

Bible Study Notes

The Judging of the Nations

V 2.8

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*"Before the Lord: for He cometh, for **He cometh to judge the Earth**: He shall judge the World with righteousness, and the people with His truth." (Ps.96:13)*

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Key Scriptures

“For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land;

And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.”
(Haggai 2:6-7, KJV)

“For the day of the LORD is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the heathen drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been.”
(Ob 15-16, KJV)

“Why have nations tumultuously assembled? And do peoples meditate vanity?

Station themselves do kings of the earth, And princes have been united together, Against Jehovah, and against His Messiah:

‘Let us draw off Their cords, And cast from us Their thick bands.’ He who is sitting in the heavens doth laugh, The Lord doth mock at them.

Then doth He speak unto them in His anger, And in His wrath He doth trouble them:

‘And I--I have anointed My King, Upon Zion--My holy hill.’

I declare concerning a statute: Jehovah said unto me, ‘My Son Thou art, I to-day have brought thee forth.

Ask of Me and I give nations--thy inheritance, And thy possession--the ends of earth.

Thou dost rule them with a sceptre of iron, As a vessel of a potter Thou dost crush them.’

And now, O kings, act wisely, Be instructed, O judges of earth,

Serve ye Jehovah with fear, And rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Chosen One, lest He be angry, And ye lose the way, When His anger burneth but a little, O the happiness of all trusting in Him!” (Ps 2:1-12, YLT)

*“A Psalm of David. The affirmation of Jehovah to my Lord: ‘Sit at My right hand, Till I make thine enemies thy footstool.’
The rod of thy strength doth Jehovah send from Zion, Rule in the midst of thine enemies.
Thy people are free-will gifts in the day of Thy strength, in the honours of holiness, From the womb, from the morning, Thou hast the dew of thy youth.
Jehovah hath sworn, and doth not repent, ‘Thou art a priest to the age, According to the order of Melchizedek.’
The Lord on thy right hand smote kings In the day of His anger.
He doth judge among the nations, He hath completed the carcasses, Hath smitten the head over the mighty earth.
From a brook in the way he drinketh, Therefore he doth lift up the head!” (Ps 110:1-7, YLT)*

*“Praise ye Jah! Sing ye to Jehovah a new song, His praise in an assembly of saints.
Israel doth rejoice in his Maker, Sons of Zion do joy in their king.
They praise His name in a dance, With timbrel and harp sing praise to Him.
For Jehovah is pleased with His people, He beautifieth the humble with salvation.
Exult do saints in honour, They sing aloud on their beds.
The exaltation of God is in their throat, And a two-edged sword in their hand.
To do vengeance among nations, Punishments among the peoples.
To bind their kings with chains, And their honoured ones with fetters of iron,
To do among them the judgment written, An honour it is for all his saints. Praise ye Jah!” (Ps 149:1-9, YLT)*

A. Introductory Remarks:

The purpose of this study is to attempt to find clarity about Christ dealing with the ingathering of the nations during His reign on earth. Many questions arise about this aspect of His Divine rule upon the earth, viz:

- So what is meant by Christ ingathering and judging the nations?

- How does He gather?
- How does He separate them – judge them?
- Will this occur directly upon His return or gradually during the millennium?
- How long will it take to do this?
- Will Israel be used to bring the nations to repentance?
- Which nations will be involved?
- Does the Old Testament provide clues to this event or series of events?

The Bible shows that over the centuries, He has brought judgment upon many nations. But this will climax during the Day of the Lord and on into the millennium. It is ongoing, but the most awful and dreadful punishment is yet ahead.

In Matthew we read:

“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:
And before him shall be gathered all **nations**: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats:
And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.
Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” (Matt 25:31-34)

“Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles.” (Matt 12:18)

Nations here according to *Strong’s Concordance*:

“**1484 e;qnoj** ethnos {eth'-nos}

Meaning: 1) a multitude (whether of men or of beasts) associated or living together
1a) a company, troop, swarm 2) a multitude of individuals of the same nature or genus 2a) the human race 3) a race, nation, people group 4) in the OT, foreign nations not worshipping the true God, pagans, Gentiles 5) Paul uses the term for Gentile Christians

Origin: probably from 1486; TDNT - 2:364,201; n n

Usage: AV - Gentiles 93, nation 64, heathen 5, people 2; 164.”

Notice again what Christ says about the nations:

“And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. {neither...: or, live not in careful suspense}
For all these things do the **nations** of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.
But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.” (Luke 12:29-31)

The reign of Christ commences the 1,000 years or millennium – it commences at Zion and quickly spreads into Jerusalem, the holy land and gradually radiates across the earth.

“The feasts of Israel were given an eschatological meaning. The Feast of Tabernacles was not only an agricultural festival, a thanksgiving for the land and its harvest: it recalled the dwelling in tabernacles in the wilderness days, and God’s provision for the people before they entered their land. The Fourth Gospel

probably reflects the ceremonies that later Jewish practice added to the celebration of the feast, as well as the fulfilment of its meaning in Christ.

But there is an eschatological hope connected with the Feast of Tabernacles even in Old Testament days. **In Zechariah xiv the thought of the Feast as the harvest is connected with the ingathering of the nations.** All the nations and families of the earth are summoned to go up to Jerusalem to keep it. Whether or not it can be said to be evident from this passage, it is clear that before the time of Christ, there was, connected with the Feast of Tabernacles, the hope of the future tabernacling of God in the midst of His people in a more glorious way than ever before. It has been sufficiently well established that the Jewish Lectionary antedates the Christian era, and in this Zechariah xiv and 1 Kings viii, Solomon's prayer at the dedication of the temple, were coupled as readings for the Feast of Tabernacles. There can be little doubt of the significance of this fact. The presence of the Lord with His people in the wilderness and in the temple was a picture, or a type, of that more glorious tabernacling in their midst in the day that was yet to be, **when the ingathering of the nations would be fulfilled.**" Foulkes, F, *The Acts of God. A Study of the Basis of Typology in the Old Testament*, pp27-28)

It is then that verse 9 of Isaiah 11 is fulfilled:

"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea."

