil of Israel the badge of His special relationship, for--thru the prophet EZEKIEL--He declares that the Land of Israel is HIS LAND (38:16)."

6-ILLUS---The JERUSALEM COURIER published an interesting comment while I was in the Land to the effect that the ARABS dislike to buy the Bible because they say it promises to give their land to the JEWS.....And they are right concerning the promise, but their refusal to buy & read the Bible will not prevent the fulfillment of its prophecies.

B.-Recent History:

1-Balfour Declaration of League of Nations gave a MANDATE to Britain April 25, 1920, to establish a JEWISH HOMELAND
2-British "White Paper" of May17, 1939, strangled Jewish immigration & purchase of land in Palestine
3-U.N. partitioning & establishing of Israel--Nov. 29, 1947
4-WAR from Dec. 1947 thru May 1948 between Arabs & Jews
5-Israel proclaimed a state May 14, 1948
6-Israel invaded May 15, 1948, & Arabs expected to win control & force Israel out of being a nation within two weeks
7-ALMOST WON THIS WAR
--June 4, 1948, for the first time a convoy came thru to Jerusalem with machine guns & flour
--Jerusalem was down to last 48 hours of supplies
--Over 1,500 civilians had been killed by Arab artillary shelling, to which Israelis could not reply
--Jerusalem was then OPENED, & never again cut off from the rest of the state
--Penchant of Jews for ONIONS is recorded as far back as the days of Moses,(Num. 11:5), & it seems never to have departed.
--Shipload of "Onions" was siezed by the British, but their palate was not attracted, so they let it dock the next day.
--HOW THE JEWS REJOICED to get those ONIONS
--Onions are normally considered "powerful" under any circumstances, but those were SPECIAL
--Those onions concealed a boatload of guns & ammo.

--In the midst of this fighting, the U.N. sent COUNT BERNADOTTE of Sweden to finda solution to the problem in June, 1948
--Truce was made.....and broken
--Second truce July 18, 1948 after the U.N. branded the ARABS as aggressors on July 15
--Count Bernadotte was assasinated Sept. 1948, hindering a settlement
--ARMISTICES signed March, April, & July 1949
--Israel admitted to the U.N. May 11, 1949
--CONSTANT DISCORD ever since
** 1956 Arab-Israeli war
**1967 Six-Day-War
--Ezek. 35:5, 10--"Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, & hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end...Because thou (ARABS) hast said, 'These two nations (JUDEA & SAMARIA) and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it...'"

II.-THE PROMISES OF GOD:

A.-Introduction: (Ezek. 36:1-7)

1-Word to the LAND--36:5-6
--N.B. red marks in my Bible
--19 references to the LAND 36:5-15
2-Word is From God--36:4
3-Invasion of the land has been their lot in times past acc. to 36:6
4-Nations are to bear their shame--36:7

B.-Productivity Of The Land (36:8-11):

1-Branches & fruit--36:8
2-God is FOR the Land--36:9
3-Land is tilled & sown--36:9
--Often 3, 4, & 5 crops per year harvested off this fertile land
4-Multiplication of animals--36:11
5-Reforestation--39:10
6-ALL NEEDS are satisfied
--In 1860 the rains began again, far enough in advance of the return of the Jews that the land could be ready for them when they came. Rainfall of both the early and the latter rains have been restored most remarkably, after centuries of little rain.
--Accomplished by God's power
--36:35-36

C.-Possession Of The Land:

1-For ALL of Israel--36:10
--37:11
--Chapter 48
--Knocks out the unscriptural HERESY of British-Israelism & the 10 lost tribes.

2-They will possess (fully make their own) the land
--36:12
--Permanent inheritance
--No more dispossessions
3-Boundaries are to be expanded--Ex. 23:31
--Obad. 1:17-23
4-BETTER CONDITIONS than ever before

D.-People of the Land---POPULATED:
1-They are "at hand to come"--36:8
2-Over 12 million Jews in the world today
3-God will "multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, even all of it"--36:10
4-Repopulation has already begun
--Israel had 8,048 sq. miles of real estate in 1967 before the 6 day war--about the size of New Jersey
--1900---35,000 Jews in Palestine
--1948---650,000
--1953---1,450,000
--1958---2,200,000
--1967---
5-JEWISH population is to be the issue--36:10, 12
6-These are to be RESTORED TO THE LAND acc. to Ezek. 37

E.-Promise Of The Land---PEACEFUL:
1-No subsequent dispersement--36:12
2-No subsequent bereavement---36:13, 14
3-Formerly--and presently--the HOT SPOT--36:14
4-No longer to be a TROUBLE spot, but a BLESSING spot--36:14
5-No longer a shame or a reproach
--When Christ is present
--Liberty--36:15
6-Conversion of its people--36:25 note

III.-THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE LAND:

A.-Nation Established:
1-May 14, 1948 was its "BIRTHDAY"
2-Constant battle & tension since
3-Attitude of ARABS
--Col. Jedid, Chairman of Syrian Delegation to the U.N. Mixed Armistice Commission, 1953---"This land cannot hold both Arabs & Jews. There exists only one solution to which we will get: that this land shall be possessed by either only the Jews or only by the Arabs."
--Mr. Azmy Nash Ashibib, the former Senior Jordon Delegate to the Mixed Armistice Commission, & recently appointed Jordon's Chief Information Officer, said in a special broadcast Sept. 4, 1953: "It is not a question of the alteration of the armistice lines or of regaining this town or this village. The difference is basic. We want back the entire robbed Fatherland. We are ready at our front-line defense posts to meet the enemy. We are waiting for the hour to strike."

4-Even in the face of this, a STABLE GOVERNMENT has been established

5-This is the most remarkable regathering since Moses
  --50,000 returned from Babylon about 510 B.C.
  --Over 2 million now in 10 years

6-Return is in UNBELIEF
  --Zephaniah 2:1-2--"Gather yourselves, together, yea gather together, O nation not desired (=not desiring God); Before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD's anger come upon you."
  --HUMAN EFFORT in restoring Israel. Zionism is not religious in nature. Accomplished by "YOURSELVES" and "before" the time of Divine regathering.

7-BUT--Not in full possession of the land
  --Not untroubled by war & tension
  --Not occupying old Jerusalem until June 1967

B.-Productivity Has Begun:

1-The Jew and WORK
  --Hitler advised the liar to make the lie as large as possible. It will be more IMPRESSIVE, & will take in your dupes more effectively
  --If a Gentile has the brains & the capacity to escape physical labor, he is simply regarded as doing the natural thing. That's the "aim" of our whole educational system today.
  --If a Jew follows suit, he is--of course--a LAZY RASCAL.
  --Jews found Palestine a desert, & have transformed it into one of the world's most fruitful areas
    ** Treeless, sterile, malarial, swampy
    ** Agricultural schools founded
    ** Willingness to toil
    ** Tel Aviv in 1907 was a heap of sand-hills, & today it is an up-to-date city, in marked contrast to its next-door-neighbor, Jaffa, which is an Arab city
  --Example of colony of Hedera
    ** 1890--it was a deadly swamp
    ** A few Arab huts scattered there
    ** Sir John Hope Simpson called it a "plague-spot".
    ** To the amusement of the Arabs, the Jews paid 600,000 gold francs for it & began the task of reclamation
    ** Malaria at once broke out. Of 540 original settlers, 214 died in the first years.
    ** Jews toiled, sweated & died, but he drained & planted it.
    ** Malaria has been banished.
    ** It is a center of dairy produce, oranges & citrus production & a whole colony today
  --The Jew has certainly
    Not been afraid of work

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®
BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

2-Wheat----Wm. Culbertson
--Sat in YMCA in the new section of Jerusalem, when a Jewish man joined me, & we had a pleasant talk.
--During the conversation I mentioned the EXCEPTIONALLY FINE CROP OF WHEAT I had seen the day before in Beersheba. His face lightened immediately, & he asked several questions as to the size of the crop & quality of the heads of grain.
--I also told him I'd been to the north, & he wanted my impressions from there.
--My answer was that the nation seemed to be doing remarkably in view of all the circumstances.
--A wistful look came on his face & he looked at me plaintively. "YES", he said. "YES, I BELIEVE WE CAN DO IT IF THEY WILL JUST LET US ALONE."
--Those words ring in my ears---"if they will just let us alone."
--AS A MATTER OF FACT--the Jewish people returning today to Israel will not be let alone.
--There is a time of suffering coming such as has never before been known for Israel

3-Minerals--Israel is recognized today as a country of tremendous resources
** Agriculturally
** Mineralogically
--Dead Sea chemical recovery
--Development of Ascalon as a port thru which to send out chemical supplies
--Oil pipelines from the Red Sea & Gulf of Aqabah to Mediteranean ports
--Israel appears now to be developing the natural wealth which will tempt Gog (Ezek. 38:10-12) & leaders of other nations to invade the land for spoil.

4-Forests--Turks put taxes on trees, so the Jews & Arabs cut them down
--Hillsides eroded & climate changed radically
--Part of the green one notes in Israel today comes from the newly planted trees set out as seedlings by immigrants & tourists
--Palestine boasts no FORESTS
--Yet Scripture speaks of Israel's forests in the days to come (Ezek. 39:9, 10), for then the invaders will be defeated & the inhabitants will burn the debris of the battlefield for fully 7 years, "so that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests."
--Few in Israel seem aware of the prophecies
--Yet, for the first time in history, potential forests are beginning to rise in the Holy Land

5-ILLUS--Early in the modern development of the land, the Jewish Agency approached a British Bank in Jerusalem for a loan of a half million pounds to buy land & promote Jewish interests there.

When the Bank Board considered the proposition &

some members opposed it, the chairman sent for a Bible. To the astonishment of all present, he read aloud God's promise to bless the Land (Ezek. 36:8-11). He concluded: "Now the Lord is FOR this people. Who is AGAINST them?..... .....and the loan was approved.

C.-Final End Of Restoring The Land Is YET TO BE Accomplished:
1-Land is already restored in part
2-Gathering from heathen lands has begun
3-All of this is in UNBELIEF
4-Yet to be fully accomplished--36:24
5-ILLUS---"Would to God I could take every unbeliever & scoffer to Israel to see prophecy in fulfillment!" writes M. L. Ketcham. "People are pouring in by thousands, Roads are being built, Cadillacs are all over the place, great new Apartment Houses are going up in the cities, Irrigation lines span the country, & everyone is feverish with activity."

Ketchum further writes: "I had an old Jewish Rabbi as my guide when I 'DID' Jerusalem. After it was all over, & his voice & my feet were worn out; and he had expatiated at length on all the past glories of the country, I asked him, 'BUT WHAT DOES THIS ALL MEAN?"

His answer was as sincere as it was revealing. "Very few of the people are coming into the country who are Orthodox Jews in the strict sense. Most of us have LIMITED FAITH in our Scriptures. We are being brought back by blind impulse----just as birds are drawn south for the winter.

"We feel that something tremendous is portending, a something which vitally concerns us, and yet is far larger than the little country of Israel. Something is going to burst which is bigger than the Atom Bomb."

6-YES---Praise God.....The skies are going to burst open one day soon & the Lord will appear.
7-God will bring Israel to the Land--36:24
8-THEN-------a conversion---36:25-26

CONCL: A.-Land's History:
1-Long & checkered
2-Promised to Israel
3-No such promise to the Arabs
4-NOW being inhabited by a portion of the world's Jews----Land restored to the People--Ezek. 36
--People restored to the Land--Ezek. 37

B.-Our Response:
1-Reminded that God's Word is TRUE
2-Learn from Mt. 24:32-34----------READ
3-Realize the time is SHORT
4-Not only interested in fulfillment of prophecy, but in the souls of men
--Be after men for Christ, while it is still our privilege
--Jews & Gentiles
--Black and White
--ANY we can reach
5-ILLUS--The story is told that once upon a time

Satan asked his helpers to propose ways & means of breaking up evangelistic work done on earth.

1 said: "I would tell the people there is no God, no devil, no heaven, no hell, and that they should eat, drink & be merry, for tomorrow we die."

"You need not go," said Satan. "No one with all his senses would believe you."

Another demon, more shrewd than the first, said: "Let me go and tell them that the Bible is a GOOD BOOK, but that it is only PARTIALLY TRUE. I would tell them there is a God and a heaven, but no devil & no hell, and that no matter how they live, they will be eternally happy."

Satan replied again: "Only a minority would believe that."

Finally the srewdest demon said, "I would tell them the Bible is true, & that they must make a choice between God and Satan,

.....BUT there is NO HURRY."

"Go", said Satan. "You have the system."

And it is your job and mine as Christians to remind the world about us that God says "NOW is the Day of Salvation, Behold, NOW is the accepted time."

There IS a hurry about this! Prophetic truth ought to give us "push" to get out the gospel

Westbrae--7/21/68--

I'll Be So Glad — 61

He Is Coming Again — 133

"ISRAEL RESTORED---THE FUTURE OF THE NATION" Ezek. 37:1-28
or...."DRY BONES ALIVE"

INTRO: A.-Introductory Statements:

1-One of the most keen German philosophers, HEGEL, AN ardent student of the philosophy of history, when speaking of the HISTORY OF ISRAEL, said: "It is a dark, troublesome enigma to me. I am not able to understand it. It does not fit in any of our categories. It is a riddle."

