

Israel At The Time Of The End

EZEKIEL:

THE LORD'S WATCHMAN

May 10, 2017 Part 2 Pastor Grant Williams

The Prophet Ezekiel has shown all Christians that we are to be watchmen on this earth, speaking the truth of the gospel to everyone we meet. From the Rapture, final judgement, heaven, hell, sin and the penalty for our sin, Ezekiel laid out the template for the minister of the gospel and to all Christians on what and how to live and speak.

We, you and I as followers of Jesus Christ cannot turn our backs on the perishing and go our own righteous way without being held accountable for those who die in sin that we could have reached. God told Ezekiel to groan with a broken heart and bitter grief for the coming judgment, and through this prophetic book, Ezekiel is telling us the very same thing. This judgment is coming! It will surely take place, declares the Sovereign Lord!

Remember as we laid down the foundation last week, that God used the prophets in the Old Testament for the people at that time **and** their message was for us today. In Joel 2, the prophet is speaking to the church, right now about what is going to take place.

Joel 2:28-29 KJV

28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Joel 2:28-29 GNT

28 “Afterward I will pour out my Spirit on everyone: your sons and daughters will proclaim my message; your old people will have dreams, and your young people will see visions.

29 At that time I will pour out my Spirit even on servants, both men and women.

Now, God said I will pour out My Spirit or Holy Spirit...this is very important to understand what is being spoken by the Prophet Joel and then confirmed in the book of Acts. This is key to not only understanding the prophecies in God’s Word but the recalling of God’s Word as well.

Acts 2:1-36 GNT

1 When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place.

2 Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3 Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there.

4 They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

5 There were Jews living in Jerusalem, religious people who had come from every country in the world.

6 When they heard this noise, a large crowd gathered. They were all excited, because all of them heard the believers talking in their own languages.

7 In amazement and wonder they exclaimed, “These people who are talking like this are Galileans!”

8 How is it, then, that all of us hear them speaking in our own native languages?

9 We are from Parthia, Media, and Elam; from Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia; from Pontus and Asia,

10 from Phrygia and Pamphylia, from Egypt and the regions of Libya near Cyrene. Some of us are from Rome,

11 both Jews and Gentiles converted to Judaism, and some of us are from Crete and Arabia—yet all of us hear them speaking in our own languages about the great things that God has done!”

12 Amazed and confused, they kept asking each other, “What does this mean?”

13 But others made fun of the believers, saying, “These people are drunk!”

Peter's Message

14 Then Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of

you who live in Jerusalem, listen to me and let me tell you what this means.

15 These people are not drunk, as you suppose; it is only nine o'clock in the morning.

16 Instead, this is what the prophet Joel spoke about:

17 ‘This is what I will do in the last days, God says: I will pour out my Spirit on everyone. Your sons and daughters will proclaim my message; your young men will see visions, and your old men will have dreams.

18 Yes, even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will proclaim my message.

19 I will perform miracles in the sky above and wonders on the earth below. There will be blood, fire, and thick smoke;

20 the sun will be darkened, and the moon will turn red as blood, before the great and glorious Day of the Lord comes.

21 And then, whoever calls out to the Lord for help will be saved.’

22 “Listen to these words, fellow Israelites! Jesus of Nazareth was a man whose divine authority was clearly proven to you by all the miracles and wonders which God performed through him. You yourselves know this, for it happened here among you.

23 In accordance with his own plan God had already decided that Jesus would be handed over to you; and you killed him by letting sinful men crucify him.

24 But God raised him from death, setting him free from its power, because it was impossible that death should hold him prisoner.

25 For David said about him, ‘I saw the Lord before me at all times; he is near me, and I will not be troubled.

26 And so I am filled with gladness, and my words are full of joy.
And I, mortal though I am, will rest assured in hope,

27 because you will not abandon me in the world of the dead;
you will not allow your faithful servant to rot in the grave.

