

# The Chosen People



Volume IX, Issue 4 May 2003

## THE FUTURE OF ISRAEL *The Future of the World*



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# The Future of Israel of the World



Dear friends,

Shalom from New York City. This past month was filled with images of war.

We are all weary of war, yet war is a fact of life and will continue to be until Jesus reigns as King on planet Earth. Jesus Himself told us in the Olivet Discourse that “wars and rumors of wars” (Matthew 24:6) would characterize human history until the day He reigns victorious.

And because God’s Word is true, you can be assured that this day will come. If you want to know where humankind is headed, then you must turn to the pages of God’s Word for answers.

Don’t you find it remarkable that even thousands of years after the Bible was written, our end-times eyes are still focused on the Middle East? If you want to know what will happen in the future, then you must pay attention to Israel. The destiny of the Jewish people is intertwined with the Second Coming of Jesus and the final act of world redemption.

Many sections of Scripture detail the role of the Jewish people in the end days, but one chapter in particular, Zechariah 12, shows us how crucial the Jewish people are to the fate of the world. Once again, our eyes are drawn towards the Middle East.

## **Zechariah Chapter 12**

The chapter begins with what almost seems like a CNN news report!

According to the prophet, the nations of the world are gathering against Israel to stage a final attack against this tiniest of nations.

The burden of the word of the LORD against Israel. Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him: "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it" (Zechariah 12:1-3).

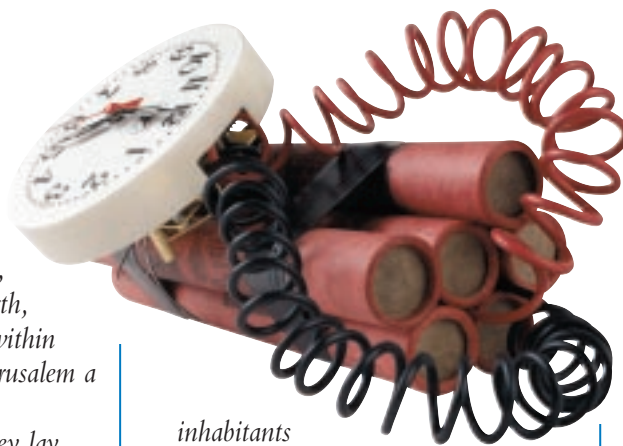
At the heart of it all is a spiritual conflict. After all, the Apostle Paul tells us that our real battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the spiritual forces of darkness (Ephesians 6:12). In other words, the real war we are fighting is against the devil.

Behind the scenes of history, the evil one has been trying to destroy the Jewish people and will continue to try until the end of time. He hopes to destroy the Jewish people so that the end-time remnant does not embrace the Messiah Jesus. But we know that the evil one will not succeed!

## The Repentance of the Remnant

The prophet describes a day of battle when it seems that all hope is gone for the beleaguered remnant. With their backs against a wall, the Jewish people are about to be destroyed once for all. But something dramatic happens. The remnant repents and receives the One who died for them, and they are delivered from certain destruction.

*It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour on the house of David and on the*



*inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn (Zechariah 12:9-10).*

The description of these events is startling! God sets out to deliver His people—because He is faithful to His promises. He did swear to Abram that He would bring blessing to the world through his descendants (Genesis 12:3), a promise He repeated to Isaac and Jacob.

The Holy One of Israel could not possibly allow His chosen people to be destroyed.

Yet the key to their deliverance would go far beyond military means; because the problem and motivation for the destruction of the Jewish people is spiritual, the solution is spiritual as well.

The remnant will turn to the One whom they have pierced and repent. This will precipitate the Second Coming of Jesus and lead to an intense period of national mourning.

This should not surprise us, as Jesus Himself said it would happen in Matthew:

*O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! See! Your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say,*

*"Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!" (Matthew 23:37-39).*

We will see this prophecy of the Savior fulfilled when the prophecy of Zechariah is fulfilled. The end-time remnant will repent and receive the One Whom their forefathers rejected, and His coming will begin the transformation of the planet.

## True Messianic Peace

True Messianic peace will come after the events of this day take place. Each day brings us one day closer. The reports we read and watch during these days are a realistic reminder that the "end of days" can happen at any moment.

What do we do until then?

We proclaim the Good News to Jews and Gentiles. We have been called by the Lord—who will one day return to reign as King—to go into the world and bring His message of peace.

This is why I am so grateful for you and for our missionary staff around the world. Because of your faithful prayers and support, our staff—serving in ten countries now—is able to fulfill this mandate to reach the world. We will continue to do so, with God's help and yours, until that Day comes upon us. I especially admire the courage of our workers in Israel and other difficult places. What an example they are to us!

Enjoy this newsletter. I pray it will help you to look ahead in hope, knowing that one day, He will put an end to war and establish peace on the earth.

Even so, come Lord Jesus!

Your brother,

Mitch



Dr. Mitch Glaser  
President