2-If it is DARK, the Word of God can throw LIGHT upon it

3-If it is an ENIGMA, the Bible can UNRAVEL it

4-God is faithful. The Jew cannot be destroyed. You might as well try to destroy Jehova as to destroy Israel. God's Word must be fulfilled and none can hinder. How is it that in spite of all the persecutions Israel is still a nation?

5-Someone has written about the INDESTRUCTIBLE Jew:

--The King of Egypt could not DIMINISH him (Ex. 1:9-12)

--The waters of the Red Sea could not DROWN him (Ex. 14:13-31)

--The gallows of Haman could not HANG him (Esth. 5:14; 8:1-2)

--The great fish could not DIGEST him (Jonah 1:17; 2:10)

--The fiery furnace could not DESTROY him (Dan. 3:16-28)

--The lions could not DEVOUR him (Dan. 6:3-28)

--Balaam could not CURSE him (Num. 23:8)

--The nations could not ASSIMILATE him (Esth. 3:8)

--The dictators cannot ANNIHILATE him (Isa. 14:1-2)

6-WHY NOT ??----Because the LORD said: "For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee" Jer. 30:11

7-As the stars shine in the heavens throughout the dark night of our earth, even so do the promises of God in the dark night of Israel's history. From Genesis to Revelation these are "exceeding great & precious promises" given to them. In reference to Israel when asked: "How bright is the future?", the only fitting answer is:"AS BRIGHT AS THE PROMISES OF GOD"

--"The Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel", Num. 10:29

--"Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God", Ps. 87:3

B.-Promises To Israel:

Five Peculiar Promises

1-National Entity---Jer. 31:35-37

2-Land----Gen. 13:15, 17

3-Throne---2 Sam. 7:16

4-King---Jer. 33:20-21

5-Kingdom---Dan. 7:14

6-ALL are ENDLESS in duration

7-Promises may be interrupted for chastisement due to sin

8-But none can ever be abrogated

9-Rom. 11:29--"For the gifts and callings of God are without repentance."

10-PATRICK FAIRBAIRN is another very interesting student of prophecy. Writing in 1829 on the restoration of the Jew, he said:

"If these predictions of Ezekiel do not prove the future restoration of literal Israel to the land of their fathers, it may be asked in what language could such a promise be made? We may as well deny the literal conversion as to deny the literal restoration of Israel. An instant dispersion was a part of the punishment of their transgressions. So will the restoration to Palestine be attained when forgiven of the Lord.

"And how wonderfully has the Lord reserved the future to fulfill these prophecies that they will return to Palestine.! They have no inheritance in other lands. They have always cherished a passionate love and a desire to return to their own. Throughout their long captivity they have been kept subjected to the influence of the world, and yet never identified with the world, & in the plentitude of God's grace and mercy, God will bring His people back to Israel's land, and back to Israel's ancient faith, and Zion shall be redeemed with judgment and her converts with righteousness."

11-140 years ago this man foresaw what you and I are now beholding--the return of God's people to their land. I'm not saying they are returning there in the fulness of God's will, but still they are coming back to the land of promise.

I.-THE VISION REVEALED---(Ezek. 37:1-10):

A.-The Circumstances (37:1-2):

1-Ezekiel in Babylon during captivity
- --Date of 587 B.C.
- --Just before fall of Jerusalem to Nebuchadnezzar
- --"The hand of the Lord was upon me"--37:1--7 times in Ezek.

2-God gives a VISION thru the Spirit

3-Message--
- --Not for Ezekiel's day
- --Fulfillment would be FUTURE
- --But most encouraging in time of national disaster

4-Saw a valley full of VERY DRY BONES

5-Destitute of the "water of life", because of Israel's failure to obey God

B.-The Question (37:3-4):

1-"Can these bones live?"

2-Prophet puts it back on God--Only God can tell

3-Command--"Prophesy upon these bones..."
- --Foretell
- --Forthtell
- --Preach the Word of God
- --Authoritative message

4-BUT.....a TOUGH congregation to preach to.!!

C.-The Scene (37:5-10):

1-Life is promised for the FUTURE

2-Bones, sinews, flesh & skin to come....& then LIFE !

3-This will show: "That I am the LORD" (37:6)

4-Ezek. prophesied as commanded---OBEDIENCE
5-Then he saw--A shaking or moving of the bones
--The bones joined together
--NOISE only at this point
--BUT ** No breathe in them
** Restoration of a lifeless carcass
** Fulfilled May 15, 1948
** Zeph. 2:1-2--"Gather yourselves, together, gather together, O nation not desired; before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD'S anger come upon you."
** Naturalistic & Human movement in Israel
** ZIONISM--Political & national, but not religious
** YET, a prelude to the Divine moving
6-Then commanded to speak to the WIND
--Same word, "ruach", in Hebrew for wind, breath & Spirit
--Come upon the lifeless carcass
--Give it LIFE
--Breath of God is to come
** Jn. 6:63--"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."
** Rom. 11:26--"And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob."
--SUPERNATURAL LIFE is to be imparted
--Illus--Gen. 2:7
--Result: "a living soul"
--Similarly with Israel---"AND THEY LIVED"
7-Summary--REUNITED-----37:7
--RE-COVERED---37:8
--REVIVED------37:10
8-Notice--------Creation of the physical realm responds to the Word preached.
--------DO YOU ??

II.-THE VISION EXPLAINED (Ezek. 37:11-14):

A.-Who Is Involved (37:11-12):

1-Not left to guesswork or chance for interpretation
2-"These bones are the whole house of Israel"
--No lost tribes (37:11; 36:10; 48:1-7, 22-27)
--God knows who & where they are
--NOT FULFILLED in the return from Babylon; only 2 tribes returned then
--Israel is called by ARNOLD TOYNBEE, our greatest contemporary historian and not a christian, "A FOSSIL NATION" that has persisted in existence & defied amalgamation longer than any other people without a homeland--2500 years--in all the history of the world."
3-Israel's own opinion--Bones are dried
--Hope is lost
--Separated from one another
--DESPAIR born of forgetting God's

Promises + Power

4-Yet, called "O MY PEOPLE" --37:12
--Tender word from their faithful God

B.-What Is To Happen? (37:12-14):

1-Graves opened--Reference is not to a physical resurrection
--But to a RESTORATION to the land
--Seen clearly in 37:21 (READ)
--Have been BURIED in all nations

2-Come out of graves among the nations; for centuries the Gentile countries nave been Israel's "National Cemetary"

3-Come into the Land of Israel

4-SCATTERING--Deut. 28:64--"And the Lord shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other..."
--Num. 23:9--"Lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations"
--NO DOUBT of the fulfillment of these promises
--BRITISH Jews, German Jews, ITALIAN JEWS, American Jews, CHINESE Jews, etc.

5-In his book, The Conquering Jew, John Foster Fraser wrote: "A fact of enormous interest to Jewish historieans was the discovery of an ancient Jewish synagogue at Kia Feng Fu, the capital of Honan, which though several times restored, still contained the ancient records of the Jewish settlement."

6-Quite recently a missionary friend returned to INDIA & going out with her was another missionary to work exclusively among 10,000, Jews in one part of India.

7-There are even AFRICAN JEWS. One tribe in Ethiopia that goes by the name "Exiles" numbers 150,000 and is clearly of Jewish stock

8-RESTORATION--A process, not an action
--Part 1; Return in UNBELIEF
--Part 2; Worldwide regathering at end of the Tribulation
--Second stage is a DIVINE accomplishment

9-Note the order of Scripture
--Back to the land first
--Then back to life
--37:14
--Israel is like a HOMING PIGEON returning to her nest by an unseen "drawing" power now.

III.-THE VISION ILLUSTRATED (Ezek. 37:15-20):

A.-The Sign (37:15-17):

1-God-given illustration to show HIS FUTURE REUNITING of Israel

2-Two sticks--1 for Judah representing Southern Kingdom
--1 for Israel representing Northern kingdom
--To be JOINED "into one stick"
--"They shall become one"--37:17

3-Given to show the CONTENT of the phrase in 37:11--"the whole house of Israel"

B.-The Meaning (37:18-20):

1-This will be brought up as a question by the Israelites--"Wilt thou not show us what thou meanest?"

2-Authoritative answer: "Thus saith the Lord GOD"

3-"Them" of the 10 tribes are "put with" the "him" of the tribe of Judah--37:19

4-WHY ??--"and make them one stick and they shall be one in mine hand"--37:19

5-Restored to ONE NATION dwelling in ONE LAND

6-"Before their eyes"--37:20
- --Symbol is to be openly understood by them all

IV.-THE VISION ELABORATED (Ezek. 37:21-28):

A.-Governmental Realm (37:21-22):

1-Restoration to the Land
- --37:21
- --"I will take"==God's work
- --"From among the heathen (nations)"--Source
- --"Gather"."and bring"--Regathering
- --"Them into their own land"--Destination
- --Settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict is foretold by God's Word & on God's terms

2-Unity in the land
- --37:22
- --God makes them ONE NATION
- --Something the power of Great Britain, the USA, and the UN have been unable to do by political force

NB

- --This will be "in the land"
- --ONE KING, Jesus
  - ** 37:22, 24
  - ** Hos. 13:10-11--"I will be thy King where is any other that may save thee in all thy cities? and thy judges of whom thou saidst, Give me a king and princes? I gave a king in mine anger, and took him away in my wrath"
  - ** Luke 1:31-33 (READ)
- --No more division of the Israel into 2 nations
- --No more dispersion into all nations

B.-Spiritual Realm (37:23-28):

1-No more defilement with idolatry--37:23

2-SAVED OUT of their dwelling places
- --37:23b
- --20:33-44
- --Rom. 11:26
- --Regenerated by the Spirit
- --Cleansed from sin
- --Become "God's people"--37:23c
- --In FACT, as well as in NAME
- --Worship will truly be toward God

3-Protection & guidance--37:24

4-Permanent possession of the land--37:25
- --2 Sam. 7:13

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5-Promises fulfilled
- 37:26-28
- Covenant of peace
- Everlasting Covenant (see also Jer. 31:31-37)
- Sanctuary in the midst (Ezek. 40-48)
- Fellowship will be mutual
- Testimony will be seen by all

CONCL: A.-What Then Should Be OUR Conclusions?:

1-BE PERSUADED from such a study that we have here a book with authoritative words concerning the future. No book of philosophy or science so speaks. Such knowledge--yes, foreknowledge--is not of man, but of God, and thus our confidence in the BOOK ought to be substantiated, sustained & strengthened.

2-BE NOT ASHAMED of our hope. Men have a lot of hopes that do make them ashamed. What kind of mood do you think German officers of the 3rd Reich which Hitler promised would last 1000 years, have today? A few years ago they had a hope. They expected to conquer the world, but that hope is something to be ashamed of now.

We have a hope of which we need not--now or ever--be ashamed. This Book's prophecies are coming true. The Lord Jesus is coming again. He is our hope, and it is all based on God's sovereign "I WILL"

3-DEEPER PRAYER LIFE than ever before. Remember the 9th chapter of Daniel? When Daniel knew by the Word that the end of the captivity was in sight, what did he do? He didn't run out & say: "Listen men, throw down those shovels. Let's go on strike. We're going back to Palestine. The time is up."

No indeed! He got down on his knees & wept before God for the knowledge he'd received. In fact his prayer is 5 times longer than the prophecy of that chapter.

Fulfillment of prophecy should not just leave us excited & unbalanced, but it should lead us into the closet to talk to God in thanksgiving.

4-Not remain in the closet, but GET OUT TO THE WORLD with the message it so desperately needs. With so much evidence of death all around us, the world has the perennial question: "CAN THESE BONES LIVE".

The difference is that in knowing God, we know that the answer is YES !

Ezekiel was to prophesy. He was to "preach the word". That same commission is ours today, for ours is a message of hope for "dead bones" that can live if we are faithful in prayer and witnessing.

B.-Message To The Unsaved Also:

1-Unconverted hearer
- In despair over your condition?
- See the valley of dry bones as a picture of yourself?
- Asking: "Is there any hope for me?"

2-Answer--God lives
- God can perform a miracle for you
- He's already provided His Son
- He's already made the way
- The Spirit can perform a miracle in your life so you'll enter into joy eternal and life everlasting

3-Way of blessedness requires spiritual cleansing by the blood of Christ as you exercise simple faith in Him alone

4-Yes, these bones "CAN LIVE" !