28 You have shown me the paths that lead to life, and your
presence will fill me with joy.’

29 **“My friends, I must speak to you plainly about our famous
ancestor King David. He died and was buried, and his grave is
here with us to this very day.**

30 **He was a prophet, and he knew what God had promised
him: God had made a vow that he would make one of David's
descendants a king, just as David was.**

31 **David saw what God was going to do in the future, and so
he spoke about the resurrection of the Messiah when he
said, ‘He was not abandoned in the world of the dead; his body
did not rot in the grave.’**

32 **God has raised this very Jesus from death, and we are all
witnesses to this fact.**

33 He has been raised to the right side of God, his Father, and
has received from him the Holy Spirit, as he had promised. What
you now see and hear is his gift that he has poured out on us.

34 For it was not David who went up into heaven; rather he
said,

‘The Lord said to my Lord: Sit here at my right side

35 until I put your enemies as a footstool under your feet.’

36 “All the people of Israel, then, are to know for sure that this
Jesus, whom you crucified, is the one that God has made Lord
and Messiah!”

They, the 120 believers, were baptized in the Holy Spirit, spoke in tongues and the people heard them. The miraculous thing that was taking place wasn't just hearing them speak in tongues but that the group of believers all speaking the same thing - guided by the Holy Spirit spoke to all people. The Holy Spirit will only speak what the Father/The Word has spoken. When the Church, God's people, you and I, speak the same thing (not watered down) people will take notice and will not be confused.

After the manifestation (baptized in the Holy Spirit) took place, Peter immediately prophesied or was forth telling of what was already prophesied by the Prophet Joel. He identified that the baptism in the Holy Spirit that was happening at that time was the fulfillment of God's Word or the fore-telling of God's Word from 850 years earlier.

You have to know God's Word in order to identify that it is a prophetic Word from God that was given. You need the Holy Spirit to not only bring it into your remembrance but to give you the revelation to recognize that it is the "thing" that God's Word said.

When people realized that this "thing" was written long ago and now has come true they were open to hear Peter speak of the prophesy that was given about the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as well. That prophecy or fore-telling was fore told by Peter and identified that this just happened as well at the time they were all living. Jesus, the Word, in their lifetime had fulfilled prophesy by becoming flesh and thousands became followers of Jesus or The Word.

John 1:1 AMPC

1 In the beginning [before all time] was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God Himself.

John 1:14 AMPC

14 And the Word (Christ) became flesh (human, incarnate) and tabernacled (fixed His tent of flesh, lived awhile) among us; and we [actually] saw His glory (His honor, His majesty), such glory as an only begotten son receives from his father, full of grace (favor, loving-kindness) and truth.

Remember, in the New Testament, when you see the word **prophecy** it can be foretelling and/or forth-telling. Forth-telling is a phrase that we would say is proclaiming a “present now” truth that was spoken in the past. So, this is bringing forth something that was foretold.

Prophet defined by 1828 Webster’s Dictionary:

- 1. One that foretells future events; a predictor; a foreteller.**
- 2. a person illuminated, inspired or instructed by God to announce future events; as Jeremiah, Elijah, Isaiah, Ezekiel etc.**

Isaiah 46:9-10 KJV

9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,

10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

Isaiah 46:9-10 GNT

9 Remember what happened long ago; acknowledge that I alone am God and that there is no one else like me.

10 From the beginning I predicted the outcome; long ago I foretold what would happen. I said that my plans would never fail, that I would do everything I intended to do.

As we studied last week and it was detailed in your notes, the prophetic gifting that is recorded in the New Testament can come upon both a man and a woman. This is why Peter in Acts 2 on the day of Pentecost repeated Joel's prophecy saying sons and daughters, servants and handmaidens. This represented the older generation and the younger generation.

At the "Time Of The End" there will be a merging of the older and younger generations. This spiritual principle goes all the way back to the time of Joshua and Caleb in Numbers Chapters 13 & 14. The entire group fell into unbelief regarding entering and taking the Promised Land. But Joshua and Caleb (part of the older generation) because of their belief in God's Word, were allowed to lead this younger/next generation into the Promised Land.