The context is clearly millennial:

"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: {quick...: Heb. scent or, smell}

But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: **and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth**, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. {reprove: or, argue} [[cp Rev 2:26-27; 19:15; Ob 20; Ezek 25:14; Jer 50:20-23](#)]

And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. {cockatrice': or, adders}" (Is 11:1-8)

Then, over time, all nations will learn His ways and have the knowledge they require for repentance, obedience, salvation and success. But will they all adopt His ways immediately? That is the question.

"And many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee.

And the LORD shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.

Be silent, O all flesh, before the LORD: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.” (Zech 2:11-13)

“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And **the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.**” (Is 60:1-3)

“**All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.**” (Ps 86:9)

As we shall see, whilst it is true that Christ and the saints will put down unruly and rebellious nations, they will likely also be tested to see if they are willing to observe His law and ways periodically during the millennium, just as Christians are during their life. For this is how God works – he does not promise us a ‘bed of roses’ – but He does train and test us and this will not differ for the Messiah’s reign.

Testing of the nations will reveal that a percentage of the nations and tribes of the world will harbour resentment toward God’s government – a sort of obedience that is feigned and not genuine. They will have to be conquered and brought to full repentance. Zech 14:16-19 is an example of this.

Here are some Scriptures on God testing humans:

“For thou, O God, hast proved [\[ie examined or tested\]](#) us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried. Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins.” (Ps 66:10-11)

Other pertinent verses include:

- Gen 22:1-2
- Ex 15:25; 16:4
- Deut 8:2-3, 16; 13:3
- Jud 3:1, 4
- IIChron 32:31
- Job 23:10
- Ps 26:2; 105:19; 114:4-5
- Prov 17:3
- Eccl 3:18
- Is 48:10
- Jer 9:7; 11:20; 12:13; 17:10
- John 6:5-6
- Rom 16:10
- IICor 2:9
- IThess 2:4

He tests us to see if we really want to follow His way, to prove our faith. It is a very necessary and beneficial part of our walk – it helps us grow and strengthen spiritually.

So it will be for the nations. He will be examining them to see if they really want to be His followers or continue in rebellion. Whether they be genuine or not. But He does not

tempt us – ie lead us into sin. Satan and the demons do that – see James 1:2-3, 12-15. Rather, as we can see above, He does test us.

So, this will not be a time of instant, complete peace – instead it is installed gradually across the earth.

Notice Ps 110:

“The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.
The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou **in the midst of thine enemies.**” (Ps110:1-2) [[cp Rev 2:26-27; 19:15; Ob 20; Ezek 25:14; Jer 50:20-23](#)]

The Messiah will triumph over His enemies who surround Him! He rules in their midst – this means that even during the millennium there will be enemy nations!

So, although there will be peace in Zion, Jerusalem and the Holy Land – but outside of that area the nations will not all have been conquered yet. This conquest and conversion to the ways of God is a gradual process that occurs.

How long it will take Christ, the saints and Israel to conquer the entire world is unknown, but possibly a few decades – who knows? But it will take time. So, when does the millennium officially commence? From the time:

- He sets foot upon the earth (Zech 14:4-9)?
- when Jerusalem is conquered?
- when the land of Israel is conquered?
- Israel and Judah are reunited?
- upon the completion and dedication of the new temple?
- when the New Covenant is made with Israel and Judah?
- or when the entire earth comes under the rule of Christ?

This means that the 1,000 years will not be a time of 1,000 years of peace over the entire world instantly, but 1,000 years of His presence upon the earth – because there will be battles to be won and nations to be conquered at His return. This does not take place in a single day or a single year. It takes time, but difficult for one to ascertain how long without some Biblical clues or guides. Perhaps 50 years (a Jubilee?)

Of course, there will be peace in territories close to His power base initially.

And Psalm 2:1-12 tells us:

“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? {rage: or, tumultuously assemble} {imagine: Heb. meditate}
The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,
Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.
Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. {vex: or, trouble}
Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. {set: Heb. anointed} {upon...: Heb. upon Zion, the hill of my holiness}

I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou *art* my Son; this day have I begotten thee. {the decree: or, for a decree}

Ask of me, and I shall give *thee* the heathen *for* thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth *for* thy possession.

Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. [cp Rev 2:26-27; 19:15; Ob 20; Ezek 25:14; Jer 50:20-23]

Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.

Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish *from* the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all they that put their trust in him.”

The above appears to relate to nations some time during the millennium who want to rebel against His Way - rather than referring to nations destroyed during the Day of the Lord. How can this be? Two probabilities come to mind:

1. God will test the nations throughout the millennium and some may choose to rebel – particularly early on during that period of His rule
2. this may refer to the famous Gog & Magog invasion (Ezek 38 & 39)

As Israel and the resurrected saints gradually spread the Kingdom across the world, sometimes there will be resistance and there will be sin during the 1,000 years – those individuals and nations who rise up in rebellion will be put down and punished.

“They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.

For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and *him* that hath no helper.

He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy.” (Ps 72:9-13)

“For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low:

And upon all the cedars of **Lebanon**, *that are* high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan,

And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills *that are* lifted up,

And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall,

And upon all the ships of **Tarshish**, and upon all pleasant pictures. {pleasant...: Heb. pictures of desire}

And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

And the idols he shall utterly abolish. {he...: or, shall utterly pass away}

And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, **when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.** {of the earth: Heb. of the dust}

In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made *each one* for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; {his idols of silver...: Heb. the idols of his silver, etc} {each...: or, for him}

To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, **when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.**

Cease ye from man, whose breath *is* in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?” (Is 2:12-22)

B. Relevant Scriptures:

Christ is at the centre of Zion. In turn Zion is the centre of Jerusalem. Jerusalem the centre of Israel. Israel the centre of the earth (this restored Jerusalem is referred to in Is. 54¹). Later, after the millennium, the earth becomes the centre of the universe which is the New Heavens and New Earth.

B.1 Upon His return, Christ smashes the nations:

These are the nations of the German-led US of Europe and other Eastern forces in the Middle East, gathering around Armageddon.