5-And so can you, if you'll meet God's conditions

Westbrae--8/18/68

When He Cometh — 455
I Know I'll See Jesus Some Day — 488

"RUSSIA'S ALLIANCE FOR NEAR-EAST INVASION"--Ezek. 38:1-10

INTRO: A.-Wars & Rumors of Wars:

1-World History

--Time of WARFARE

--Nov. 1965 TIME magazine reported that a Norwegian statistician recently used a computer to ascertain that in 5,560 years of recorded history there have averaged 2.6135 wars per year

--Only 10 generations of the human race have known world peace for a total of 268 years

--Hot spot--**JERUSALEM

** 47 sieges of Jerusalem since David's day, with 20 of them of utmost severity

2-General tenor of times

--Wars

--Rumors of wars

--Mt. 24:6--"And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet."

B.- Three Great Wars Ahead:

1-Possibly more than 3

2-But sure of at least 3 wars yet

(1)--RUSSIA and her sattelites against Palestine defeated by Anti-Christ over the European confederacy, along with God's hand upon nature.

(2)--Battle (or "campaign") of ARMAGEDDON which gathers all nations to Palestine against God & God's land. This one will have several stages, or battles, but only 1 campaign

(3)--REVOLT of Gog & Magog in Rev. 20

3-WHEN?--Russia; just before the end of the first half of the Great Tribulation

--Armageddon; last ½ of the Great Tribulation culminating at Christ's visible appearing

--Gog & Magog of Rev. 20 after the millennium

4-Relation to the church of these 3 battles

--Rapture is "NEXT" on the prophetic timetable

--Church will be gone before any of these 3 wars

** Rom. 5:9--"Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him."

** 1 Thess. 5:9--"For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ."

5-FOUR Great CONFEDERACIES of the Tribulation develop

--West---Revived Roman Empire

--North--Russia's confederacy of sattelites

--East---"Sun-rising kingdom"

--South--Egypt & North Africa & some Arabs

C.-Russia's Place!

1-Six MAJOR SIGNS of the times
- ①--Travel & education advances
- ②--Nation of Israel re-established May 15, 1968
- ③--Developments toward a United EUROPE
- ④--Lawless & immoral social climate
- ⑤--World ECUMENICAL movement & apostasy
- ⑥--RUSSIA as a world force

2-Even 50 years ago these would all have been most unexpected

3-Probably the least predictable would be the emergence of the sleeping Russian Bear

4-PROP :--See Russia's place in the prophetical plan of God
- --Be Biblically informed
- --Not be panicked, but persuaded that we need to redeem the time

5-Remember, this is GOD'S MESSAGE--38:1, 10, 14, 17, 18, 21
- --Therefore authoritative

I.-RUSSIA'S IDENTIFICATION:

Read—Turn to

A.-The Terms Used:

1-38:1-3--READ

2-Compare with Gen.10:1-2--Magog was 2nd son of Japheth
- --Tubal & Mesheck also listed
- --Descendants moved North to the Caucasus=="Gog's Fort", on the southern border of Russia
- --Magog == "Land of Gog"

3-"Chief prince"--R.V. & ASV =="Prince of Rosh", RUSSIA
- --GESENIUS, one of the greatest authorities on Hebrew definition writes: "Rosh, Ezek. 38:2, 3; 39:1; proper noun of a northern nation, mentioned with Tubal & Mesheck; undoubtedly the Russians, who are mentioned by Byzantine writers of the tenth century, under the name hoi Ros, dwelling to the north of Taurus, and described by Ibn Fosslan, an Arabic writer of the same age, as dwelling on the river Rha (the Volga)." (Written 1812)
- --Thus RV & ASV translators corrected the AV to read "PRINCE OF ROSH".
- --With Mesheck & Tubal added identification is complete. These were ancient tribes that moved to the Black Sea area.
- --Moreover the important centers of the eastern & western halves of the Russian state are today called MOSCOW & TOBOLSK
- --It is significant that Leningrad, formerly St. Petersburg, is not the capital of Russia today. Within recent years, as we well remember, it was changed to Moscow. This is all the more striking because Russia had every reason to keep Leningrad as the capital. There is no name so revered in Russia today as that of Lenin.....Yet prophecy marks out MOSCOW as the chief city

4-"Gog"--A prince or ruler
- --Quite likely the personal name of the ruler of Magog
- --Contemporary of ANTICHRIST

--Name prophesied 2500 years ago
--Josiah was named by God 300 years before birth
--Cyrus was named in advance by God
--So is Russia's leader during the Tribulation

B.-The Location Given:

1-Frame of reference * In Bible directions are given from the Holy Land
--NORTH means north of Palestine
--Israel is "in the midst" of the nations (5:5; 38:12), or the NAVEL of the nations

2-Gog, Prince of Rosh, is from the NORTH
* 38:15
-- 39:2
--Literally, "from the uttermost parts of the north"
--The nation of Russia reaches farther north than any other nation in the world

C.-Characterizations:

1-Nations have distinct personalities
--France; Lovers & cowards
--Italy; Wine devotees & great talkers
--Britain; Masters of the high seas
--USA; Land of the free & home of the brave

2-So does Russia have distinct characteristics:

① --ARMAMENTS
** 38:4 - Horses, Horsemen, Armour, Shields, Swords
** 38:7 - Prepare thyself
** Military preparedness is Russia's keynote theme
** 38:7
** 1959 budgets
--USA--77 Billion w/ 40 B. for arms
--USSR--171 Billion w/ 100 B. for arms
** 1968 budget
--USA--180 Billion w/ 90 B. for arms
--USSR--unknown, but UP !!
** Russia has provided the armaments for Arabs in the Near East, Castro in Cuba, and the North Vietnamese in Asia.

② --DOMINATION
** Seen in crushing Hungary's freedom in 1956
** Seen in Czeckoslovakia in 1968
** 38:7 — POLAND - 1981
** "Be thou a GUARD unto them" == "Commander in chief" over her sattelite nations

D.-Contrasts--Gog of Ezekiel & of Revelation:

1-Similarity of names often leads to confusion
2-Separated historically by 1000 years
3-Many other significant differences:

EZEKIEL	REVELATION
--Prince of the North destroyed before the millennium	--Satan, the "prince of this world", destroyed after the millennium
--Out of the uttermost part of the North (38:15)	--From the four corners of the earth (20:8)

--Destroyed by swords of men plus heavenly intervention (38:21-22)
--Buried in Israel over a seven month period (39:11-20)
--Allies are numbered and limited, though numerous (38:5-6)
--Battle against western confederacy is its end

--Destroyed alone by fire from heaven (20:9)
--Devoured with fire so there is nothing to bury
--Confederation of worldwide anti-God forces
--Battle against God is its finish

II. RUSSIA'S ALLIES:

SPOTLIGHT TODAY IS HERE

A. Her Partners (38:5-6):

1. PERSIA
   --Known from antiquity
   --Today in its old location; no migrations
   --Insignificant in world affairs until very recently
   --OIL found there in abundance since W. W. 1
   --In Oct. 1932 a very significant treaty between Moscow & Persia was signed, stating that in event of a Soviet war, Soviet forces will be allowed to pass through without resistance in order to make an attack on any nation in that area.
   --Renamed "IRAN" in 1935
   --Bible indicates MOSLEM ARABS will join as Russia's allies in that day
   --Today among the most "Pro-Russian" of the Arab states
2. ETHIOPIA
   --"Cush" in Scriptural name of this land
   --A son of Ham & his descendants
   --Therefore, some would decide it is an African nation, but not all HAMMITES became African
   --Another "Ethiopia" was located East of Babylon
   --More likely an Eastern nation because the Ethiopia of North Africa would more likely be in the western confederacy of a revived Roman Empire

AFGHANISTAN ???

3. LIBYA
   ="Put" or "Phut" in the Hebrew
   --Likewise both a North African and an Eastern nation by this name
   --Eastern one is now known as "IRAQ"
   --Most likely the Eastern nation
   --So, we have 3 allies of Russia among the Arabs of EAST
   --Sounds quite current, doesn't it?
   --Fitting in with this is a clipping of a news item:

"Sir John Glubb stated: 'the U.S. and Brittain have failed to understand the Arab countries. And Russia's trump card...is the wholehearted American and British support of Israel. As long as such support is believed to exist, the Arabs inevitably turn to Russia as their only support.'"

TURN TO

4. GOMER
   --Gen. 10:2-3
   --Grandson of Noah was named Gomer
   --Area of Cimmerans, or Crimea & westward is involved
   --"Gomerland" or "Land of Gomer" is the Jewish tongue's name for GERMANY, except for the Rhine River Valley
   --Thus, Gomer is EAST GERMANY !!
   --"And all his bands" == allied neighbors like Poland, Roumania, Bulgaria & Czecko$lovakia
   --East Germany, Berlin, & a large part of West Germany

ASHKENAZ

were never in the old ROMAN EMPIRE

--D. G. Barnhouse--

"The most interesting feature of the prophetic map, to me, is **the line that runs across Germany.** How did Russia get ahold of East Germany? I have talked with American military men who told me of their halting for days outside of Berlin in order that the Russians might first occupy that city. These were **orders** straight from the **White House,** as has been demonstrated through the publication of the **Yalta papers** and the various results of that sorrowful betrayal.

"At all events Russia moved into mid Germany and that nation is divided. All Germany longs to be reunited. Everything in West Germany is done on the basis of hope of future union. The East looks longingly to the West waiting for the day when they shall be together. But when they are together **with whom** will they become **allied?** The Bible answer is that they will be united with the EAST."
(God's Map For Tomorrow's World) P. 41)

--So, it would appear that **Much of Germany** will be **Russia's allies** in the west.

5-"House of **TOGARMAH** of the north quarters"

--Togarmah == Turkey

*--North quarters section indicates **Armenia**, which was once a part of Turkey

--Oldest inhabited part of Russia

--Ancient & fervent **enemies** of the Jews

--Now **incorporated into the USSR**

--"And all his bands" may indicate other soviets of the USSR

--Russia's allies of the **NORTH**

6-"And **MANY PEOPLE** with thee"--Very large alliance

--Other sattelites not in the old Roman Empire

--Also those of the EAST, as China, etc.

7-So we see 5 specifically identified allies in RUSSIA'S POWER BLOCK--EAST, WEST & NORTH--plus many others

PLAN:

B.-Her ~~Coming~~:

1-**WHEN** will all of this take place? = **TIMETABLE**

2-In the Tribulation's first half according to other passages

3-How about Ezekiel's word on **timing?**

--38:8--"After many days"

--"in the latter years"

--"they (Israel) shall dwell safely"

--38:11--"I will go up to them that are at rest, that dwell safely"

--38:14--"In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely."

--38:16--"it shall be in the latter days"

4-**NOTICE WELL**--**Between** Ezek. 36-37 which speaks of the **Restoration** of Palestine & Israel

--And Ch. 40-48, which speaks of the **Millen.**

--Here we have Russia's attack & defeat in Chs. 38-39

CONTEXT

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5-Evidence is conclusive as to Russia's invasion of Israel during the Tribulation's first half

C.-Her Purposes:

1-Expansion & Domination

--Since early Russian history
--Czars were expansionist-minded
--Communists have incorporated this into their plans
--COMMUNIST MANIFESTO:
** "We openly declare that our ends can be gained only by the forcible overthrow of all existing conditions."
** Those who advocate "Peaceful co-existence" just don't face the facts
--As Dr. Fred Schwartz says: "You can trust the communists--to be communists"
--Russian communism's expansion
** 1903--17 Bolsheviks
** 1917--40,000 insurgents
** 1968--1/3 of the world's 4 Billion
** Tomorrow--MORE !!!
** Russia has not--and will not--change

2-Year Around Ports

--No one can understand Russian history in modern times apart from RUSSIAN CLIMATE
--Land of the north; land of the cold, with frozen harbors during the summer & Murmansk in the far north is free only a few months in the summer
--Leningrad is free a longer period, but still not safe for navigation in the winter
--Odessa is a warm water port, but the Turks bar they way with the Dardenelles, so that in the case of war Russia could not freely move a navy from these ports
--Crimean War was over this point
--Russo-Japanese war was fought over an attempt to Keep Russia from retaining Port Aurthur in Manchuria
--Baltic states are now hers
--But Russia still wants southern outlets that are year-around ports
--See ELBE EDITORIAL of April 1968 (attached)

3-Raw Materials--Russia is large & has much potential
--Russia's agricultural land is limited !
--Russia's minerals are hard to get at because of distance, climate & poor transportation
--Palestine's wealth
** Details in next message
** Acts like a magnet to draw Russia toward Israel

CONCL: A.-Recapitulation:

1-Wars--Past, present & future
--At least 3 more are prophesied
2-Russia's rise is SIGNIFICANT in these "latter days"
3-Russia's--Identification is clear
--Allies are delineated

B. Where Do We Fit?:

1-Watch history in a FOREVIEW as revealed in God's Word & be sure of if

--Rest of world may live in panic

--Child of God need not

** Knowledge of the future

** Annihilating war cannot annihilate our position in Christ

--To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord

** By A-Bomb

** By cancer

** By car wreck

** By old age.....NO DIFFERENCE

--"Our times are in His hands"

2-Believe in Christ as Savior;

Get these matters settled NOW!

3-Participate in history-by evangelism

--Personal work

--Work of the church corporately (VBS as an example)

--Missions

--Literature & tracts

--Radio

4-How about you? Where do you fit?