God's People while in Egypt had a slave mentality. In the wilderness they had to learn sonship, that God was their father or they were the sons of God.

This is where they had to learn to trust Him for everything, He was their source which is how faith is established. But, when they got to Canaan or the Land Of Promises, they had to have a soldier mentality because they had to learn how to fight for what was already theirs.

It is at this time, *for such a time as this* that God is calling all believers to have a soldier mentality. We are getting ready to enter the Land of Promises, our final reward. The Rapture of the Church is about to take place and we are going to be forcibly removed (*harpazo* - 1 Thess. 4:16-17) out of harms way by God.

Esther 4:14 AMPC

14 For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance shall arise for the Jews (God's People) from elsewhere, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows but that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this and for this very occasion?

That is why Jesus commanded us to know the signs of the times to prepare us, the End Time Soldiers for this "Time Of The End" and the spiritual warfare that is in high places.

Matthew 24:33 KJV

*33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these **things** (converging at the same time), **know** (commanded to know the signs of His return) *that it is near, even at the doors.**

Luke 21:36 KJV

36 Watch (command to pay attention, to watch, don't put your head in the sand) ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Jesus has already spoken to the church of what will happen. He said we would need the Holy Spirit to be our guide, our comfort and that He, the Holy Spirit would remind us of “things” that we have heard and read. You can't remember or recall something if you never heard it or read it. God does not want us to fear or become complacent about the Time Of the End.

John 14:1-21 AMPC

23 Jesus answered, If a person [really] loves Me, he will keep My word [obey My teaching]; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home (abode, special dwelling place) with him.

24 Anyone who does not [really] love Me does not observe and obey My teaching. And the teaching which you hear and heed is not Mine, but [comes] from the Father Who sent Me.

*25 I have told you these **things** while I am still with you.*

*26 But the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, Standby), the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], **He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.***

27 Peace I leave with you; My [own] peace I now give and bequeath to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. **Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.** [Stop allowing yourselves to be agitated and disturbed; and do not permit yourselves to be fearful and intimidated and cowardly and unsettled.]

28 You heard Me tell you, I am going away and I am coming [back] to you. If you [really] loved Me, you would have been glad, because I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater and mightier than I am.

29 **And now I have told you [this] before it occurs, so that when it does take place you may believe and have faith in and rely on Me.**

Some of the things that Jesus or the Word has told us about regarding the Time Of The End is found in the book of Ezekiel. These things, that have already been written is what the Holy Spirit is going to remind you and I about so we are not fearful.

Last week we finished in talking about the nation of Israel in Ezekiel Chapter 37 which is the vision of the “valley of dry bones”. Those who have survived the Holocaust, I’m speaking of Jewish people, and many scholars believe that this prophecy is about that particular time in world history.

Ezekiel 37:1 KJV

37 The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones.

Ezekiel 37:1 AMPC

37 The hand of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.

The prophet is in a valley of bones that are dry. They are separated in different sections. There are skull bones in one section, back bones in one section, leg bones in another section. Ezekiel sees this in the vision and God asked him, can these dry bones live? Ezekiel answers and says, God, only You know.

Ezekiel 37:3-9 AMPC

3 And He said to me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God, You know!

4 Again He said to me, Prophecy to these bones and say to them, O you dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

5 Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath and spirit to enter you, and you shall live;

6 And I will lay sinews upon you and bring up flesh upon you and cover you with skin, and I will put breath and spirit in you, and you [dry bones] shall live; and you shall know, understand, and realize that I am the Lord [the Sovereign Ruler, Who calls forth loyalty and obedient service].

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a [thundering] noise and behold, a shaking and trembling and a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

8 And I looked and behold, there were sinews (tendons) upon [the bones] and flesh came upon them and skin covered them over, but there was no breath or spirit in them.

*9 Then said He to me, Prophecy to the breath and spirit, son of man, and say to the breath and spirit, Thus says the Lord God: **Come from the four winds**, O breath and spirit, and breathe upon these slain that they may live.*

The four winds always refers to the north, south, east and the west. So this is saying that there is going to be a regathering of the Jewish people. We will be studying this as well in the weeks to come.

