

Chapter 9: The United States and Israel in Prophecy

of the Great Tribulation - when many Arab states surrounding Israel will be completely devastated (Ezekiel 39:1-6).

Though there is some debate over the modern day identity of the beasts in Daniel's vision, my own interpretation of their identity is based on much historical evidence. However, even if the bear represents Germany, and the leopard signifies France as some claim, the prophetic interpretation of this beast as a symbol for Europe, Russia, Great Britain, Asia, and the Middle East united in war as they could be through the United Nations would not change. ***The United Nations, as the unifying body between these many different countries, can clearly be seen as the command center for a new Roman Empire that now encompasses the whole world.***

Incidentally, in the past, France was once part of Germany. France derives its name from the ancient people who once formed her greatest population: the Franks. The Franks were Germanic people like their neighbors to the north and south of them: the Saxons and the Lombards. They were originally inhabitants of the area of southwestern Germany known as the Rhine land, where the Rhine River flows. Eventually, however, they moved further south in conquest and invaded the territory that would one day become modern France. Charlemagne, the first Holy Roman Emperor, united the lands of the Franks, Lombards, and Saxons under his sole rule early in the 9th Century AD.

The next section of this chapter was derived from an article entitled "The Amazing Prophecy in Psalm 108 and the War on Terror - Are They Connected?", which was published on Internet news sites and on my blogs in September 2007. It shows that there may be a war in the Middle East between the West and the Muslim nations sponsoring Terrorism sometime in 2008 or 2009. However, Psalm 108 could also contain elements that pertain to events as far ahead as 2012 or so. Only time will tell!

The Amazing Hidden Prophecy In Psalm 108

In this book, I have already shown how many Psalms - especially the Hallel Psalms 110 through 118 - may be directly related to global prophetic events occurring in the years 2010 through 2018. These nine psalms appear to describe unfolding events that will usher in the most terrible time in world history

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outside of the Great Flood: the seven-year Great Tribulation. Psalm 108 - which is directly connected to the years 2008 through 2009 - gives still another potential thrilling glimpse into future world events just prior to the Great Tribulation. In this section, we will explore what this Psalm may foretell for the United States, the United Kingdom, the Middle East, and the rest of the world in the two years leading up to Rosh Hashanah, September 9-10, 2010, which may be the date of the Rapture.

Throughout Psalm 108, there are many terms that apply to nations and people groups in the past, as well as to the present and future. What is doubly thrilling about this is that all the nations mentioned are directly involved with the current, globally felt war against Terrorism. To show how Psalm 108 reveals this, abridged portions of its thirteen stanzas will be quoted, then followed by interpretations of what people groups and events these verses most likely pertain to.

Let's begin with the first seven stanzas:

"O God (Elohim), my heart is steadfast; I will sing and give praise... Awake, lute and harp! I will awaken the dawn. I will praise You, O LORD (Yahweh)... among the nations... Be exalted, O God (Elohim), above the heavens, and Your glory above all the earth; That Your beloved (i.e. Jerusalem) may be delivered, save with Your right hand, and hear me. God (Elohim) has spoken in His holiness: 'I will rejoice; I will divide (or separate) Shechem (a city of refuge in Ephraimite territory which now refers to the Palestinian allotment of land in the West Bank) and measure out (i.e. set apart) the Valley of Succoth (part of Gad's ancient territory - refers to the Palestinian occupied Gaza Strip).'" -Psalm 108:1-7 (NKJ)

Fascinatingly, one of the two portions of land that have been portioned out to the Palestinians is the West Bank, which surrounds Jerusalem on three sides. This portion of land is called Shechem in Psalm 108, and it was rich pastureland when Jacob's sons tended their father's flocks there. It was near Shechem that Joseph made his fateful trip out into the fields to check on the welfare of his brothers, only to be beaten, imprisoned, and sold into slavery by

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them (Genesis 37:13-28). It was also in Shechem where Joseph was later buried.

Interestingly, the story of Joseph's slavery and later rise to power in Egypt echoes the current conflict between the West and the Muslim nations. Perhaps this is why Joseph's tomb is located in Shechem, or the West Bank, and why the Palestinians barbarically destroyed his tomb in 2003. As shown in my book "The Language of God in Humanity," Joseph's two sons Ephraim and Manasseh would come to represent two powerful Gentile nations in the Last Days: The United States (Ephraim), and the United Kingdom (Manasseh).

The Scripture "*I will divide (or separate) Shechem*" directly states that it is God's Will that there should be a separation of the West Bank from the rest of Israel through the auspices of the United States, United Kingdom, and United Nations! In double fulfillment of this, the West Bank is now separated, or divided by political strife as well since it was set up as a secular democratic state, but was quickly overrun by fundamentalist Islamic terrorist groups.

Even more fascinating is the fact that "*the Valley of Sukkoth*" in the preceding Scripture may be referring to the Gaza Strip, which is indeed measured out, or set apart from Israel and the West Bank! These two sections of land were recently given to the Palestinians in order to secure peace with them, and the rest of the Middle East. However, this grand gesture of generosity by Israel has failed miserably in winning support and friendship from the Palestinians, or other Muslim nations.

The reason this modern bid at peace is failing is bound up in the past, and directly relates to the seemingly perpetual blood feuds between Isaac and Ishmael, and Jacob and Esau. It is also tied to the failure of the Israelites to make any lasting peace with the hated Philistines and Amalekites after their Exodus from Egypt and their conquest of Canaan.