Redeeming the time ??

Needing to be redeemed?

8/25/68--Westbrae

7/19/81- Orchard Ave., Vacaville

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

"NOTEAR" ®

"WHEN RUSSIA INVADES THE NEAR-EAST" Ezek. 38:1-16

INTRO: **A.-Review Of Last Message:**

1-Three great wars ahead: (1) Russia
(2) Armageddon
(3) Gog & Magog of Rev. 20

2-Leader of the 1st war will be RUSSIA
- --Ezek. 38:1-3
- --"Chief prince"=="Prince of Rosh" (RUSSIA)
- --"Gog" is the personal leader of Russia in the Tri
- --Location in **NORTH**, "uttermost parts of the NORTH"
- --Characteristics
  - ** ARMAMENTS
  - ** DOMINATION of neighbors
  - ** These are clearly exhibited in Russia

3-Russia's Allies (38:5-6)
- --Persia is Modern IRAN) EAST
- --Ethiopia is East of Babylon
- --Libya is Modern IRAQ) WEST
- --Gomer is Germany & eastern Europe
- --Togarmah is Armenia) NORTH

4-Russia's plans
- --TIMETABLE--During first half of Tribulation
  - --38:8, 11, 14, 16
  - --Order of Ezekiel's chapters are very significant
    - ** Ch. 36-37 Israel's restoration in unbelief
    - ** Ch. 38-39 Russia's invasion & defeat in the Land of Israel
    - ** Ch. 40-48 Millennium
- --PURPOSES--Expansion & domination
  - --Year around ports
  - --Raw materials

B.-Things We'll Look At Now: = Preview

1-Russia's ATTITUDES
2-Russia's ATTRACTIONS to Palestine
3-~~Russia's ATTACK on Palestine~~
4-Notice---we'll use 3 terms interchangeably
--Israel, Palestine, & Canaan
5-PROP:--Knowledge of the future
--Confidence in God's hand on affairs of men
--Vindication of literal interpretation

I.-RUSSIA'S ATTITUDES:

A.-"Think An Evil Thought":

1-Ezek. 38:10
2-Just what thought that will then be, we do not know
3-But there are **ATTITUDES NOW** which indicate the direction such evil thoughts will take
4-Let's look at two of them--(1) Abolish Religion
(2) Exterminate Israel:

B. Abolish Religion:

1-Anti-God attitude of Russia

2-Atheistic manifesto issued in New York which originated in Russia: "We hate religion and God. If God Himself were to appear before us, we should refuse to worship Him. But we should consider Him equal with us."

3-Communism considers all religion "an opiate of the people", maintaining that no nation can have an ideal government until this opiate has been entirely eliminated.

4-Communist Russia is constituted as history's most ANTI-GOD nation. In January 1918, Russia took its first official step against God. A decree (Article 12) was issued: "No church or religious system shall enjoy the rights of judicial persons." — No standing before the law in USSR

5-Since then----ATHEISM !!
- --Taught in Russia's schools
- --Doctor of Atheism degree offered today in the University of Leningrad
- --Is it still the same today?

6-The U.S.S.R "Soviet Life Today", published by the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C., for May, 1963 answers in response to the question "IS THERE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN RUSSIA?", and replies: "YES"

The truth is, on July 25, 1962, the Criminal Code was amended by the Supreme Soviet, as reported in the "SATESKAY USTYZYA", No. 22, November, 1962 (The official journal of the Ministry of Justice & the Supreme Court of the Russian Federated Socialist Republic), making it a crime to invite a child to a religious function. The journal reports this includes "parents as well as other members of the family or other persons who invite any under age minor child to attend a religious function."

The penalty is FIVE YEARS in prison or in exile

The Amended Code also forbids, according to the journal, the recruiting of "new members for religious groups, prolonged permitting the offering of private dwelling, a house, or an apartment to be used for religious meetings, gatherings, or religious functions; for taking part in an offering or a collection of a religious meeting, the punishment is THREE YEARS imprisonment or 3 years in exile."

7-We need not, then, be surprised at the remark of Comrade SOLZ, a high Soviet official, who stated: "Faith in God, whether it be Jewish or Christian, only weakens the will of men for the fight. All gods are the same as poison. War without quarter should be declared upon all."

8-In this light we can understand the concern of Dr. Nahum Goldmann, President of the World Jewish Congress, as he discussed problems facing world Jewry in a press conference in Paris. He said: "The most important problem involved the Soviet Union, where Jews are unable to lead Jewish lives" and where "they are being discriminated against."

He further charged that there is in the USSR only one Jewish Seminary in which only 4 students are being trained as Rabbis.

Moreover, "The Jewish community in Russia, has no newspapers of its own, no theater, no literature, and is prevented from participating in international Jewish organizations."

9-And I could go on & on, but this should show Russia's determined effort to ABOLISH RELIGION

C.-Exterminate Israel:

1-This has been tried repeatedly--Pharoah
--Balaam
--Haman
--Hitler, etc

2-Never successful, because of Divine intervention

3-Gen. 12:3--"And I will bless them that bless thee, & curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

4-HATRED of the Jew blinds men to reason & to history

5-Russia will seek to exterminate God's people because they are ANTI-GOD !

D.-God Is "AGAINST" Russia:

1-This brings a "key" to Chapter 38 into focus

2-Term "AGAINST" is used 12 times

--38:2 (twice)
--38:3
--38:8
--38:16 (twice
--38:17
--38:18
--38:21 (twice)
--38:22
--39:1 (twice)

3-Russia is AGAINST both the gospel & Israel

4-Because of this, God is AGAINST Russia

5-Ps. 34:16--"The face of the LORD is AGAINST them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth."

6-The outcome of that battle ought to be clear.

II.-RUSSIA'S ATTRACTIONS TO PALESTINE:

A.-Past of Israel's:

1-People have returned in unbelief to the Land from their dispersion--38:8
--38:12

2-Formerly looked at as a "WASTE" area (38:8)

3-Then why enticing to Russia?

4-THREE ANSWERS--Israel's POSSESSIONS (1)
--Israel's POSITION (2)
--Israel's PEACEFULNESS (3)
--Let's look at these three

B.-Israel's Possessions:

1-Covered with cattle & goods (38:12)

2-GREAT RICHES in Israel

--In 1917 General Allenby marched into the city of Jerusalem & the Turks took to their heels, running until they reached home. Since then investigations have been made & wonderful reports are available of the potential of Israel

--A certain Dr. Clark made a statement that all Palestine needed was water and cultivation to make it one of the most fertile areas on the face of the earth

--Mr. Malty Brun asserts: "The land is so rich that near Bethlehem ripe peaches have been plucked from a tree which was grown from a seed planted only the previous year, and as many as 5 crops are harvested from the ground in a single year

--Mineral salt in the Dead Sea is almost beyond comprehension as chemists believe it contains 1200 to 1300 BILLION dollars worth of salt. In addition there is bromine used for medical purposes, potash, magnesium c chloride, and even gold there

FOOD →

--It is reliably estimated that the potential mineral wealth of the Dead Sea alone is greater than the combined wealth of all the nations of the world

--This area once given to Abraham is now found to contain the materials needed for world war & world domination---from oil for military machines to fertilizer for raising the crops to support armies and civilians.

--Moreover, there is also found here:

** Cheap hydro-electric power being developed
** Port develpments are phenomenal
** Oil pipelines from Indian Ocean
** Irrigation pipelines
** So, the POSSESSIONS of Israel are an enticement.

Now let's look at...

C.-Israel's Position: (= Location)

1-Already discussed in our last message
--5:5; 38:12
--"Navel of the earth"
2-Geopolitics shows that it is the gateway to 3 continents
3-Canaan has been one of the world's historic "PRIZES OF WAR"
4-Railroad & water travel center
5-Oil transport center
6-The land in which God has chosen to set His government (Ps. 2:6-9)
7-So, Israel's POSITION is strategic to Russia's plans of world domination
8-Now, let's look at...

D.-Israel's Peacefulness:

1-Aggressors commonly look for "free-pickin's" = sitting ducks
--38:11-12
--"Easy mark" due to no military defense
--Time of temporary peace of Roman Ruler's covenant with Israel
--Rev. 6:1-2 (READ)
2-Russia is after world domination
3-Comes "to take a spoil, and to take a prey"
4-Rev. 6:3-4 (READ)
5-So, Israel's PEACEFULNESS is an attraction to Russia's aggression, along with its POSSESSIONS and its POSITION

III.-RUSSIA'S ATTACK ON PALESTINE:

A.-Clarification:

1-We will understand Bible prophecy better if we remember one thing. The men of Bible times were given a view of events and circumstances of an age of which they had no understanding. If you were to transport a native from the steppes of Tibet to the corner of Broadway & 15th streets in Oakland, you would have considerable trouble in explaining things to him in his own language.

4-ILLUS--The CROSS of Calvary
--Evil of men's hearts sought to destroy Christ
--Yet God triumphed !
--Ps. 76:10--"Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain

CONCLUSION:

A.-What We've Seen:

1-Russia's ATTITUDES
2-Russia's ATTRACTIONS to Israel
3-Russia's ATTACK on Israel

B.-What We Ought To Learn:

1-Not just here in Scripture to satisfy our curiosity
2-But here so we'll **KNOW** the future and **REDEEM** the time in present
3-Also--**Confidence** in God's superintending hand upon the course of human history
--**Vindication** of literal interpretation, for only this view will adequately explain such prophetic Scriptures

C.-How We Ought To React:

1-We must marvel at **God's patience** when we look at the world today
2-**PAST ILLUS**--God was patient with men in Noah's time. He gave them 120 years to repent under true preaching of the Word. When they did **not repent**, He sent judgment upon them, though not until Noah & his family were safely in the ark
--God's patience was **finally exhausted** then
--So it will be with people of **today** also
--The time will come when Ezekiel's prophesies will be fulfilled.
3-**Recent ILLUS.**
--Told at camp by Dr. Bain out of the life of Robert Ingersoll, the blatant infidel
--While he was going about addressing audiences, he said on one occasion: "HERE IS MY WATCH. **IF THERE IS A GOD, I DEFY HIM TO STRIKE ME DEAD IN FIVE MINUTES.**"
--One minute passed & a great quiet settled over the audience. A second minute passed.
--After the third, women fainted & had to be carried from the room. The fourth went by, and yet nothing happened. Then the fifth passed, with Ingersall **STILL ALIVE.**
--Addressing the group, he added: "You see. **THERE IS NO GOD.** If there were, He would have struck me dead. He would have accepted my challenge."
4-Joseph Parker, a great preacher in England, was living at that time; & when told about this instance, he asked, "DOES THIS GENTLEMAN THINK THAT **GOD'S PATIENCE** CAN BE **EXHAUSTED** IN **FIVE MINUTES** ?"
5-Be well aware---the time is coming when God's patience **will be exhausted**
--Then the wrath of God will be poured out.
6-**FLEE** from that wrath while yet there is time !

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INTRO:

A.-Identifications Of Participants:

1-Russia--Is the "Prince of Rosh"
--GOG is her leader
--The "moving agent" in this aggression

2-Russia's allies
--IRAN (Persia)
--CUSH (Ethiopia in the area of Tigrus valley)
--PHUT (Libya, also in the East) Afghanistan
--GERMANY & Eastern Europe (Gomer)
--ARMENIA (Togarmah)
--And many more

3-Russia's Purposes
- Expansion of territory
- Domination of the world
- Year around ports
- Raw materials

B.-Amplifications Of The Picture

1-Russia's Attitudes--Anti-God desire to abolish religion
--Intention to exterminate Israel

2-Russia's Attractions to Israel
--POSSESSIONS of the land
--POSITION of the land
--PEACEFULNESS of the land

C.-Additions In This Message:

1-Russia's ATTACK on Israel
2-Russia's ANTAGONISTS to the attack
3-PROP: --To see that GOD IS IN CONTROL of the affairs of men
--To vindicate our TRUST IN THE WORD
--To COMFORT our hearts in the midst of all kinds of pressures

I.-RUSSIA'S ATTACK ON ISRAEL:

Moshe Dayan at end of 6 Day War - "The next war will not be with the Arabs, but with the Russians" (The Late Great Planet Earth, P.

A.-Clarification:

1-We will understand prophecy better if we remember one thing. The men of Bible times were given a view of events and circumstances of an age of which they had no understanding

If you were to transport a native from the steppes of Tibet to the corner of Broadway & 15th streets in Oakland....
....you would have considerable trouble explaining things to him.....
....in HIS OWN LANGUAGE!

2-How would you describe
- Skyscrapers,
- Automobiles
- Fire engines
- Parades
- Supermarkets
- Fire sales
- Neon signs, & the other commonplace items of our civilization ??

3-The words simply do not exist in his language

4-He might give a description in his language & with his vocabulary that would satisfy temporarily, BUT full understanding could only come when the expanding vocabulary caught up with the march of world events.

5-SIMILARLY Ezekiel, Joel, etc.