Let's read verse 10, this is a very important verse...

Ezekiel 37:10 AMPC

10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath and spirit came into [the bones], and they lived and stood up upon their feet, an exceedingly great host (army).

This predicts that Israel will return to the land after being divided and separated after they looked like they were skeletons and become a great and might army in the land of Israel. This vision or prophecy says it will specifically be called Israel.

Ezekiel 37:11-12 AMPC

11 Then He said to me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, Our bones are dried up and our hope is lost; we are completely cut off.

*12 Therefore prophesy and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves, O My people; and I will bring you [back home] **to the land of Israel**.*



When you go back in history and look at the video, pictures, images of the Jewish people you will see that they were starved and were literally skin and bones. When they were found and brought back to the country they were literal skeletons with skin over the top of their bodies.

Many people asked, how can these people even live in the land where they are headed? But God, only God could have intervened and supernaturally restored His people and the land of Israel as it was prophesied. So, when you look at Ezekiel 37:1-12 it tells you and I that they will be called Israel and that they would be a great army. **The Prophet then continues...**

Ezekiel 37:19 KJV

19 Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand.

Ezekiel 37:19 AMPC

19 Say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph—which is in the hand of Ephraim—and the tribes of Israel his associates, and will join with it the stick of Judah and make them one stick, and they shall be one in My hand.



It is often pointed out in this particular prophesy how the tribes were divided. There were Northern tribes and Southern tribes. A separation had occurred during the time of the Assyrians. But it was foretold that God would bring them all back as one.

When you go to Israel today, people don't say I'm from the Tribe of Benjamin or I'm from the Tribe of Judah, they just say I'm from Israel. That is what the Prophet Ezekiel is saying is going to happen in the last days.

In verse 19 of Ezekiel 37 it says that *the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, will be put with the stick of Judah and they would be together.*

So, God brings the Jewish people back together after the Holocaust and gives them the land of Israel as prophesied. Now, there is a struggle with the division of the land and that struggle is pictured in Ezekiel Chapters 35 and Chapter 36. This is where I believe we are at prophetically right now. The Holocaust has happened, the Jewish people are back in their land and they have built a great army as was prophesied.

Northern and Southern Kingdoms Overview

God was greatly displeased with Israel's King Solomon when he was led astray by his foreign wives and worshiped their false gods, thus falling out of covenant with God (1 Kings 11:9-11). As a result, after Solomon died, God stripped away all but two of the tribes, Judah and Benjamin, from Solomon's son, King Rehoboam (12:21-24).

An Ephraimite, Jeroboam, became king over the house of Israel (1 Kings 12:20), which also came to be called Ephraim. From that point forward, the house of Judah (also known as the house of David) and the house of Israel/Ephraim were separated from each other.

Around 722 B.C., during the reign of Hoshea (the last king of Israel), the Assyrians took Israel into captivity and deported the people of the Northern Kingdom to Assyria (2 Kings 17:5,6). In about 586 B.C., during the reign of Zedekiah (the last king of Judah), the Babylonians burned down most of Jerusalem and exiled the people of the Southern Kingdom, mostly Judah, to Babylon (2 Kings 25:1-11; Jeremiah 52:28-30). It should be pointed out that there were not absolute, exclusive divisions between the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah, prior to their respective banishments and exiles to Assyria and Babylon. There was some overlapping of tribes in both places, due to marriage, migration, and location.

For instance, Levites sided with Rehoboam (king of Judah) and came to Judah because Jeroboam (king of Israel) had rejected them (2 Chronicles 11:13,14). Many from every tribe of Israel followed the Levites to Jerusalem, supporting Rehoboam after they got there (11:16,17). Some members of Ephraim, Manasseh and Simeon settled in Judah (15:9). The whole territory of Simeon was located within the territory of Judah (Joshua 19:1,9).