“These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.” (Rev 17:14)

“And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it **he should smite the nations**: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.” (Rev 19:15-16) [cp Rev 2:26-27; 19:15; Ob 20; Ezek 25:14; Jer 50:20-23]

“I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, **that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him**: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.” (Dan 7:13-14)

“For I *know* their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that **I will gather all nations and tongues**; and they shall come, and see my glory.” (Is 66:18) [cf Zech 14:16-19]

“Then shall **the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations**, as when he fought in the day of battle.

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 remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

And ye shall flee *to* the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, *and* all the saints with thee. {the mountains: or, my mountains} {for the...: or, when he shall touch the valley of the mountains to the place he separated}

And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* the light shall not be clear, *nor* dark: {that the...: that is, it shall not be clear in some places, and dark in other places of the world} {clear: Heb. precious} {dark: Heb. thickness}

But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, *that* at evening time it shall be light. {it shall be...: or, the day shall be one}” [ie the Day of the Lord] (Zech 14:3-7)

Examples of judgments during the Tribulation and Day of the Lord include:

¹ Cp vv 11-12 with Rev 21:18-21. See also footnote 2

- Assyria –
 1. Isaiah 10:5-6 – God’s instruments
 2. Isaiah 7:17-25 – land of Judah stripped
 3. Isaiah 8:1-10 – conquerors of Israel
 4. Isaiah 10:5-34 – judgment upon Assyria
 5. Isaiah 14:24-28 – Assyrians broken in the Holy Land
 6. Isaiah 19:23-25 – the Assyrians will eventually learn the truth
 7. Isaiah 20:1-6 – conquest of Egypt
 8. Isaiah 30:27-33 – punishment at the hand of God
 9. Isaiah 31:8-9 – Divine intervention will bring Assyria to heel
 10. Isaiah 37:21-36 – Jerusalem and Assyria
 11. Jonah 3:1-4 – message to Nineveh via Jonah
 12. Nahum – prophesied destruction of Assyria and Nineveh
 13. Zephaniah 2:13-15 – the desolation of Assyria
 14. Zechariah 10:11 – the pride of Assyria laid low
 15. Hosea 8-9 – conquest of Israel by Assyria
- Ishmael: Jer 2:10; 3:2; 25:23-24; 49:28; Ezek 29:21; Is 42:11; 60:7
- Cush: Psa. 68:31; 72:10; 87:4; Isa. 11:11. See also Is. 20:3-5; 43:3; 45:14; Ezek. 29:10; 30:4-5, 9; 38:5; Jer. 46:9; Dan 11:43; Amos 9:7; Hab. 3:7; Nah. 3:9; Zeph. 2:12

... and many others.

Famous author, Walter Kaiser, explains further about these judgments:

"Yahweh's purpose and plan embraced the whole earth with all its nations. Nations rose and fell in accordance with that plan (Isa 14:24-27). But when national pride became exalted and motivated by imperialistic aggression, these nations were reminded quickly that they could not continue on ruthlessly. Even when they were the God-ordained instruments of judgment aimed at Israel, they were not to burn, kill, and destroy at will whomever they wished; for in this case, Yahweh would again remind them that they were merely His axes. The axe must not pretend that it was equal to the one who chops with it any more than the saw was greater than the one who sawed with it (Isa 10:5). So Assyria would learn that she served at the pleasure of the living God and not her own" (*Towards an Old Testament Theology*, pp210-211).

B.2 Valley of Decision:

"For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, [\[the Great Tribulation\]](#)

I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the **valley of Jehoshaphat** [= Yhwh judges], and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land. [\[these are the nations of the German-led US of Europe\]](#)

...

Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about [\[Matt 25:31-32\]](#).

Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness *is* great.

Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD *is* near in the **valley of decision**. {decision: or, concision, or, threshing}

The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining [Day of the Lord].

The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD *will be* the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. {hope: Heb. place of repair, or, harbour}" [Israel waking up to His intervention, rescue and the forthcoming 2nd Exodus] (Joel 3:1-2, 12-16)



Valley of Jehoshaphat connects the Valley of Hinnom to the Kidron Valley

“And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.

And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the **kings of the east** might be prepared.

And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *come* out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed *is* he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.” (Rev 16:10-16)

“And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all *men, both* free and bond, both small and great.

And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which *sword* proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.” (Rev 19:17-21)



Valley of Armageddon (Valley of Jezreel)

The nations of the German-led Europe and the Russian-led eastern forces will be in furious and desperate conflict. Upon Christ's return they will combine their military capabilities upon him.

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

During the subsequent Day of the Lord, giant earthquakes and tidal waves will sweep the globe, brilliantly reconstructing the earth's surface for a better world (ie for farming, natural beauty, navigation etc):

"Therefore will not we fear, **though the earth be removed**, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; {midst...: Heb. heart of the seas}
Though the waters thereof roar *and* be troubled, **though the mountains shake** with the swelling thereof. Selah." (Ps 46:2-3)

"The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad *thereof*. {multitude...: Heb. many, or, great isles}
Clouds and darkness *are* round about him: righteousness and judgment *are* the habitation of his throne. {habitation: or, establishment} [cp Matt 24:30]
A fire goeth before him, **and burneth up his enemies round about**. [ie Day of the Lord]
His **lightnings** enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled. [cp Matt 24:27; Rev 8:5; 16:18]

The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory." (Ps 97:1-6)

"In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer.
For this *is* as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.

For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.” (Isaiah 54:8-10)

“And the Lord GOD of hosts *is he that toucheth the land, and it shall melt, and all that dwell therein shall mourn:* and it shall rise up wholly like a flood; and shall be drowned, as *by* the flood of Egypt.

It is he that buildeth his stories in the heaven, and hath founded his troop in the earth; he that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth [[tidal waves – see Luke 21:25](#)]: The LORD *is* his name. {stories: or, spheres: Heb. ascensions} {troop: or, bundle}” (Amos 9:5-6)

“For, behold, the LORD cometh forth out of his place, and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth.