6-They saw the inventions we know today, & were kept from error in recording what they saw by the power of the Holy Spirit.

7-They never used a word that He had not chosen to bear the expanding meaning to describe what we now know.

8-MARVELLOUS SUPERINTENDANCE of the text of Scripture

B.-Armaments Described; = Description Of Armaments

1-38:4
- "all thine army"
- All-out warfare is envisioned

2-"Horses & horsemen"
- Russia is breeding & developing certain strains of horses for speed and endurance
- These SERBIAN PONIES are able to
  - ** Exist on scanty food & forage for it
  - ** Resist sub-zero winters & great summer heat
- Russia owns 70% of the world's horses
- Military horses can go where military equipment like TANKS cannot, as we have learned in Korea & Viet Nam
- This is the kind of horses Russia is breeding; not work horses
- Cossacks ** Once the terror of Russia's enemies
  - ** Recently revived as a fighting unit
  - ** And armed with SWORDS, as in 38:4

3-"Clothed with all sorts of armour"
- Includes personal weapons
- Includes artillary, attack & support ordinance
- NOTICE that the A.V. uses italics "of armour, even"
- WHY ??
- Because Ezekiel saw modern equipment of war and had only an ancient vocabulary with which to describe what he saw

4-"A great company"
- Repetition after "all thine army"
- Stupendous size of Russia's military might
- Largest standing army in the world today

5-Other tools of war
- "Bucklers & shields"; personal defense weapons
- "Swords"; personal offense weapons

C.-Strategic Attack Plans: =Strategization

1-Use of horses & horsemen (38:4) speaks of SPEEDY MOBILITY

2-38:9--"Come like a storm"
--"be like a cloud"
--These may indicate an AIRBORNE INVASION

3-Reiterated in 38:16

4-WHEN ??--Seen earlier
--Time of peace & security in Israel
--Conclusion of first ½ of the 7 year Tribulation

5-POEM — "Kruschev is a man of peace,
this we all recall
A piece of this, a piece of that,
Until he has it all."

D.-Divine Superintendance:

1-Russia "thinks an evil thought"
--38:10
--Origin of this plan of attack seems to be with Russia
--Certainly without any seeking of God's will in the matter

2-Facts of the matter
--38:4a
--Russia is addressed as a WILD BEAST
--"Hooks into thy jaws"
--God will have the Russian Bear dancing to His tune
--Unknowingly doing God's bidding
--Confidently both Generals & soldiers will advance to attack Israel
--PROVIDENCE of God can work thru some HELLISH agents

3-ILLUS--We can learn a valuable lesson from Nebuchadnezzar, the great dictator, in this regard. Swaggering around on the walls of old Babylon, & looking over his magnificent city surrounded by walls of solid masonry, he said:.....
--Dan. 4:30 (READ)
--While these words were yet in the mouth of the king, there came a voice from heaven saying:
--Dan. 4:31-32 (READ)
--For 7 years Nebuchadnezzar, the great Monarch of monarchs, trotted obediently in the fields, ate grass like the oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, until his hair was grown long like eagle's feathers, & his nails were like birds' claws.
--After 7 years of such treatment, Nebuchadnezzar repented and said:
--Dan. 4:34-37 (READ)
--So it is that God has often commandeered unregenerate rulers to do His bidding !!!
--Jer. 25:9--"Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring him against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof..."
--So Nebuchadnezzar became GOD'S ROD TO PUNISH an apostate land & its people, and when that rod had served its purpose, God saw it judged as well.
--BE WELL AWARE of this. When a world is surrendered by God into the hands of the basest of men, it is surrendered only because it is ripe for judgment
--So the Russian Bear will come forth from its den at God's bidding to be judged and destroyed.

4-ILLUS--The CROSS of Calvary
--Evil of men's hearts sought to destroy Christ
--Yet.....God triumphed
--Ps. 76:10--"Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain."

II.-RUSSIA'S ANTAGONISTS IN ISRAEL:

A.-Reminder Of The Timing:

1-Israel in the land----already has happened
2-Church is gone---------Rapture is NEXT prophetically
3-Anti-Christ will unite the Western nations of the United Nations —
4-Ecumenical octopus--Religious amalgamation
--Unbelieving protestantism
--Organizational Romanism
5-Israel & the world are "AT PEACE" under the PEACE COVENANT of the Anti-Christ
6-THEN Russia invades Israel
7-Ezek. 38:11-12

B.-Human Antagonists:

1-Russia's attack will not go unopposed
--Voices of protest raised
--Ezek. 38:13a
--Motives of Russia are questioned
--Ezek. 38:13b
2-"SHEBA & DEDAN"--Arabian peninsula nations ? Saudi Arabia ?
--NOT ALL ARABS are Russia's allies
--These oppose Russia's invasion
--These ** Are allied with Europe thru OIL agreements
** Have a history of cooperation with the West as protectorates of Britain
3-"And the merchants of Tarshsish"
**Tarshish mentioned about 20 times in Scripture
--Tarshish was spoken of as the most western nation in the knowledge of the Jews, & of course the western hemisphere was unknown to Ezekiel's generation
--Tarshish would, therefore, seem likely to be the BRITISH ISLES
--Told it is a "MERCHANT NATION" 38:13
--Isa. 23:6 may refer to Tarshish as an "ISLE"
--Tarshish is repeatedly linked with ships for trade
--Tarshish spoken of as "the isles which are beyond the sea" Jer. 25:22
4-"With all the young lions thereof"
--Tarshish(British Isles) has "CUBS" called young lions
--LION is the familiar symbol of Britain; The British Lion
--This Lion has cubs according to Ezekiel

--Britain's imperialistic world-colonizing produced a litter of mighty cubs
** Canada
** USA
** India
** New Zealand
** Austrailia
** Egypt
** African colonies, etc
--Not many are any longer "British" spheres of influence in the last 1/3 of the 20th century
--But these **began as "CUBS"** of the English Empire

5-After serious study as to possible understandings of these terms for the Human Antagonists who raise their voices & force of arms, I conclude that they are the **"WESTERN EMPIRES"** including Britain and probably her "healthiest cub", **the USA**

6-These countries--Britain, USA, Canada, Australia, and other **ENGLISH SPEAKING** nations
--Long have been **defenders** of Israel
--Have for generations been **kind to the Jews**
--Have long enjoyed the **blessings** of God as a result

7-Gen. 12:3--"And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

C.-Russia's Antagonism In Invading Israel:

1-Predicted by God--Ezek. 38:14
--Message given to the Prophet Ezekiel
--Day of (outward) safety for Israel
--Observed--& then violated--by Russia
--"Shalt **thou** not know it?"

2-Russian Invasion
--38:15
--Comes down **from the NORTH**
--"Many people"==a large army
--"Horses"--repeated for emphasis
--"A mighty army" indicates this is a **MILITARY MANEUVER**

3-**"AGAINST"**--**My** people"
--**My** land"
--38:16
--God is **concerned** for **His own**
--TIME ??--"In the later days"
==End of Israel's days
--Testimony; "I will be sanctified in thee, O Gog before their eyes"

4-Many prophesies of this--38:17
--Previously in Isaiah, Joel, etc
--Culminating in Ezekiel

D.-Divine Antagonist:

1-When Russia invades--Ezek. 38:18a
2-**Then** God reacts--**38:18b**
--"My fury"
--"My jealousy"
--"My wrath"

BOORUM & PEASE "NOREAR" ®
BOORUM & PEASE

3-This raises the **BIG QUESTION:**
- "Will Russia Conquer Israel?"
- INVADE Israel--- YES!
- CONQUER Israel--- NO!

4-Why not conquering?
- **Human** antagonists in Western confederacy will rise against Russia
- **Divine** antagonist will arise against Russia's "EVIL THOUGHT"
- Even Russia is **no match** for this combination

5-Results Of Invasion
- Natural Destruction — 38:19, 20, 22; 39:6
- Military Catastrophe — 38:21; 39:3-5, 8-16

CONCLUSION:

A.-Recapitulation:

1-Russia's Attack on Israel
2-Russia's Antagonists to her Attack
3-Next message:
"Russia's DEFEAT In Israel"

B.-Reminder To Believers:

1-ILLUS--Louis T. Talbot, Chancellor of BIOLA, tells that some time ago he was in the Hawaiian Islands, and a friend took him to the summit of an extinct volcano.

"As we made our way to the top, we **passed through a storm.** The lightning flashed; the thunder roared; and the rain poured down. But we passed through the scene until we reached the summit of the volcano. There we found that we were **above the fury** of the storm. We were in the sun It was a very impressive sight. As I looked out over the land, I could **see** the clouds **below.**

"I thought of that time when the heaven and earth shall be shaken and men's hearts will fail them because of fear. The nations will be full of perplexity and distress The wind and waves will roar.

"**But in that day** we shall be **above the storm,** because we are members of the Bride of Christ. He will come to take us home to heaven before this last, tragic world-drama begins to be enacted."

2-**INDEED**, we'll **not go through** that time of trial, but we'll be delivered out of it.

3-Rev. 3:10--"Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from (lit. "out of") the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth."

4-What a comforting realization that we'll be **KEPT OUT** of that time of warfare-hollocaust on the earth.

5-Therefore we can sing with Wendell P. Loveless in his little chorus

(over)

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

"What though wars may come,
With marching feet and beat of the drum,
For I have Christ in my heart

What though nations rage,
As we approach the end of the age,
For I have Christ in my heart

God is still on the throne,
Almighty God is He;
And He cares for His own
Through all eternity,

So let come what may,
Whatever it is,
I only say That
I have Christ in my heart
I have Christ in my heart (#68 of BMA "Making Melody"

BUT what of you.....an "earth-dweller" with no hope of being raptured out?

Won't you trust Jesus NOW, Won't you take "Christ into your heart?"

Westbrae--9/8/68--Great Is Thy Faithfulness----403
--What Though Wars May Come

Orchard Ave, Vacaville - 7/20/81

"RUSSIA'S DEFEAT IN ISRAEL" Ezek. 38:18--39:22
Russia's Defeat Is Sure! Dan. 11:36-45

INTRO: A.-Attitude Toward War:

1-ILLUS--William Howard Taft, of honored memory, with great optimism, once wrote: "The battlefield as a place of settlement of disputes is GRADUALLY YIELDING to arbitral courts of justice. The interests of great masses are not being sacrificed as in former times, to the selfishness, ambitions, and aggrandizement of sovereigns," etc.

BUT Mr. Taft wrote that in 1911. Many there were, and many there are who advocate peace on the basis that they expect the battlefields to be "gradually yielding"

2-However, the facts of history show 4 major world conflicts since then--World War I
--World War II
--Korean Conflict
--Vietnam conflict
--AND that there may be more ahead

3-ILLUS--At the Japanese surrender General Douglas MacArthur said: "Military alliance, balances of power, League of Nations all in turn failed...We have had our last chance. If we do not now devise some greater and more equitable system, ARMAGEDDON WILL BE AT OUR DOOR."

"The problem basically is theological and involves spiritual recrudescense and improvement of human character that will synchronize with our almost matchless advance in science, art, literature, and all material and cultural developments of the past 2000 years. IT MUST BE OF THE SPIRIT if we are to SAVE THE FLESH."

4-YET--This will not happen
--War will come again!
--Not fatalism to so predict
--But because of the necessity of this spiritual change----and the rejection of this change by the majority

B.-The Coming Conflict: (war)

1-Next as far as prophecy is concerned, but not necessarily next in human history

2-The RAPTURE is next, preceding this conflict

3-Russia & her allies invade Israel (Ez.38:2-6)

4-Protestors to her invasion (38:13)

5-Only recently I came upon still other statements which were so astonishing I could hardly believe them. They were published in June, 1888, in an article on GOG & MAGOG in "The Prophetic News And Israel's Watch." This article was the work of the British writer, Walter Scott, who 90 years ago when Russia was still slumbering wrote:

"Russia is evidently destined to become the Master of Asia. Her frontier line across Asia will be 5,000 miles in length...It is well known that the Russian policy is one of steady aggression not only in Europe, but in Asia, and probably the most ambitious & grasping of modern kingdoms, the most faithless in public honor and treaty engagement, the character ascribed to her in the prophetic

Scriptures. Coupled with her frequent outbreaks of undisguised and disastrous hostility to the things of God and in the yet more awful future exhibits, Russia is in a most unfavorable light.

"Russia has for ages meditated on the conquest of Asia and India and China. Great Britain, with the United States, stands face to face with this Russian power and these two sides will come into one final awful struggle. We judge that the tide of Russian conquest will flow on to the frontiers of China. The ascendancy of Russia in the east, the revival of the old Roman Empire in the west, necessitates the meeting of these two dominating opposing powers, and the great Jewish question must be settled at JERUSALEM, the city of the Great King.

(Remember that the only thing Jerusalem was good for in 1888 was for tourists who were interested in Archaeology)

leading to the millennial triumph of Israel and her headship over the nations of the world. We believe, from the place assigned to Russia in the Word of God, that her legions will sweep over the plains & mountains of Asia & become the dominant power over all the East until she falls forever on the mountains of Judea. Thus will she command for a time the powers north of Palestine and east of the Euphrates."