Most of the Israelites, after being taken captive by the Assyrians, did not return to the land of Israel, though. They fled, migrated, and were exiled to other places, eventually being scattered among the nations of the world, where they remain today.

Many exiles from the Babylonian captivity returned to Jerusalem and Judah (Nehemiah 7:6). This was in accordance with a prophecy made by Jeremiah to the exiles in Babylon (Jeremiah 29:1-13), in which he stated that after seventy years, the people would return to Jerusalem (29:10). However, not all of Judah returned; many of their descendants were scattered all over the earth. These, along with those scattered by the Romans in 70 A.D., were part of the Jewish diaspora.

In chapter 35 and 36, the Prophet Ezekiel begins to talk about a prophecy concerning Mount Seir.

Ezekiel 35:1-2 KJV

1 Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

2 Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it,



Now, the area of Edom is where Mount Seir is located. The Edomites were the descendants from a man named Esau. Jacob and Esau had a conflict with one another (Genesis 25:26-34 and Chapter 27). Jacob took his brother's birthright and blessing and Esau hated him for it. This started the animosity between the Arab and Jewish people.

Mount Seir today is located in the country of Jordan. So, when you begin to read a prophecy that is 2500 years old you have to ask yourself who are they talking about.

The people who call themselves Palestinians who live in the nation of Israel today live in the area of the Gaza Strip or the West Bank.

Those individuals who classify themselves as Palestinians being an Arab or a Muslim that lived in Israel prior to 1948 are saying, 'our family lived here before the Jews lived here and became a nation'.



The individuals who would consider themselves Palestinians are actually descendants of Esau or they would be classified, from Mount Seir today. The reason I'm going through this background is when you start reading Ezekiel Chapter 35 and 36, you start seeing a conflict develop that the prophet is talking about and it is speaking directly to what is happening today.

Ezekiel 35:3-5 KJV

3 And say unto it, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O mount Seir, I am against thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate.

4 I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the Lord.

5 Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end:

There are/will be, people from Mount Seir, the Edomites, who are going to try and split Israel into 2 nations. Once again, those individuals who would consider themselves Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza strip are actually descendants of Esau or they would be classified, from Mount Seir today.

The conflict that we see happening today between the Jews and the Palestinians is nothing new. This goes all the way back to Esau and Jacob, 2 brothers wrestling for a piece of property.

Ezekiel 35:10 KJV

10 Because thou (Mount Seir or Edom) hast said, These two nations (Judah and Israel) and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas the Lord was there:

Ezekiel 35:10 GNT

10 “You (Mount Seir or Edom) said that the two nations, Judah and Israel, together with their lands, belonged to you and that you would possess them, even though I, the Lord, was their God.

THE KINGDOMS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

1 KGS 12

- City
- ★ Capital city
- City (uncertain location)
- ▲ Mountain peak
- Israel
- Judah
- International roads
- Local roads

0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles
0 10 20 30 40 50 Kilometers

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

32° N

32° N



Let's start putting this together...the Palestinians/Edomites or people from Mount Seir who are currently in the Gaza Strip and West Bank are speaking of Israel/Judah territory or the entire land of Israel as we know it today. The Palestinians are saying, we are going to divide Israel up into 2 parts. We are going to take one part and we will let them have the other part. But then, these 2 nations will be ours (Ezekiel 35:10).

So, after we get what we want, the dividing of Israel, we are going to go after the land that was just divided so we can own both of them. That is exactly what you are hearing today all over the world from the people who are the descendants of Esau.

Ezekiel 36:1-2 KJV

1 Also, thou son of man, prophesy unto the mountains of Israel, and say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord:

2 Thus saith the Lord God; Because the enemy hath said against you, Aha, even the ancient high places are ours in possession:



The ancient high places according to the biblical term is the area of Judea and Samaria which today is known as the West Bank. This is the area that is on the news continuously where the Palestinians live, descendants of Esau that Israel annexed in right after the 1967 war. It was part of the country of Jordan divided now by the Jordan river.