And the mountains shall be molten under him, and the valleys shall be cleft, as wax before the fire, and as the waters *that are* poured down a steep place. {a steep...: Heb. a descent}” (Micah 1:3-4)

“The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.

Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him. {abide: Heb. stand up}” (Nahum 1:5-6)

“And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and *from* the tower of Hananeel unto the king's winepresses. {turned: or, compassed} {inhabited: or, shall abide}” (Zech 14:9-10)

B.3 Israel rescued, cleansed, united, restored and granted world leadership:

“When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.” (Acts 1:6-7)

“Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.” (Rom 10:1)

“I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, *of* the tribe of Benjamin.

God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew.” (Rom 11:1-2a)

Second Exodus:

Refer to Is 35:10 etc.



Israelitish nations will be obliterated during the Tribulation

After being rescued from the four corners of the earth, Israel is cleansed with the purging out of the rebels. As with Israel so with the gentiles. See Ezek 20:38, 42-44.; Is 4:2-4; Is 35:10.

Israel then swoops upon many nations either before or after entry into the Promised Land: Is 14:1-2; 60:5-16; 19:17; 61:4-9; 66:19-21; Ezek 25:13-17; Ob 1:17-21; Zech 9:11-14; 10:3-10; 12:7-8; 14:14; Amos 9:11-12; Zeph 2:7-13.

“Praise ye the LORD: for *it is* good to sing praises unto our God; for *it is* pleasant; *and* praise is comely.

The LORD doth build up Jerusalem: he gathereth together the outcasts of Israel. [2nd Exodus]

He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds. {wounds: Heb. griefs} [cp Is 61]

...

He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel. {his word: Heb. his words}

He hath not dealt so with any nation: and *as for his* judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye the LORD.” (Ps 147:1-3, 19-20)

“For the day of the LORD *is* near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the heathen drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been. {swallow...: or, sup up}

But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions. {deliverance: or, they that escape} {there...: or, it shall be holy}

And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and there shall not be *any* remaining of the house of Esau; for the LORD hath spoken *it*.

And *they of* the south shall possess the mount of Esau; and *they of* the plain the Philistines: and they shall possess the fields of Ephraim, and the fields of Samaria: and Benjamin *shall possess* Gilead.

And the captivity of this host of the children of Israel *shall possess* that of the Canaanites, *even* unto Zarephath; and the captivity of Jerusalem, which *is* in Sepharad, shall possess the cities of the south. {which...: or, shall possess that which is in}

And saviours shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the LORD'S.”(Ob 15-21)

“Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD. [political leaders responsible of Israel’s destruction via globalisation and liberalism; also the ministers of the land. Spiritually, Church of God ministry have scattered the membership]

Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD.

And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.

And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD.

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this *is* his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. {THE LORD...: Heb. Jehovahtsidkenu}” (Jer 23:1-6)

“The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound; [ie Israel in captivity. Cp Ps 147]

To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.

And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien *shall be* your plowmen and your vinedressers.

But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: *men* shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

For your shame *ye shall have* double [birthright inheritances]; and *for* confusion they shall rejoice in their portion: therefore in their land they shall possess the double: everlasting joy shall be unto them.” (Is 61:1-7)

“Behold, **a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment.**

And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land. {great: Heb. heavy}” (Is 32:1-2)

“For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.

But ye said, No; for we will flee upon horses; therefore shall ye flee: and, We will ride upon the swift; therefore shall they that pursue you be swift.

One thousand *shall flee* at the rebuke of one; at the rebuke of five shall ye flee: till ye be left as a beacon upon the top of a mountain, and as an ensign on an hill. {a beacon: or, a tree bereft of branches, or, boughs: or, a mast}

And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD *is* a God of judgment: blessed *are* all they that wait for him.

For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem: thou shalt weep no more: he will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when he shall hear it, he will answer thee.

And *though* the Lord give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers: {affliction: or, oppression}

And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This *is* the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

Ye shall defile also the covering of thy graven images of silver, and the ornament of thy molten images of gold: thou shalt cast them away as a menstruous cloth; thou shalt say unto it, Get thee hence. {thy graven...: Heb. the graven images of thy silver} {cast: Heb. scatter}

Then shall he give the rain of thy seed, that thou shalt sow the ground withal; and bread of the increase of the earth, and it shall be fat and plenteous: in that day shall thy cattle feed in large pastures.

The oxen likewise and the young asses that ear the ground shall eat clean provender, which hath been winnowed with the shovel and with the fan. {clean: or, savoury: Heb. leavened}

And there shall be upon every high mountain, and upon every high hill, rivers *and* streams of waters in the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall. {high hill: Heb. lifted up, etc}” (Is 30:15-25) [[cp Jer 17:25-27; 32:3-5](#)]

For further reading on Israel’s restoration and how she will rule the nations under Christ, refer to the study ***What will Israel be doing in the World Tomorrow?***



After the utter destruction of Israel, the Messiah will rescue Israel and promote her on the world stage

B.4 Christ ruling Israel and the world:

Is 59:18-20:

“According to *their* deeds, accordingly he **will repay, fury to his adversaries**, recompence to his enemies; to the islands he will repay recompence. {deeds: Heb. recompences}

So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him. {lift...: or, put him to flight}

And **the Redeemer shall come to Zion**, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD.”

“And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. {established: or, prepared}

And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for **out of Zion** shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people [this is during the millennium]: 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. {pruninghooks: or, scythes}
O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD [repentant Israel].” (Is 2:2-5)

Notice, He is judging the nations and rebuking them – then they learn the way of peace. Not all of this happens during the Day of the Lord or immediately upon His return.

Similarly in Is 60:1-22:

“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee². {shine...: or, be enlightened; for thy light cometh}

For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side.

Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee. {abundance...: or, noise of the sea shall be turned toward thee} {forces: or, wealth}

The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD.

All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together unto thee, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto thee: they shall come up with acceptance on mine altar, and I will glorify the house of my glory.

Who *are* these *that* fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows?

Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the LORD thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee.

And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee: for in my wrath I smote thee [the Great Tribulation], but in my favour have I had mercy on thee. [restoration of Israel after the Exodus]

Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that *men* may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and *that* their kings *may be* brought. {forces: or, wealth}

For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted. [Israel will rule the world!]