6-What an ASTONISHING statement

C.-Place & Time Of The Battle:

1-In Israel--"thou shalt come into the land"--38:8
--"mountains of Israel"--38:8
--"cover the land"--38:9
--"Israel dwelleth safely"--38:14
--"against my people Israel"--38:16
--"against my land"--38:16
--"Gog shall come against the land Of Israel"--38:18
--"upon the mountains of Israel"--39:2,4,etc.

2-Time--Mid-Tribulation
--Peace & security will characterize the land
--Under protection of the Beast's covenant
--Dan. 9:26-27
--Temple worship re-established

I.-THE INVASION (Dan. 11:36-42):

A.-Clarifications:

1-Dan. 11:1-35 deals with ancient history up to Antiochus Epiphanes
2-Dan. 11:35 anticipates an "over-leap of the centuries", to use Scofield's words, to "THE TIME OF THE END"
3-Insert the Age of Grace between 11:35 and 11:36
4-This is the "Great Parenthesis" as described by H. A. Ironside

B.-Identifications:

1-"The King"--11:36
--Also "He" & "him" throughout the rest of Ch.11

2-In every case this will refer to the joint headship of the two Beasts of Rev. 13
--Beast out of the sea (the nations) is Roman Ruler
--Beast out of the land (Israel) is the Religious Ruler or the AntiChrist

3-Here in Dan. 11:36-46 we sometimes have **1 Beast** in view & sometimes the **other Beast** & sometimes BOTH are in view together

4-**POINT** to remember---No one else is designated by "The king" "he", or "him" in Dan. 11:36 *

C.-Explanations:

1-11:36--Absolute dictatorship in the West
--Magnifies himself
--Speaks **against** the **God** of gods
--From the middle of the Tribulation on, after renouncing religious Babylon, he'll set up **his image** in the temple in Jerusalem
--Prospers "**TIL** the indignation be accomplished" (Trib
--"That that is determined shall be done
** Course of action is determined in the mind of the **King**
** That course of history is SUPERINTENDED by **God**

2-11:37--**Apostate** from Christianity, not Judaism
--No regard for "**Desire** of Women
** This is a reference to **CHRIST**
** Hag. 2:7--"And I will shake all nations, & the Desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory; saith the LORD of hosts."
--Disregards all gods
--**EXCEPT** that he magnifies **HIMSELF** as god

3-11:38--**Dual acknowledgement** for his own purposes
** "God of forces"=="God of fortresses" or WARFARE
** "AND a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honor"
** This is his using of the Ecumenical Union of Protestants & Romanism for his purposes for first few years (Rev. 17)

4-11:39--Mighty & invincible forces
--Acknowledging of Ecumenical union
--"Cause them to rule"--Western confederacy under his leadership
--His dominion "over many" is widespread
--Influence also extends to "**THE LAND**" (Israel) thru his league with the False Prophet, the AntiChrist

5-11:40--**Time** set as "at the time of the end"
--"King of the South"==EGYPT
--"Shall push at"==Hiph. stem; "shall **make war**", "**attack**"
--This is an attack on the POWER OF THE WEST in Israel

--"And the King of the North (Russia & her allies) shall come against him" (Roman ruler)
--This appears to be a CONCERTED, **COORDINATED ATTACK** by Egypt & Russia
--**SOUNDS CURRENT**, doesn't it??
--"Like a whirlwind with chariots, with horsemen, & with many ships"
** This is the attack we've been looking at for several messages on Ezek. 38
** **Appearance** is of certain, sure & swift victory for Russia
--**BUT** this invasion will be **met by two** additional forces
** The **King** of the West
** Detail in Dan. 11:40d-45
** **Divine** Intervention also

6-**So**-------This invasion by Russia & Egypt leads to....

II.-THE DEFEAT (Ezek. 38:18--39:5):

A.-Divine Intervention:

1-**Fury** of God arises--Divine righteous indignation
--Ezek. 38:18-19b

2-Great shaking--Ezek. 38:19c
--Hag. 2:6-7-"For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, & the earth, & the sea, & the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the Desire of all nations shall come.."
--Joel 3:15-16
--Rev. 6:5-8
--Greatest manifestation of **PHYSICAL POWER** since Genesis 1 and the Flood
** Fishes shake (38:20)
** Fowls shake
** Beasts shake
** All men shake
** Mountains shake
** Steep places shake
** Every wall shall shake

3-M. R. De Haan: "The description of this great earthquake, the sun and the moon dark, the mountains leveled & islands disappearing, with fire and brimstone falling from heaven, strongly suggests **atomic explosions**. I personally believe the terrific disturbances of nature described in these chapters...will be the result of atomic explosions, probably set off by man himself. They fit the description so perfectly in the light of what we know today about atomic power. **THANK GOD**, **we will not be here** at that time, but we shall be with Him. The Word is very definite and clear on this."
(Signs of the Times, P. 84)

4-**Pleading** of God by heavenly signs
--Pestilence
--Blood
--Rain (miring down tanks)
--Hailstones
--Fire
--Brimstone

--Reminds of Sodom and Gomorrah
--Ps. 11:6--"Upon the wicked he shall rain snares fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup."

5-Heavy Toll--1,000 million, or 1/4 of world population KILLED = 1 Billion
--W.W. I----10 million lives lost
--W. W. II---15 million lives lost
--This global war will be 70 times worse than World War 2
--SOVIET THEORETICIAN Major Nickolain Talenski predicted in October, 1960, "That a nuclear war between East and West would kill up to 600 million persons in Russia, the USA, and Europe."
--This calculation is not far under what the Bible has indicated for 25 centuries

6-RESPONSE of men's hearts
--Rev. 6:12-17
--FEAR, but without REPENTANCE

7-God calls for a SWORD
--Ezek. 38:21a
--Human instrument in God's hands
--God confounds the Russians
--Ez. 39:3
--Absolute chaos reigns

B. Human Instrumentalities (Ezek. 38:21):

1-Nations under the "Wilful King" of the West
--Roman Confederacy
--Tarshish & her cubs
--Daniel 11:36-46

2-These are as a sword in God's hand--Ez. 38:21

3-Confusion in the ranks results
--Ezek. 38:21b
--ILLUS--Gideon's band against the Midianites
--Russians killed one another
--Only 1/6 survive--Ezek. 39:2 — 5/6 of army
--How many lost by Russia?
--Russia has boasted that she plans to have 20 million men under arms — 5/6 lost would be 16.5 million slain
--How can she afford it?
--Soldiers now occupying Caekoslovakia earn $ 3.00 per month & serve "for the glory of the state"

C. Localities Of Defeat:

1-"Upon the mountains of Israel"--39:2, 4
2-"Upon the open field"--39:5 (Probably ESDRALON)

III. AFTERMATH OF DEFEAT (Ezek. 39:6-29):

A. Aftermath To Russia:

What a slaughter!

1-Army has only 1/6th of force surviving--39:2
2-Survivors turn tail & run
3-Homeland & allies hit too--39:6

--Judgment of God upon Russian Confed.
--Dead to be buried there too

4-LENNIN said: "It does not matter one whit whether three-quarters of the people in the world perish. What matters is that the quarter which remains are COMMUNISTS."

5-That explains some of the Communist tactics today, but Ezek. 38 & 39 show GOD'S VERDICT on their end

B.-Aftermath To The Land Of Israel:

1-Burn the weapons--39:9-10
--Weapons of wood
--Some have seen here a return to only primative weapons of wood from former centuries
--Perhaps a description of modern warfare in ancient terms
--Lewis Robinson suggested in Bible class on Ezekiel that the tonnage of wood used in Ordinance in W. W. II outweighed the metal
--Takes 7 years to use up the wood.
--Reversal of "normal trend". Scrap of weapons made into tools of peace & agriculture instead of scrap iron made into munitions of war
--Isa. 2:4--"...and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

2-Beasts of prey called to feast
--Ezek. 39:4, 17-20
--WHY beasts of prey & fowls of air?
--Bodies cannot be buried fast enough to prevent the STENCH !
--Prevention of pestilence; God sends in the vultures to dispose of the flesh.

3-Corpses--39:11-16
--Placed in "Valley of Passengers"
--A multitude to be buried
--"Stops the nose"
--7 months spent in burying & cleansing the land
--Not in mass graves, but individually, so as not to defile the land
--Initially everyone will help in "clean-up"--39:13
--Eventually certain ones will be given the job--39:14

4-MILITARY OCCUPATION--By the Beast & his forces (Dan. 11)
--Covenant broken (Dan. 9:27)
--Preparation for last Campaign of ARMAGEDDON
--"Mopping up" done by Beast in subdueing the surrounding nations

5-This is not Armageddon; that comes 3½ years later

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C.-Aftermath To God:
1-Sanctified in the eyes of Gentiles--38:23; 39:21
2-Sanctified in the eyes of Israel
--39:7-8; Polution & waywardness ended
--39:22; Takes this to open their eyes
--Big change in Israel's attitude begins
--Realizes Divine intervention as their cause of deliverance
--Repentance of Israel begins & goes on thru the last 3½ years of the Great Tribulation
3-Precursor illustration in War of June 5, 1967, when Israel acknowledged Divine help, but they've not turned from commercialism & zionism to Christ....YET
4-Three Essential Words in 39:21
--"my glory"--the end desired
--"my judgment"--the result of sin
--"my hand"--the instrument of correction

D.-Aftermath To [redacted] Nation: (39:25-29)
1-"Foreview" looks ahead to the Millennium — Chs. 40-48
2-
--Slips over 3½ years of Tribulation
--Vision of restored & converted Israel
--39:25-29
--Capsulized view of ultimate blessings
--Detailed in Ezekiel 40-48
2-Message is to "the whole house of Israel"--39:25
3-Note the TIME words--"After"--39:26
--"When"---39:27
--"Then"---39:28
4-Righteousness of God will be satisfied as they look to God for forgiveness--39:26
5-Restoration & regathering--39:27
6-Response--39:28
7-Two-fold Promise--39:29
--No more Divine displeasure & dispersion
--Reviving by the Spirit will be permanent

CONCLUSION:

A.-Preparation For This Defeat:
1-Be aware of what the wickedness of men's heart really is --Jer. 17:9
--Reminds of Dacchau & Buchenwald
--GOD WILL JUDGE this
--When man violates the moral law, GOD WILL ENFORCE IT.
--The only hope is for individuals to turn to God
2-All of this makes it expedient to watch closely the SIGNS OF THE TIMES--Rise of Russia
--Unification of Europe
--Ecumenical octopus developing
3-Question--Are you ready for the RAPTURE ??

B. Message Out Of This Defeat:

1-You remember the man **ELIJAH.** One day he & Elisha, a young believer, went for a little walk. Suddenly the Lord appeared in the sky in a Chariot & Elijah was **taken away.** You will recall that 50 "doubting Thomases" went out to find Elijah.....

...But He could **not be found**

2-**After** the Rapture many will be seeking their loved ones, but it will be in vain. They'll not be found either

3-Why not believe today....and be saved & sure

4-Elijah didn't know **in advance** when that would happen, but **it did occur.**

5-We can't know **the day** when the Church will be raptured, **BUT** it will happen, & I want you to **BE READY**

6-ILLUS--A story I heard concerned an old man who had a blessed experience 25 years ago; so blessed that he wrote it down in all its detail, & called it

"MY BLESSED EXPERIENCE."

Whenever people would come to call, he'd bring it out & read it through to them. One night when a visitor came, he asked his wife to go upstairs & bring down "MY BLESSED EXPERIENCE" from the dresser drawer.

She went to get it, & when she returned, she said: "I am sorry, but **the mice** have made a nest in that drawer, and **have eaten up** your BLESSED EXPERIENCE

.....And it was a good thing too!!

Any one who had a "blessed experience" 25 years ago, & has not had any since, is **bad off.** He'd just as well forget the times of 25 years ago.

