



**ALL
EYES
ARE
ON
ISRAEL**

MARK TWAIN ONCE SAID THAT IF JESUS WERE REALLY THE SON OF GOD, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN BORN AT LAKE TAHOE INSTEAD OF BETHLEHEM.

Quite evidently, Mr. Twain knew little of the wisdom and ways of The Creator, because God uses the plain, modest, and unsuspecting for His works. Then there are many today who blame religion for all the wars in this world. The latter, although not knowing the real reasons, are the closest to truth of all. Most all of our wars and terrorist attacks can be traced to the Nation of Israel by first looking to the Promise of Israel, and by all means, the wars and killing that have resulted from the Promise and Nation of Israel are not yet complete. Understanding of Israel comes in “twos and twelves.”

In the Book of Genesis, after the Great Flood of Noah, Abram was born to the lineage of Shem, Noah’s son. Abram moved to the land of “Canaan,” (another of Noah’s sons, 13:12). Now since Abram’s wife, Sarai, was barren and old, she brought Hagar, their Egyptian servant in to Abram. When Hagar became pregnant, Sarai became very jealous, and beat and drove Hagar into the wilderness. There the Lord met Hagar and told her to return to Abram’s house, where she would give birth to a son, Ishmael, who would be “a wild donkey of a man, his hand would be against everyone, everyone’s hand will

be against him and he will live to the east with his brothers” (16:11-12). Then, after God gave the Covenant of Circumcision, He renamed Abram and Sarai to Abraham and Sarah and gave them the promise of a son, Isaac, with whom He would establish an everlasting covenant, to him and his descendants after him (17:19). Abraham prayed for Ishmael and God answered that he (Ishmael) would multiply exceedingly and would become the father of twelve princes, and “I will make him a great nation (Arab),” but “His covenant” He would establish with Isaac.

The sons came in twos, and thus the Arab and Jewish peoples have within them the same “father,” but with different promises. Some years afterward, God tested Abraham with the command to sacrifice his son, Isaac. He made all the preparations for the sacrifice, but God intervened by providing His own sacrifice, a ram caught in the thicket. Because of Abraham’s obedience to sacrifice his son, his “only son” (22:16), God promised to provide a blessing to his seed, thus, He gave through Abraham’s lineage, His own sacrifice for mankind, Jesus, the Lamb of God.

Later, King Solomon built a temple to his God, but it was destroyed. King Herod later rebuilt it, but, it too, was destroyed. In its place, and over the stone where, supposedly, Abraham brought Isaac to be sacrificed, is now built the Mosque of Omar, the most sacred site in Islam, which is equal in

significance to the mosque built over the Cave of Machpelah, where Abraham and Sarah are supposedly buried in Hebron.

Isaac had a son, Jacob, who was also called Israel, meaning “one who prevails with God.” That name was passed on to his sons and the twelve tribes they founded, and also to the land God promised them as an inheritance, “The Promised Land.”

So there you have it—a small piece of land, sacred to the Jews, Muslims, and Christians alike. The Jews possess it, Christians love and protect it, but Muslims control the vital Holy Ground. There is much jealousy and “bad blood” between them.

All eyes are on Israel, but two important sets of eyes are key to our understanding. God is watching, because it was through the Jewish people who were destined to bring the Savior and His news of Salvation to the rest of the world, but the Jews rejected their Own and crucified Him. Satan is watching, because He hates the Chosen People, the ones who brought forth God’s Son. Satan’s disciples have for centuries tried to exterminate the Jews. He nearly succeeded with Hitler’s Holocaust, but a righteous hand arose and defeated that effort, and Israel was restored. He has another plan, well-documented in the Book of Daniel and throughout the Bible. As an imitator, he has his own son (the Antichrist), who will come to complete the job of killing the Jews and the remnant (Christians) of the Seed of Israel (Christ). He won’t be

entirely successful, but the Tribulation will be great for all who love the Most High God.

This time of Great Tribulation will last for 3½ years, and begins when the Antichrist occupies the Holy Temple site and curses God and claims himself to be God (Daniel 7:24-26). Yes! Now that one spot in all the world, sacred to the three major religions, will be the stage for the devil's most evil manifestation of all time.

Then 1260 days from that Man of Sin's occupation of the Holy Temple site, Jesus will come to earth for a second time and slay the Antichrist and remove, by resurrection, all on earth, both dead and alive, those who love Him and are called by His name (I Cor. 15:52). Then, for thirty days after that, God's Wrath is poured out on all those who have rejected Him. That will conclude the end of the age as we know it.

There is more, much more, but for now we can see why all eyes are on Israel. The principal event that marks the time that the Beast will move into the Holy Temple site is one that occurs 3½ years earlier, when he signs with Israel a "Covenant of Peace." Israel will think they are getting a seven-year peace guarantee, but instead, it is a contract of death.

It is natural for us to wonder and speculate where we stand in time, and that is important. This fight that is coming can't be avoided. We won't escape the coming days, we can only be prepared. To endure the greatest deception and persecution of all time, we must first belong to God's

Messiah—Jesus, because He is the only One Who can give us wisdom, strength, and the peace of His Salvation. Your prayer for faith to believe in Him, and trust in His spilled Blood as sufficient to remove your sin, will bring you to His Throne of Grace. There you must stay while you grow in Him. Anything less than that is playing with fire and death.

Satan, who will masquerade himself as "Christ on earth," will seal as many people unto damnation as possible by requiring a mark bearing his image, on the right hand or forehead, in much the same way Christ will seal His faithful with His new Name on their forehead after His return (Rev. 3:12). This message is vital FYI (*For Your Information*), as also, it is your personal invitation to, by faith believing, accept Christ's gift of sacrifice unto salvation.

—Tom Buttram

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