The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet;

² Cp Rev 20:23 - "In the light of the whole Scripture, it appears that the Millennium is like a "firstfruits" of the eternal state. The Millennium will be like a preview of the eternal messianic kingdom that will be revealed fully in the eternal state. Therefore, because the two are alike in nature, they share distinct similarities. Yet because they are both different revealed time periods, they would likewise reflect some dissimilarities ..." (Ralph H. Alexander, *Ezekiel, Everyman's Bible Commentary*, Vol.6, page 945, note on *Does Ezekiel 40-48 Relate to the Millennium or to the Eternal State?*)

and they shall call thee, **The city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.**

Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, so that no man went through *thee*, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations.

Thou shalt also suck the milk of the Gentiles, and shalt suck the breast of kings: and thou shalt know that I the LORD *am* thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob.

For brass I will bring gold, and for iron I will bring silver, and for wood brass, and for stones iron: I will also make thy officers peace, and thine exactors righteousness.

Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise.

The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory. [\[typological of the Day of the Lord\]](#)

Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended. [\[symbolically speaking – and a type of the New Jerusalem\]](#)

Thy people also *shall be* all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.

A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I the LORD will hasten it in his time.” [\[the might of Israel during the millennium\]](#)
[\[compare this chapter with Ps 60\]](#)

B.5 Christ rules out of Zion

Joel 3:15-21:

“The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.

The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD *will be* the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. {hope: Heb. place of repair, or, harbour}

So shall ye know that I *am* the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more. {holy: Heb. holiness}

And it shall come to pass in that day *that* the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim. {flow: Heb. go}

Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence *against* the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land.

But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation. {dwell: or, abide}

For I will cleanse their blood *that* I have not cleansed: **for the LORD dwelleth in Zion.**”

“The mighty God, *even* the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof.

Out of **Zion**, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.

Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.

He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people.

Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.

And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God *is* judge himself. Selah.”
(Ps 50:1-6)

See Ps 9:11; 50:1-4; 135:21 etc.

Note: Jerusalem becomes the capital of the world: Zech 8:3 etc.

The nations are allocated their areas to flourish in given that they are described as distinct peoples in prophecy. See Dan 7:13-14.

B.6 The Rebellion of Ezek 38 & 39:

What are the origins and reasons for this invasion by these Eastern forces? Presumably these are the recalcitrant remnant of the 200 million horde

After the establishment of Israel in the holy land, the remnants of the Eastern forces attack the regathered Israel (Ezek 38 & 39):

“And I will set my glory among the heathen, and all the heathen shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them.

So the house of Israel shall know that I *am* the LORD their God from that day and forward.

And the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity: because they trespassed against me, therefore hid I my face from them, and gave them into the hand of their enemies: so fell they all by the sword.” (Ezek 38:21-23)

“God *is* our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. {for: or, of}

Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; {midst...: Heb. heart of the seas}

Though the waters thereof roar *and* be troubled, *though* the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.

There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy *place* of the tabernacles of the most High.

God *is* in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, *and that* right early. {and...: Heb. when the morning appeareth}

The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.

The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah. {our...: Heb. an high place for us}

Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth.

He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.

Be still, and know that I *am* God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah.” (Ps 46:1-6)

B.7 Example of Egypt:

Egypt – Prophecies on Egypt: Isa 19:1-25; Jer 25:19; Hos 7:16; 9:6; 12:1; Joel 3:19; Amos 2:10; 3:1; Nah 3:9; Zech 10:11.

Other scriptures dealing with the sons of Mizraim are: Ps 68:31; Jer 44:1; Ezek 29:14; Deut 2:43; Amos 9:7

It seems most likely that Zechariah chapter 14:1-11 refers to the first few years of the Millennium and it specifically states that Jerusalem (symbolic of all Israel) will be safely inhabited (cp Ezek 38:11,14). Then we are told:

“And this shall be the plague with which Jehovah will strike all the peoples who have fought against Jerusalem [\[both before and after the return of Christ\]](#). Their flesh shall rot while they stand on their feet, and their eyes shall rot in their sockets. And their tongue shall rot in their mouth.

And it shall be in that day a great panic of Jehovah shall be among them And they shall each one lay hold of his neighbor, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbor.

And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the nations all around shall be gathered, gold, and silver, and clothing in great abundance. [\[cp Ezek 39:10\]](#) And so shall be the plague of the horse, the mule, the camel, and the ass, and of all the beasts which shall be in these tents, like this plague.

And it shall be, everyone who is left of all the nations which came up against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, Jehovah of Hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

And it shall be, *that* whoso will not come up of *all* the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that *have* no *rain*; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. [\[cp Is 19:4-5\]](#)

This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar.

Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holy to Jehovah of Hosts. And all those who sacrifice shall come and take of them, and boil in them. And in that day there shall no longer be a trader [\[ie Canaanite – either spiritual or physical\]](#) in the house of Jehovah of Hosts.” (Zech 14:12-21)

Compare the above with Ezekiel:

“And I will call for a sword against him on all My mountains, says the Lord Jehovah. *Each* man's sword shall be against his brother. [\[cp Hag 2:22\]](#)

And I will judge him with a plague and with blood. And I will rain on him, and on his bands, and on the many peoples with him, an overflowing shower, and great hailstones, fire and brimstone.

So I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself. And I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I *am* Jehovah.” [\[and they know God by loving Him and obeying Him eg by observing the Feast of Tabernacles\]](#) (Ezek 38:21-23)

What of those nations that, prior to the liberation of Israel by Christ, would have enslaved Israel, but by now have repented and even assisted in the transporting of Israelite slaves to the Holy Land?:

“Sheba and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all their young lions [\[ie Assyria which is modern-day Germany in prophecy – See the proof in Nah 2:8-12; Hos 5:13-14; Jer 2:14-15, 18; 4:7; 50:17; Zech 11:3; Joel 1:6\]](#), shall say to you, Have you come to take a spoil? Have you gathered your company to steal a prize, to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?” (Ezek 38:13)

Here we are told that Gog and Magog etc's intent is to take from Israel what she has gathered from other nations. The nations speaking up and warning them are Sheba

(Schwabians), Dedan (Prussians), Tarshish (Spain and Japan) and the young lions (Assyria). These are nations which had formerly comprised the Beast power and allies. But now they are repentant and warn the enemies of Israel not to attack Israel, God's wife! Why? Because they would be very well aware of the consequences of such action!