We need **an UP TO DATE EXPERIENCE** with Christ

7-Close by singing "What, Though Wars May Come"

Westbrae--9/15/68
Orchard Ave, Vacaville--
7/21/81

When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder, 5-11
What, Though Wars May Come

"THE NATIONS AND CHRIST'S COMING" Ezek. 38-39

INTRO:

A.-Two Most OUTSTANDING Prophetic Events Of Our Day:

1-ISRAEL Reborn:

--2500 years without land & rulers of their own
--Dispersed throughout all nations
--Others assimilated, but not Israel
--Zionism born thru Hertzl in 1897
--Small beginning of "Return" in early 1900's
--Balfour Declaration by England--1920
--British Mandate under Leage of Nations
--Hitler's holocaust that killed 6 million Jews
--NATIONHOOD ** Planned by the UN
** Rejected by the Arabs
** Proclaimed May 14, 1948
** War began within hours
** Three wars in 20 years to retain Israel as a NATION still
--Not yet spiritually alive, but BACK IN THE LAND

2-EUROPE RE-Uniting

--Once united as the ROMAN EMPIRE
--Dessimated by the northern barbarians
--Always held as the "standard of Empire"
** Charlemagne
** Napoleon
** Hitler
--Since World War II
** Economic unity--COMMON MARKET
** Broadcasting Union
** NATO
** Freedom of movement by its peoples
** Growing trust & INTERDEPENDENCE
--Movement toward Political Unity in a United States Of Europe
** Began with Common Market of 6 Nations (W. Germany, Italy, France, & BeNeLux)
** Delayed by De Gaulle
** Enlarged Jan. 1, 1973 by addition of Great Britain, Ireland & Denmark — NINE THEN
** NORWAY started into it, but a plebicite kept them out
** A number of nations do have an "ASSOCIATE MEMBER" status, & that list is growing
--Preparation for the REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE
** Anticipated in Scripture
** Headed by the Dictator of Rev. 13
** Comes to power thru his "PEACE PLAN" regarding the Middle East

B.-Other Nations:

1-Obviously the rest of the world is not "sitting on its hands"

2-Rival Powers--Russia --Egypt & Arabs
--China --Black Africa

3-Many are amazed to find that the Bible has much to say about these powers and their relation to the coming of our Lord, so let's look at these.

I.-RUSSIA IN GOD'S PLANS:

A.-Peace Overatures Today:

1-Peace by WAR
2-Peace by Conference
3-Peace by Disarmament proposals
4-Peace by appeasment
5-Peace by force
6-Peace by "Summit Meetings"
7-Peace by pressure
8-Peace by "Brinkmanship"
9-Peace by threat & blackmail
10-B U T------Peace without the PRINCE OF PEACE

B.-Philosophy Of Communism:

1-Got its real chance towards the end of W.W. I when its adherents siezed power in Russia
2-Consolidated its power--Internally thru blood purges
--Between the 2 Great Wars
--No great headway on international scene
3-World War 2 gave communism its 2nd chance
--Out of the Rubble of war
--Russia was on the victor's side
--Imposed its system on the war-weary countries of Eastern Europe, China & Northern Korea
--Now holds in subjugation over 1 Billion people
4-Communism is more than a regimented system of economics & politics
--It is first & foremost a philosophy of life
--OR; More accurately, A RELIGION; A SATANICALLY INSPIRED RELIGION
--Premises ** There is no God
** Man is only material in nature
** Man is the product of his environment, which in turn is governed by economic forces
--Communism is a SUBSTITUTE FAITH with all its counterfeit doctrines
5-"The Communist believes that if you are going to change the individual & if you are going to change mankind... you must first conquer the world." Dr. Fred C. Schwarz
6-"Having conquered the world, the Communist believes you must destroy the capitalist environment, which is built on profit, selfishness, & greed, and replace it by socialism, which is built on service, cooperation and unselfishness." Dr. Fred C. Schwarz.
7-"WE COMMUNISTS do not play with words: we are realists. Of our wages & salaries we use only that which is necessary for survival while all the rest is given for our propaganda. We dedicate all of our free time & most of our holidays, while you Christians give very little time and practically none of your

money. How could anyone possibly believe in the power of the gospel when you sacrifice neither time nor money for it. You see my friends, this is why we will finally beat you; for we Communists are willing to sacrifice even our lives to bring about our society...and you---you christians aren't even willing to dirty your hands. Mark my words, we will finally beat you even though the Gospel is a more powerful weapon than our Marxist philosophy" (Quoted from CBMC Life, Vol. 7, Issue 10, Mar. 14, 1961, Santa Ana)

C.-Prophecies About Russia: (Joel 2:20; Dan. 11:40-45; Ez.38 & 39

1-Dr. John Cumming, writing in 1864 said: "This king of the North I conceive to be the autocrat of Russia...that Russia occupies a place, and a very momentous place, in the prophetic word has been admitted by almost all expositors." (John Cumming, M. D., THE DESTINY OF NATIONS,)

2-IDENTIFICATION--Ezek. 38:2-3
- ** Family tree traceable from Genesis 10
- ** Gog is the Prince or Leader of the Nation
- ** Magog is his land
- ** Clarified by "Chief Prince" (KJV) which ASV translates correctly "Prince of Rosh"
- ** Meshech==Moscow
- ** Tubal ==Tobalsk; The earliest province in Asiatic Russia

--Gesenius concludes that this is undoubtedly a reference to modern Russia

3-GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION
- --Ezek. 38:6, 15; 39:2
- --Hebrew adjective that modifies "NORTH" means "uttermost parts of" or "extreme"
- --Look at any map or globe to see what nation is in the extreme North of Israel-----RUSSIA !!
- --Confirmed in Joel 2:20 also--"But I will remove far from you the NORTHERN ARMY, and will drive him into a land barren and desolate..."

4-TIME OF THE PROPHECY
- --Ezek. 38:8, 16
- --"Latter" as it relates to Israel & before Messiah returns to establish His Kingdom
- --Argument of context
  - ** Ezek. 36--Restoration of the Land to the Jews
  - ** Ezek. 37--Restoration of the Nation (though without spiritual life)
  - ** Ezek. 38--Invasion by Russia into Palestine
  - ** Ezek. 39--Destruction of Russia
  - ** Ezek. 40-48--Millennial kingdom with Christ present & ruling as King
- --In 1854 a scholar named Chamberlain summed up the crux of what has just been said. In commenting on Ezekiel 38, he observed, "From all which I would infer, the coming restoration of Israel will at first be gradual and pacific; a restoration permitted, if not assisted

and encouraged or protected. They will return to occupy the whole land, both cities and villages; they will be settled there, become prosperous and increasing in wealth, before this great confederacy of norther people will be formed against them." (Walter Chamberlain, THE NATIONAL RESOURCES & CONVERSION OF ISRAEL)

5-ALLIES OF RUSSIA
- --Ezek. 38:5-6
- --"Persia"=="IRAN" since its renaming in 1935
- --"Ethiopia"==CUSH in Hebrew
  - ** Probably east of Babylon & North of Arabia
- --Libya=="PUT" in Hebrew
  - ** Next to Persia & Ethiopia
  - ** Modern IRAQ
- --Gomer==East Germany
  - ** Those that settled on the North of the Black Sea & then spread southward & westward to the extremities of Europe
  - ** Hebrew term is "ASHKENAZ" which is the Jewish term for Germany
  - ** Interesting that though WEST Germany was in the old Roman Empire, EAST Germany never was
- --"And all his bands"==Sattelite states of Eastern Europe (Poland, Roumania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia)
- --"The House of Togarmah of the north quarters"==That Armenian section of Turkey that borders Russia. Place of COSSACKS, who are expert horsemen
- --Ezek. 38:7 indicates that Russia will be a "guard" (= A COMMANDER IN CHIEF) to them. Russia will crack the whip & escalate a war in the Near East in due time.
- NB --NOTEWORTHY that 2 nations are omitted from the list of Russia's allies---------CHINA and EGYPT

6-What's the "DRAW" to the Middle East for Russia???
- --Economic **Oil reserves
  - ** Suez
  - ** Trade markets
  - ** Ports for Navy
- --Value is Political & Military as well as economic
- --In a time of relative peace under Europe's Covenant with Israel during the first 1/2 of the Tribulation, Russia will ATTACK
- --As the economic stature of Israel improves almost daily, this invasion is more nearly a thing of the present than the distant future
- --Occurs AFTER the Rapture....and BEFORE the return ofChrist

7-Attitude Of Russia
- --Militant & aggressive
- --Despises God; Persecutes both christians & Jews
- --Geography excludes much interaction with other nations for its people
- --Long has ATTACKED to gain its ends (Poland Hungary, Chechoslovakia, Balkans, etc)
- --Long expressed desire to controll the Dardenelles & to have a sphere of influence in the Near & Middle East
- --Stopped from entering this area in W.W. 2 by the other allies
- --Now detered by NATO & USA

--But seeking to "reach out"
** In trade
** In diplomacy
** In armaments
** In foreign aid & economic assistance
--EVENTUALLY Russia will attack Israel
** Ezek. 38:8-12, 15-16
** Dan. 11:40b-c
** Yet the Bible reminds us there'll be only 4 world empires, so there'll be no world dominion by Russia

8-The PHENOMENAL RISE OF RUSSIA to the place of one of the two world powers, plus the fact that whatever the West does, Russia seems to come out on top, indicate that this is a case of SATANIC INSPIRATION and of God's permission in these latter days

8-And our western leaders can't seem to make up their minds---Whether the Soviet Bear is a peaceful teddy with whom to play...
--Or a Vicious grizzly of whom to be afraid

II.-EGYPT IN PROPHECY:

A.-The Arab Block:

1-European influence has waned
--England & France are no longer "colonial"
--Arab NATIONALISM very much on the rise

2-Certain Arab characteristics
--Islam as their religion
--Poor in resources until recently with OIL
--Low educational levels
--Lack of industrial skills
--UNDISCIPLINED as far as agreement & leadership
--Very much given to BOMBAST (Propaganda)

3-Leading Power--Egypt
--Under Nasser until his death
--Now under Sadat
--Made the central power in the UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC & Pan-Islamic block
--Violent hatred for Israel

4-Fever-Pitch Propaganda--"Drive Israel into the sea"
--Precipitated 3 wars with Israel (1948, 1956, 1967)
--Lost each time, but still threatening &yearning for "ANOTHER ROUND"
--Egypt only has to win once for Israel to lose permanently

5-PERPETUAL PROBLEM
--Israel won't "give in" to settle these wars
--Arabs won't negotiate face-to-face
--Refugees multiply
--Guerrillas battle constantly
--Russia re-equipped Egypt, Syria, Jordan & Lebanon
--So that today: ** Arabs are "REBOUNDING"
** "Independence" from both the

East & the West is their cry

** Have played USA against USSR so as to get "gifts" from both, while making the USA the "whipping boy" for anti-Imperialist propaganda.

--"FLASH POINT" that could trigger World War 3

--A "solution" to the Middle East problem is doubtless what will catapult the "Beast"of Rev. 13 into his position of World Dictator

--Rev. 6:2--"And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering and to conquer."

** No arrows in the bow

** Crown was "given unto him", not taken by force

** Bloodless coup that puts him in power

** Perhaps a NATO (or European Community) guarantee of Israel's sovereignty in a COVENANT of Seven years

6-To quote from that remarkable Christian military leader; Gen. William K. Harrison:

"A remarkable feature in this trend is that it could not possibly have occurred before the present time because there formerly existed no military dangers or economic necessities which could force these sovereign powers to give up any degree of their independence. Since World War II the progress in this consolidation in the area of the Roman Empire has been remarkably rapid, but most persons do not realize it because it happens in our own time."

7-THUS.....a definite TREND toward the fulfillment of prophetic Scripture is seen.

B.-The King Of The South:

1-Noted above that EGYPT IS OMITTED from the list of Russia's allies

2-That seemed strange until 1972, as Russia was bankrolling Egypt--Aswan Dam

--Port construction

--Industrialization

--Oil refineries

--Military hardware & technicians

--And then.....OUSTED !!

3-Actually Egypt & the Arab block will exercise an independent role in the Middle East in the events that lead up to Armageddon:

--Dan. 11:40a--"And at the time of the end shall the King of the South push at him..."

** "At the time of the end"---TIMING

** "King of the South"==Egypt & her allies

** "Shall push at him" =="Contend w/him" (ASV)
==="attack" (RSV)
==="make war with him" (Heb)

--Egypt appears to be THE INITIATOR of another war against Israel

--That will be the signal for an invasion of Israel BY RUSSIA.

--Dan. 11:40b--41
--Leads not only to a military take-over of Israel & her neighbors
--Also EGYPT (11:42-43)
--And Egypt's cohorts also (Ezek. 30:3-5)
--Not entirely clear by this passage just who actually occupies Egypt & these other countries ** Some think it is Russia
** Others believe that "HE", "HIM" and "THE KING" refer to the Roman Beast & his religious leader (Walvoord, Pentecost, Reiter)

4-Egypt's role on the political scene today seems to be forging the alliance which will culminate in what we've seen here during the time of the TRIBULATION after the Church is raptured

C.-The Grace Of God:

1-Days of real tragedy & occupation ahead for Egypt (Isa. 19:4-5)

2-FEAR will consume them--Like women (Isa. 19:16)
--Because of Israel (19:17)

3-Leads these muslims to the true faith (Isa.19:19-21a)

III.-THE SLEEPING GIANT OF THE EAST:

A.-Biblical References:

1-First inkling--Dan. 11:44a--"But tidings out of the EAST and out of the north shall trouble him..."
--Reference to some sort of power influx from the EAST
--But no O.T. definition of this anywhere.

2-Second tidbit
--Rev. 16:12
--"EAST"=="ανατολης ἡλιου"=="The rising of the sun
--Ancient designation of the oriental races & nations
--Vast horde of soldiers poised on the banks of the Euphrates River are obviously an Oriental army entering into this scene

3-J. A. Seiss--"From time immemorial the Euphrates, with its tributaries, has been a great & formidable boundary between the peoples east of it & those west of it. It runs a distance of 1800 miles and is scarcely fordable anywhere or at any time. It is from 300 to 12,000 yeards wide, and from 10 to 30 feet in depth; and most of the time it is still deeper and wider." (The Apocalypse, P.)