Intriguingly, the next two stanzas of Psalm 108 tell us what nations are intimately involved with, or opposed to this dividing up of Israel in an effort to bring peace to the region. It also states which nations are under God's current control, or acting on His behalf, and also which ones are the targets of His wrath:

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"Gilead (i.e. the grandson of Manasseh, likely referring to Canada and/or Australia today) is Mine; Manasseh (the United Kingdom) is Mine; Ephraim (the United States) also is the "helmet for My head" (or chief stronghold); Judah (the nation of ISRAEL) is My lawgiver. Moab (Syria, Iraq, and Iran) is My washpot; over Edom (Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and possibly Yemen and Oman) I will cast My shoe; over Philistia (Lebanon, Syria, Palestinian territories) I will triumph.' " - Psalm 108:8-9 (NKJ)

This portion of Scripture indicates that the Western nations with the most troops in Iraq and Afghanistan today, and those most closely allied with Israel today in friendship - the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada and/or Australia - are doing God's will in the Middle East. So, no matter what people in these countries may think of their current political leaders or government decisions concerning the War on Terror, these governments are (most likely unwittingly) acting on God's behalf right now, though I must strongly emphasize here that ***this situation will change dramatically when the Antichrist becomes leader of the West*** in Europe sometime during, or after the predicted war described in Psalm 108. In addition, let me state that not every proposal regarding Israel by the United States is condoned by God. In fact, it appears that many of the tragic events that have occurred on American soil (such as 9-11, Katrina, and the California Wildfires of 2007) have partly resulted either from God's judgment against America for going too far in trying to assuage the Palestinians, or for allowing unconstitutional attacks upon Christians, Christianity and traditional family values at home.

The remaining portion of Psalm 108 tells us that the Western nations allied to Israel are going to have a major military show down with the Islamic terrorists allied against them, which include those living in Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Saudi Arabia. Now based on my interpretation of Psalms 110 through 118 in Chapter Two, this war will likely be waged for two to three years and will break out before the Rapture of the True Church - which may occur in 2010 or as late as 2012 AD. Furthermore, based on the final stanza of Psalm 108, ***the armies of the West will not be able to defeat their Terrorist enemies unless the people of the West (particularly the USA) openly call upon the God of Israel to help them:***

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*“Who will bring me into the strong (or fortified) city (i.e. Babylon; a.k.a. Iraq - with its many US-built military bases surrounding it)? Who will lead me (in)to Edom (Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and possibly Yemen, and Oman)? Is it not You, O God (Elohim), who cast us off? And You, O God (Elohim), who did not go out with our armies? (OR: Elohim, will You cast us off? Elohim, will You abandon our armies?) Give us help from trouble, for the help of man is useless. **Through God (Elohim) we will do valiantly, for it is He who shall tread down our enemies.**” - Psalm 108:10-13 (NKJ)*

In this final section of Psalm 108, the passage that reads: *“it is He who shall tread down our enemies”* suggests that God will miraculously intervene and bless Israel and the West with a temporary victory in the Middle East. Furthermore, the lamentations and pleas to God in Psalm 109 - this psalm of prayer and lamentation is tied to events beginning in late 2009, but which might not be fulfilled until 2012 or so. Psalm 109 indicates that this war will lead to both suffering and great spiritual revival in the land of Israel and the countries allied to it:

“But you, O Sovereign LORD (Yahweh), deal well with me for your name's sake; out of the goodness of your love, deliver me. For I am poor and needy, and my heart is wounded within me. I fade away like an evening shadow; I am shaken off like a locust. My knees give way from fasting; my body is thin and gaunt.” - Psalm 109:21-24 (NIV)

Psalm 109 also suggests that the resolution of this war may lead to a much greater openness among Jews and Arabs to hear the Gospel and be saved. Perhaps the miraculous events leading to this short-lived victory of Israel and the West against the Arabs will spur this revival. If so, it will lead to the sharing of the Good News of the Kingdom of God with all of Abraham's descendents through Ishmael and Isaac in preparation for the Rapture - or, if the Rapture has passed before this time - the last half of the Tribulation and the Second Coming of Christ:

“Help me, O LORD my God (oh Yahweh my Elohim); save me in accordance with your love. Let

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them know that it is your hand, that you, O LORD (Yahweh), have done it." "With my mouth I will greatly extol the LORD (Yahweh); in the great throng I will praise him. For he stands at the right hand of the needy one, to save his life from those who condemn him." - Psalm 109:26-27, 30-31 (NIV)

Could this worldwide time of peace and revival be the result of a peace treaty between Israel and the Arab world that will be signed with the diplomatic help of a politician who either represents, or will become the Antichrist? Based on other clues in Scripture, this peace treaty will likely allow the Jews to build a new Temple adjacent to the Al-Aqsa Mosque on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem and to reinstate animal sacrifices shortly thereafter.

Ezekiel 38 & 39: The USA and Israel in Great Peril Together

Returning to my discussion of Daniel's vision of "the Beast from the Sea" earlier in this chapter, I have identified what the leopard, bear, lion, and eagle represent. However, ***the eagle is missing from the corresponding vision of the Beast in the Book of Revelation***. This makes sense, however, since Daniel's prophecy tells us that ***the eagle will be taken out of the picture***:

"The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off..."
- Daniel 7:4 (NIV)

The eagle's wings were torn off - thus implying that the formidable power represented by the United States shall be excluded from the Antichrist's empire, and subsequently diminished, destroyed, or weakened (likely by the Rapture). Could a powerful nation like the United States be completely annihilated, however? The answer to this question is partly in the Old Testament Book of Ezekiel, Chapters 38 and 39, which describes a terrible war instigated by a prince identified as Gog, of the land of Magog, who rules over Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal:

"Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him, and say, 'Thus says