Zech 14 may also be paralleled to Isaiah 19. There is an issue with Egypt (or what is left of it): keep the Feast of Tabernacles (and the other laws of course), or bear the consequences. Starting with Israel, then Egypt, Assyria etc, God commences a global theocracy nation-by-nation:

"The burden of Egypt. Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it.

And I will set the Egyptians against the Egyptians: and they shall fight every one against his brother, and every one against his neighbour; city against city, *and* kingdom against kingdom.

And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof; and I will destroy the counsel thereof: and they shall seek to the idols, and to the charmers, and to them that have familiar spirits, and to the wizards." (Is 19:1-3)

The above indicates that this occurs after the return of the Messiah. Compare with Zech 14:13.

"And the Egyptians will I give over into the hand of a cruel lord; and a fierce king shall rule over them, saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts.

And the waters shall fail from the sea, and the river shall be wasted and dried up." (vv4-5)

This may be cross-referenced to Zech 14:18. Isaiah continues:

"And they shall turn the rivers far away; *and* the brooks of defence shall be emptied and dried up: the reeds and flags shall wither.

The paper reeds by the brooks, by the mouth of the brooks, and every thing sown by the brooks, shall wither, be driven away, and be no *more*.

The fishers also shall mourn, and all they that cast angle into the brooks shall lament, and they that spread nets upon the waters shall languish.

Moreover they that work in fine flax, and they that weave networks, shall be confounded.

And they shall be broken in the purposes thereof, all that make sluices *and* ponds for fish." (vv6-10)

Perhaps so perplexed at what is going on, they turn to evil guides for answers:

"Surely the princes of Zoan *are* fools, the counsel of the wise counsellors of Pharaoh is become brutish: how say ye unto Pharaoh, I *am* the son of the wise, the son of ancient kings?

Where *are* they? where *are* thy wise *men*? and let them tell thee now, and let them know what the LORD of hosts hath purposed upon Egypt.

The princes of Zoan are become fools, the princes of Noph are deceived; they have also seduced Egypt, *even they that are* the stay of the tribes thereof.

The LORD hath mingled a perverse spirit in the midst thereof: and they have caused Egypt to err in every work thereof, as a drunken *man* staggereth in his vomit.

Neither shall there be *any* work for Egypt, which the head or tail, branch or rush, may do.

In that day shall Egypt be like unto women: and it shall be afraid and fear because of the shaking of the hand of the LORD of hosts, which he shaketh over it.” (vv11-16)

Now Egypt learns to fear Judah which God uses to punish them:

“And the land of Judah shall be a terror unto Egypt, every one that maketh mention thereof shall be afraid in himself, because of the counsel of the LORD of hosts, which he hath determined against it.” [see Zech 14:14 where Judah are portrayed as fighters] (v 17)

Then we have Egypt’s repentance:

“In that day shall five cities in the land of Egypt speak the language of Canaan, and swear to the LORD of hosts; one shall be called, The city of destruction. In that day shall there be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar at the border thereof to the LORD. And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt: for they shall cry unto the LORD because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them.” (vv18-20)

These oppressors are probably those referred to in verses 11-13.

“And the LORD shall be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians shall know the LORD in that day, and shall do sacrifice and oblation; yea, they shall vow a vow unto the LORD, and perform *it*. And the LORD shall smite Egypt: he shall smite and heal *it*: and they shall return *even* to the LORD, and he shall be intreated of them, and shall heal them. In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians. In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, *even* a blessing in the midst of the land: Whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, Blessed *be* Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance.” (vv21-25)

And so we have an alliance: Israel – the chief of all the nations; Egypt, chief of the Hamites and Assyria the chief of the Shemites. It seems that another will now join them – a nation descended from Japheth to become chief of the Japhethites under the overall leadership of Israel – this appears to be the world order that Christ will initiate. In other words the Messiah’s dealing with the hordes of Ezekiel 38 & 39 follow next in the sequence of prophesied events. The chief of these nations may be Meschech (given the prominence it has compared to other Japhetic nations).

Gradually nation after nation will submit to God through Israel’s conquests and leadership. Woe to them if they do not submit!

But only Egypt of the African nations is mentioned in Isaiah 19. While in Ezekiel 38 & 39 Egypt is not mentioned – this indicates that the prophecy in Isaiah 19 precedes that of Ezekiel where other African nations adjacent to Egypt are mentioned. Why? Because if Egypt was not repentant, it would have been part of these hordes along with their Hamitic brethren (Cush and Phut) – many of which dwell in adjacent lands.

For more detailed information on the war expounded upon in Ezekiel 38 & 39 refer to the article ***When do the Armies of Ezekiel 38 & 39 Invade Israel?***

B.8 Rebellions continue through the millennium:

How can this be?

Probably because human nature still lingers from the pre-millennial period; and because these nations would not have been reached yet to teach them God's truths; or they are in the beginning phase of learning and resent Christ's Government, His saints and Israel.

"And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, **to him will I give power over the nations:**

And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father." (Rev 2:26-27)

"But in the last days it shall come to pass, *that* the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

And **many nations** shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. {pruninghooks: or, scythes}" (Mic 4:1-3) [notice that certain nations are strong and they dwell in distant nations. Reaching them to bring them into submission may take a number of years]

The above appears to be after He establishes Himself in Jerusalem

"For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation. [Israel will be exalted, a type of Christians]

Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds.

Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a **twoedged sword** in their hand; {mouth: Heb. throat}

To execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people; To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;

To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD." (Ps 149:4-9) [all knees must bow toward the great King of the Earth – the Messiah. Bow, kneel, submit and serve – or face the terrible consequences]

Symbolically – and likely literally – rebellious national leaders will be dealt with during the Millennium. Uprisings against the King will not be tolerated.