4-Rev. 9:13-16--Release of 4 vicious, depraved angelic beings
--Formerly bound by God at Euphrates R
--Devastation of 1/3 of earth's people perhaps by a Nuclear expolsion des-

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cribed in 1st Century terminology
--Emergence of an army of 200 million
--Terrifying prophecy of an Asiatic military power headed WESTWARD

B.-Modern Experience:
1-JAPAN in first ½ of 20th Century:
--First Asian nation to push into the mainstream of international competition
--Unleashed W.W. 2 in Pacific to extend its Empire
--Imperial Navy had an invasion force in the Red Sea set to invade Palestine & Montgomery in Egypt when Rommel was at El Alamein
--UNEXPLAINEDLY Adm. Yamamoto recalled that force from making its invasion in the Near East & headed them for the West Coast of the US.
--Codes broken & American B-17 bombers & USNavy met them & defeated them at Battle of Coral Sea
--Beginning of the end for Japanese military expansionism
2-CHINA in second ½ of 20th Century:
--"The sleeping dragon" of the orient
--Possesses all the prerequisites of a WORLD POWER
** Population of 750 million
** Land mass & natural resources
** Military might
** Industrial base
** Technological processes
--Split with Russia over the "H O W" of world domination, but both are committed to that goal
--Mao Tse-tung--"Political power comes out of the barrel of a gun...the gun must never slip from the grasp of the Communist Party." (Quotations From Chairman Mao Tse-Tung, "Problems Of War And Strategy," Nov.6, 1938--Vol.11, P. 224)
--Believe in WAR & CONFRONTATION as the acceptable tools of change
--Now a Nuclear Power nation
--Has now a 200,000,000 militiamen force known as THE PEOPLE'S ARMY---Precisely the number in Rev. 9:16
--Trained in a "human wave attack" tactic that cannot be stopped, even with nuclear weapons
--APPEARS.....that the stage is being set for this earth's climactic hour

CONCLUSIONS:

A.-Importance Of KNOWING What's Going On:
1-Israel Re-Born since W.W. 2
2-Europe Re-Uniting since W.W. 2
3-Russia Rising to world power prominence in this Century
4-Arabs Restiveness & Nationalism
5-Eastern Hordes preparing for nuclear/human-wave warfare

B.-Vindication Of Bible:
1-It is accurate.

2-It is authoritative
3-It has a word for believers to know "WHAT'S AHEAD"

C.-Incentives:
1-Know you're saved, & thus be spared this holocaust
2-Serve the Lord.....
...NOW !!

--Your time
--Your money
--Your spiritual gifts
--Your talents
--Your prayers
----------Y O U !!!

Westbrae--8/15/73--Chorus--"What Though Wars May Come"
168--"Hold The Fort"

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

INTRO: A.-Definition Of The Millennium:

1-ILLUS--Movers left a clock without its pendulum attached sitting in the living room. The seconds ticked on in a frenzied manner. Without the pendulum all the intricate mechanism rattled on in a blind precipitation.

Here is a picture of the world today. God has created all things to move in proper balance, but men refuse the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is God's superintendent of all things.

Men talk about "providence" as if it were a force. God says that Providence is a PERSON---The Lord Jesus, and that "He upholdeth all things by the word of His power."

This world will never move with perfection and balance again until He comes again to the earth to rule & reign.

2-That period of 1000 years is the MILLENNIUM

--Six times we're told its length in Rev. 20

--Non-millennarians frequently object to the teaching of a "Golden Age" following the age of grace, because it is taught in the book of Revelation, which is a highly symbolic book, and therefore they believe it is not capable of being understood.

--Non-millennarians frequently accuse Bible expositors of building a whole system on that 1 chapt.

--Geo. H. Fromow, Editor of "Watching And Waiting", listed in his magazine some 36 N.T passages outside the Book of Rev. giving clear & even more detailed characteristics of the Millennium

3-MESSIAH will rule on the earth

4-Lk. 1:31-33 (read)

5-Millenniumis promised largely as a JEWISH HOPE

B.-Millennium Will Be Time Of Fulfillment Of Covenants:

1-Abrahamic covenant------Seed and land

2-Palestinian covenant----Land boundaries

3-Davidic covenant--------King, kingdom & throne

4-New Covenant-----------New heart, Forgiveness of sin & Fullness of the Spirit

5-These are distinctively JEWISH promises

6-Millennium will be all this.....and MORE !

C.-Character Of The Millennium:

1-Spiritual in content

--Righteousness prevailing (Ps. 72:1-2, 7; 85:10)

--Obedience to Christ (Mal. 1:11)

--Holiness (Isa. 4:3-4)

--Truth & equity in judgment (Ezek. 45:9-10)

2-Yet material & physical in its fulfillment on earth

D.-Conditions In The Millennium:

1-There will be no more:

--WAR--Isa. 2:4--"..and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, & their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up

sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

No MORE

--CURSE--Rom. 8:21--"Because the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God."

--SICKNESS--Isa. 35:5-6--"Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing..."

--DEATH--Isa. 65:20--"There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not fulfilled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed."

--POVERTY--Isa. 65:21--"And they shall build houses & inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them."

--Micah 4:4--"Buth they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree..."

--SATAN--Rev. 20:1-2--"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years."

2-There will be:no

--LONG LIFE--Isa. 65:20 (see above)

--JUSTICE--Ps. 2:8--"Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel"

--KNOWLEDGE--Hab. 2:14--"For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

--GLORY (Shekinah)--Ezek. 43:1-4; 44:4

--FULLNESS OF THE SPIRIT--Joel 2:28--"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh..."

3-Surely it will be a MILLENNIAL era. Closest thing to perfection since Eden's glory before the fall

4-No wonder there has come into our language the phrase: "COMES THE MILLENNIUM"....as an expression of everything good one could hope for

I.-THE LAND IN THE MILLENNIUM:

A.-Jerusalem:

1-Center of the millennial earth

2-Center of Kingdom rule--Ps. 2:6--"Yet have I set my King upon my holy hill of Zion"

3-Center of the glory of God

4-Protected by the presence of the King

5-City greatly enlarged in size---7 by 34 miles

6-Accessable to all

7-Center of worship for the whole world--Isa. 2:2-3

B.-Palestine:
1-Enlarged borders--15 times larger than the area possessed at its greatest expansion under Solomon
2-Peculiar inheritance of Israel reunited
3-Topography changed to level fields & fertile plains
4-Renewed fertility & productivity
5-Abundant rainfall
6-Reconstruction after the devastation of the Trib.
7-Redistributed among the 12 tribes
--Different distribution than under Joshua
--Recorded in Ezek. 48
--All 12 tribes will be there

C.-Miscellaneous:
1-Physical changes predominate
2-Zech. 14:4--"And His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall move toward the north, and half of it toward the south."
3-River from Dead Sea to the Mediteranean thru Jerusalem, making it a seaport
--Ezek. 47:1-8
--Zech. 14:8--"And it shall be in that day that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be."
4-12 gates to Jerusalem named after the 12 tribes
5-Acts 1:6-7--This is coming !
--Disciples didn't ask IF the kingdom was to be re-established, but WHEN ?
--In no sense did Jesus deny that such a kingdom was coming, but just said "Not now"

II.-THE GOVERNMENT IN THE MILLENNIUM:

A.-Governmental System:
1-Styles of government
--Aristocracy==Rule of the aristocrats
--Democracy--==Rule of the people
--Theocracy==:=Rule of God
--Greatly different from the present UNTIED Nations

2-ILLUS--Rev. D. M. Panton tells that the late Dr. John Kelman, while ministering in New York City, asked one of his members the question: "What is your solution of the present world unrest?
His answer, Dr. Kelman said, "amazed me." It was: "A DICTATOR". "But," argued the great preacher, "your dictator would have to be a SUPERMAN--one with perfect understanding of civic and economic problems, and

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with genius to meet the opposition and resolve the fears of those who doubted and opposed him."

"I know", was the quiet answer; "but we are looking for such a man, and we have him in view. His name is JESUS."..... Dr. Kelman said: "The thrill of that man's answer will never leave me.

3-BUT before that day, a counterfeit messiah will appear according to Rev. 13

4-Messiah Jesus will be KING in the Millennium --Isa. 9:3-7

5-David will be regent with Christ (Ezek. 46:2)

6-Many lesser authorities shall rule with Christ according to the Parable of the pounds (Lk. 19:12-18)

7-Judges will be raised up (Isa. 1:26)

8-Nature of Jesus' reign
- --Universal; over all the world
- --Inflexible in righteousness
- --In the fulness of the Spirit
- --With a unified government (Hos. 1:11)
- --Sin will be summarily dealt with
- --Eternal kingdom

B.-The Subjects In The Millennium:

1-Israel--restored (Ezek. 36)
- --regenerated (Ezek 37)
- --reunited as a nation
- --God's witnesses
- --Like the "prime minister" who also reigns

2-Gentiles--participating
- --serving Israel
- --Converted
- --subject to Messiah

HEAD of the nations

TAIL, not head, of the nations

3-Church--co-reigning as Bride of Christ in New Jerusalem

--Accomplished by earthquake

4-LITERAL TEMPLE to be built in Millennium upon a hill in the "temple area"

5-Fixtures there--No ark of the Covenant
- --No mercy seat
- --No veil
- --No cherubim
- --No tables of stone with law on them
- --No pot of manna
- --No rod of Aaron
- --No candlestick
- --No shewbread table
- --No lavar
- --VERY DIFFERENT FROM MOSAIC SYSTEM
- --But there is ** Altar of sacrifice (Ezek. 43:13-17)

** Altar of incense (Ezek. 41:22)

--And there will be a THRONE (Ezek. 43:7)

B.-The Priesthood:

1-No High Priest--Jesus is this for us
- --Heb. 7:23-28

2-Levites all set aside except to guard & maintain the Temple (Ezek. 44:10-11)
3-Except for the sons of Zadok, who was a faithful priest during David's rejection; so his descendants are now honored (Ezek. 44:15)
4-Sabbath reinstituted (Ezek. 46:1)

C.-The Sacrifices:
1-Re-institution of a bloody sacrificial system
2-All the offerings of the O. T. are included
3-BUT NOT the Mosaic system re-established, though bearing some similarities. Also many basic differences and changes
4-What emphasis???
--O.T. sacrifices were prospective or anticipatory
--Millennial sacrifices in REMEMBRANCE of a finished redemption
--A memorial
--ILLUS--The Lord's supper in this age
--Point is to commemorate what has been done for them

CONCLUSION:

A.-Facts Faced:

1-ILLUS--About the turn of the century, a man rushed down to make a New York ferry; just as the ferry was pulling out, he jumped and landed on the rail of the boat. He sat there exhausted, breathing heavily. After a few minutes, he stood up and walked toward the center of the boat. A fellow-passenger said, "You almost missed it."

"Yes," he said, "but I'll get there now in time for the third race."

"The third race? Where do you think you're going?"

"Why over to the RACE TRACK."

"Well,"said the other, "you're on a Church chartered Sunday School Picnic boat."

The gambler went over to the captain and said: "Capatain, I'll give you $500 if you'll put me back."

The Captain said, "Look, buddy, it took us 20 minutes to get out her; it would take us 20 minutes to turn around and take you back, and it would take 20 more minutes to get back to where we are---that's an hour. There are 2000 parents and children on this ferry, & that amounts to 2000 hours of their picnic time. You're on this boat till we get back at 9 o'clock tonight.

"Ohhhhhh," said the man., "where's the bar?"

"It's closed for the day," replied the captain. No bar; nothing but children prattling and singing hymns---all day this man had to live in that atmosphere. When the boat docked at 9 o'clock that night, the race-track man was first off---to get to the nearest bar.

THAT'S A PICTURE OF WHAT THE MILLENNIUM WOULD BE FOR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE. They hate righteousness & are incurably wicked!

2-Facts are clearly revealed---though only barely touched tonight

3-Largest body of prophecy on any 1 subject in Scripture is on the Millennium

4-Many theories regarding the future

5-God's Word has the answers
- --Need to KNOW these things
- --Christians need to be knowledgeable !
- --Thus able to dispell doubts & fears
- --ILLUS--Dan. 5:11-12

B.-Practical Application:

1-Ezek. 40:4--"And the man said unto me, Son of Man, behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears, and set thine heart upon all that I shall shew thee; for to the intent that I might shew them unto thee art thou brought hither: declare all that thou seest to the house of Israel."
- --EYES to see
- --EARS to hear
- --HEARTS to be touched---this is the most desired result

2-Outgrowths:
- --Love for Jews
- --Prayer for Christ's soon-coming
- --Concern for Jerusalem's peace
- --Work while we can
- --"DECLARE (40:4) all thou seest"

Westbrae--10/6/68--Near To The Heart Of God
Shall We Gather At The River