

September 04, 2020

## The "Tribes of Israel" in an End of the Age Context

Warm hellos to you dear brethren, co-workers, spiritual family on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, and scattered children of God, from our offices here in Spanish Fort, AL.

My wife and I pray and hope this finds you all doing well, and that again your week has been blessed.

Time moves quickly it seems, and it's hard to imagine that the Festival of Trumpets is upon us in just a couple weeks and we will celebrate the Feast of Atonement shortly thereafter. It seems like we were just doing so. I've noticed the end time conditions of the tribes of Israel and other areas of the globe are topics of interest to many of you with your correspondence. We find many prophecies in Scripture that have a dual application, especially in the application of the principles embedded in specific prophecies.

A question that arises is, does Scripture address the "Tribes of Israel" in an end of the age or "latter days" context? Certainly the book of Revelation has an end time context involving the general time of the Day of the Lord (Revelation 1:10). This is the reference to "things which must shortly take place" (v.1) and to "the time is near" (v.3). When one is taken forward into time as John was, the events that are revealed are happening or about to happen it certainly appears (or at least in part).

Revelation 7 records the sealing of "One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel" (v.4). These tribes exist at that time at the end of the age. Also, it's logical to assume that a warning message has been sent to these people and at least some individuals in these tribes have responded. Sealing is associated with receiving the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13; Ephesians 4:30) Sealing or marking is also associated with setting aside for protection and deliverance those who have obeyed God (Ezekiel 9:1-6; Exodus 13:9).

Many prophecies clearly refer to the tribes of Israel in the end time context that are being and will be fulfilled before our eyes. "And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it." (Jeremiah 30:7) The prophet Joel spoke of the time when God will proclaim, "For behold, in those days and at that time, when I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations..." (Joel 3:1-2). This and other prophecies indicate that some of those of the

tribes of Judah and Joseph will return to the ancient land of Canaan just before Christ descends to the Mount of Olives with His armies. Notice what Jeremiah says.

3 "But I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. 5 "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. 6 In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. 7 "Therefore, behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that they shall no longer say, 'As the LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,' 8 "but, 'As the LORD lives who brought up and led the descendants of the house of Israel from the north country and from all the countries where I had driven them.' And they shall dwell in their own land." (Jeremiah 23:3-8)

This second exodus of the children of Israel will take place when the Branch, the Messiah, is preparing to return and then does return to set up His government. Notice the prediction for the prophet Hosea, "Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They shall fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days" (Hosea 3:5)

The prophet Zechariah also predicts the re-gathering of the Israelites from a condition of scattered captivity. "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Behold, I will save My people from the land of the east And from the land of the west; I will bring them back, And they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. They shall be My people And I will be their God, In truth and righteousness.' (Zechariah 8:7-8)

Here's one more prophecy from Zechariah; "I will whistle for them and gather them, for I will redeem them; And they shall increase as they once increased. I will sew them among the peoples, and they shall remember Me in far countries; They shall live, together with their children, And they shall return. I will also bring them back from the land of Egypt, and gather them from Assyria. I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon, until no more room is found for them." (Zechariah 10:8-11)

We find the principle of the watchman in Ezekiel 33 to be one we can identify with. The message of the *Gospel of the Kingdom* includes a message with a call to repentance and the encouragement of God's mercy and promises for those who turn to Him and change their actions and attitudes. It is also a sober warning to not take God's calling and invitation to participate in salvation for granted! You and I must endure and hope to the end! (Matthew 24:13; Hebrews 3:6)

May the Lord bless the message of Christ's Body, His church, and bless those who respond to it. Among those will be some of the tribes of Israel...

Arms up friends! Our prayers and thoughts are with you daily. Please do pray for us as well.

-Scott Hoefker

(Pastor, The Living God Ministries Gulf Coast)

Telephone Ministry (English): Call 1-712-770-4700; then, when asked, enter Code 112165 # to join.

(Note: All callers are muted and must press \*6 to comment and \*6 to resume mute.)

All times are listed in Central Standard Time zone.

## Our Daily Bread Recordings

Sunday through Saturday / Our Daily Bread [listen anytime 24/7 to a recorded 15 minute message] Call 1-712-770-4709 (note this call in number is different and ends in "9"), then when asked, enter code 112165# [reference code numbers are on "Spiritual Fellowship Opportunities" on this website <a href="http://www.tlgministriesgc.org">http://www.tlgministriesgc.org</a> or at "Resources/Archives" on <a href="http://www.haggai114.net">http://www.haggai114.net</a>]

## **Daily Fellowship Opportunities**

Sunday – Friday / Morning Sacrifice (Prayers & Scripture Reading) at 6:00 a.m.
Sundays / The Minor Prophets (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. [Whit, Logan & Friends]
Mondays / Africa Discipleship at 7:00 a.m. [Stephen & Moses]
Almond Branch Fellowship at 6:30 p.m. (Interactive) (Stephen & Friends)
Tuesdays / Haggai Fellowship (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. (Interactive) [Stephen & Friends]
Wednesdays / Africa Discipleship at 7:00 a.m. [Stephen & Moses]
1st & 3rd Wednesday / Sons of God Fellowship (Young men training) at 6:30 p.m. [Stephen & Friends]
2nd & 4th Wednesday / Lydian's Fellowship (Ladies) at 6:30 p.m. [Esther/Gayle/Laura & Friends]
Thursdays / Mt. Carmel Fellowship (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. [Scott & Friends]

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