"Mercy and truth preserve the king: and his throne is upholden by mercy." (Prov 20:28)

"<A Psalm of David.> The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength **out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.** [cp Rev 2:26-27; 19:15]

Thy people *shall* be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth. {from...: or, more than the womb of the morning: thou shalt have, etc}

The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath. He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill *the places* with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries. {many: or, great}
He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head." (Ps 110:1-7)

"Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that *men* may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and *that* their kings *may be* brought. {forces: or, wealth}

For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, *those nations* shall be utterly wasted.

The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the LORD, **The Zion** of the Holy One of Israel.

Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, so that no man went through *thee*, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations.

Thou shalt also suck the milk of the Gentiles, and shalt suck the breast of kings: and thou shalt know that I the LORD *am* thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob." (Is 60:11-16) [\[Israel will gather the 'nutrients' or blessings of other nations due to their servant leadership and assistance to these other peoples\]](#)

"The LORD shall judge the people: judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, and according to mine integrity that is in me." (Ps 7:8) [\[Christ will judge the nations - probably via His saints and Israel\]](#)

"Your hand will find all Your enemies; Your right hand will find those who hate You. You shall make them as a fiery oven in the time of Your anger; **The LORD shall swallow them up in His wrath**, And the fire shall devour them. Their offspring You shall destroy from the earth, And their descendants from among the sons of men." (Psalm 21:8-10 NKJV)

"The LORD has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek." The Lord is at Your right hand; **He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath**. He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries." (Psalm 110:4-6 NKJV)

"And they will be afraid. Pangs and sorrows will take hold of them; They will be in pain as a woman in childbirth; They will be amazed at one another; Their faces will be like flames. **Behold, the day of the LORD comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate;** And He will destroy its sinners from it. For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not give their light; The sun will be darkened in its going forth, And the moon will not cause its light to shine." (Isaiah 13:8-10 NKJV)

"Arise, O God, **judge the earth:** for thou shalt inherit all nations." (Ps 82:8)

"He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet! For God is the King of all the Earth: sing ye praises with understanding! God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of His Holiness." (Ps.47:2,3,7,8)

"Yea, all kings shall fall down before Him: all nations shall serve Him. And blessed be His glorious Name for ever: and let the whole Earth be filled with His glory; Amen, and Amen!" (Ps.72:11,19)

“But the LORD shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment. And **he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.**” (Ps 9:7-8)

“Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and **shall execute judgment and justice** in the earth.” (Jer 23:5)

“But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and **with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.**” (Is 11:4) [he will judge individuals and nations with justice and fairness]

“Say among the heathen that the LORD reigneth: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: **he shall judge the people righteously.** Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof. Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice. Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.” (Ps 96:10-13) [again, He will judge righteously and justly]

“That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations. Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: **for thou shalt judge the people righteously,** and govern the nations upon earth. Selah. Let the people praise thee, O God; **let all the people praise thee.** *Then* shall the earth yield her increase; *and* God, *even* our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.” (Ps 67:2-4)

“Before the LORD: for he cometh, **for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.**” (Ps 96:13)

“Before the LORD; for **he cometh to judge the earth:** with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.” (Ps 98:9)

“Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and **to establish it with judgment and with justice** from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.” (Ps 9:7)

“And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, **judging, and seeking judgment, and hastening righteousness.**” (Is 16:5)

“And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. **And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people:** 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.” (Is 2:3-4)

“And **he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off;** and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.” (Mic 4:3)

“Until the Ancient of days came, **and judgment was given to the saints of the most High;** and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.” (Dan 7:22)

The Judgment of the nations happens in conjunction with the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ also known as the millennium. This is not the great white throne judgment which happens after the millennium.

B.9 Repentant nations side with the Messiah and offer Him gifts

In many cultures, gifts to demonstrate friendship or submission are offered to leaders and kings. It is no different with the Messiah:

“They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.

For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and *him* that hath no helper.

He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy ..

His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and *men* shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed.” (Ps 72:9-13, 17)

“Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, **their silver and their gold with them**, unto the name of the LORD thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee.” (Is 60:9)

Notice also that the nations once part of the German-led US of Europe, warn Gog, Magog, Meschech and Tubal of their terrible fate if they attack God’s people. A fate of suffering at the hands of God which would be similar to their punishment some years earlier. So, it seems that these former members of the US of Europe warn Gog and Magog et al via emissaries not to do it but rather to learn from the lessons of history:

“Sheba [[Schwabians](#)], and Dedan [[Prussians](#)], and the merchants of Tarshish [[Spain and Japanese](#)], with all the young lions thereof [[Assyrians](#)], shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?” (Ezek 38:13)

B.10 Nations repentant – the saints rule:

Saints = Israel and church. In the Old Testament Israel is called the saints as the Church is in the New Testament. As such, the church is spiritual Israel – converted Israelites plus converted gentile grafted in to Israel, spiritually speaking.

Below is a chart comparing the roles and duties of Israel with the Church:

Israel – God’s saints	Church (spiritual Israel) – God’s saints
Tribulation	Tribulation & some in safety
Awaken	Resurrection
Rescued	Rescued at the resurrection
Cleansed	Cleansed finally at the resurrection
Restored	Inherit the Kingdom
Enter Holy Land	Enter Kingdom
Rewarded	Rewarded at the marriage supper

Rule the nations	Rule the world through Israel
Attacked at the end of the millennium	Attacked at the end of the millennium

Unfortunately, replacement theology has infected Christianity and even the Churches of God. They see the Church replacing Israel, rather than Christians being grafted into Israel spiritually and thus becoming spiritual Israelites. Read the entirety of Romans 10 and especially 11 for the proof that the Church and Israel become one – and therefore one bride of Christ.

Similarly, Christ will make the New Covenant with Israel which the Church is a part of. The Church, as a part of Israel, becomes the Bride of Christ in the millennium.

It is this Bride of Christ – spiritual Israel together with physical Israel – that will rule the world in the millennium under Christ, gradually enforcing God’s will upon the world. It will take some time, but it will happen.

We may find this taught typologically by the bulls sacrificed during the Feast of Tabernacles (Numbers 29:12-38) - in reduced numbers each day, viz:

Day 1	13
Day 2	12
Day 3	11
Day 4	10
Day 5	9
Day 6	8
Day 7	7
Total	70

Another is counted for the Last Great Day, but of the 70 sacrificed during the Feast of Tabernacles, the Jewish *Talmud* asks: “To what do these seventy bullocks correspond? To the seventy nations” listed in the mysterious Table of Nations.

A footnote reads: “Seventy is the traditional number of Gentile nations, and the seventy bullocks are offered to make atonement for them”.

In Israel, the priests were the ruling class. In God’s sacrificial system, bullocks were offered to make atonement for them (Lev 4:3) while Israel as a nation were also to sacrifice a bullock for national sins (Lev 4:13-14). In contrast a leader was to sacrifice a male goat (Lev 4:22-23) while the common people sacrificed a female kid or female lamb (Lev 4: 27-28, 32). Therefore the Jewish interpretation of the 70 bulls seems appropriate as they relate to rulers, leaders and nations. In Genesis 10 where we find the Table of Nations, we find, beside the name of Noah, 70 other names, representing the 70 nations.



Bulls – symbols of strength and power

Several other scriptures bear this out: in Ps 68:30 gentile kings are likened to bulls; as is the arrogance of Assyria (Is 10:13); the rulers and leaders of Edom (Is 34:7) and Babylon as well (Jer 50:27). We know from the Scriptures that there is organisation in Satan's Kingdom (Eph 6:12; Col 1:16) which he uses to manipulate and control this world's nations. One such evil spiritual leader over a nation is described by Daniel as the "prince of the kingdom of Persia", a very powerful and senior demon who has been granted such rulership over a nation or even an empire (Dan 10:13, 20) – so nations have demonic princes ruling over them.

These spirit rulers of nations may well be the bull demons of ancient mythology – very powerful gods in the religious belief systems of these civilisations. David himself may have been surrounded and attacked by these vile bull forces – very senior prince demons that influence nations - when he cried out to God to deliver him from them (Ps 22:12):

"Be not far from me; for trouble *is* near; for *there is* none to help. {none...: Heb. not a helper}

Many bulls have compassed me: **strong bulls** of Bashan have beset me round.

They gaped upon me *with* their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion. {gaped...: Heb. opened their mouths against me}

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. {out of...: or, sundered}" (Ps 22:11-14).

If David was beset by immensely powerful bull demons (ie princely creatures that are near the top of Satan's brutal chain of command and which influence national leaders), then are also Christians? Because of his senior position as a national leader, it may be that senior demons were unleashed upon him. It follows that Christians are possibly assailed by lesser demons. Well, that is just a thought.

Continuing with the bull theme: All over the ancient Middle East we find reference to the bull which is used as a symbol of strength and fertility as well as to bull gods. El, the supreme deity of the decadent Canaanite pantheon, was often called "the Bull El" (he was a fertility god). Baal, the god of fertility, storms, rain and vegetation is also called the Bull. Also among the Hittites, Aramaeans and Babylonians, the bull gods were a dominant feature of their religions, not to mention the many bull and calf-cults linked closely to the Egyptian god Horus.

Cattle cults among the Cushitic peoples of Ethiopia and India may be found to this day! In Mithraism, bull worship was an important aspect of their beliefs.

In Babylonia, figures of bull gods guarded the entrance into temples, houses and gardens (in contrast the lion of Judah was utilised extensively in the British Empire). During the Assyrian period a human face was added: at Khorsabad colossal human-headed winged bulls were found at the palace of Sargon II.

So, to come full circle, what do the 70 bulls represent in terms of the millennium? It is this: there will be a continuous, ongoing repentance with a gradual reduction in sin – and rebellion – by the princes and leaders of the nations – and therefore also by the peoples they lead.

Eventually, the nations will worship the Lord and follow His ways:

"Many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem." (Micah 4:2)

"And it shall come to pass, that **every one that is left of all the nations** which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles." (Zech.14:16 .)

"Until the Ancient of days came, **and judgment was given to the saints of the most High**; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom. And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him. " (Dan 7:22, 27)

This demonstrates that nations that survived the Day of the Lord and Armageddon, now repentant, observe the Feast of Tabernacles – an overall indication of a deeper and broader repentance that will take time to extend over the entire earth.

B.11 Rebellion again at the end of the millennium!:

It is interesting to note that there are invading armies coming against the 'camp of the saints' and 'beloved city' (Rev 20:9) holy land on both sides of the millennium.

"And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom *is* as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." (Rev 20:7-10)

Now it is clear that in accordance with God's great love for all that He has a great sense of justice and fairness. Therefore it follows that the judgment that will be meted out is really a sentencing because they would have tasted of the holy Spirit and known about His ways and laws.

Because they would have had an opportunity to fellowship with God they now face the sentencing. Notice

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad (2 Corinthians 5:10).

This is the final rebellion of the nations against God. His judgments at the Flood, Babel, ongoing over the millennia, Day of the Lord, during the millennium come to finalisation after the millennium.

God finally reigns as complete sovereign and none can withstand His power and glory forever!

C. Concluding Remarks:

From the above scriptures we can determine the following:

1. the Messiah – Christ – will make war with the nations during the Day of the Lord
2. Israel will be judged in the wilderness
3. the other nations will be judged at the commencement of and during the millennium
4. all nations will not be subject to His rule immediately upon the commencement of the 1,000 year period
5. peace will commence from Zion and gradually spread across the world which would, it seems, take a number of years to accomplish
6. the nations of Ezekiel 38 & 39 will be conquered some years after His return
7. other nations will be tested and given the opportunity to obey or rebel during the millennium
8. it would appear from the prophecies that various nations – or portions thereof – will choose to rebel even during the millennial rule of the Messiah. They will be put down with force by the Divine King!
9. at the end of the millennium the nations will be tested once more. This will be the final rebellion of the nations.

D. Further Reading:

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