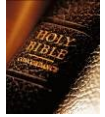


The DEFENDER—November 2023



“. . . defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

A monthly publication of the
IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast
and the Cub Hill Bible Presbyterian Church.



FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK: What Will God Do?

What will He do with you? Just as important is the question, ‘What will you do with Him?’ Put another way, it might be described as finding your purpose. The prophet Jeremiah’s message from the Lord to the Jewish captives in Babylon was that God had a plan for each of them (Jeremiah 29:11), even though it might not have looked that way in real time. They were prisoners of another people, many miles from their home. And what about Isaiah, by His own admission a man of unclean lips, held in the bondage of sin? But a man who, when God asked “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” answered “Here am I; send me.” We’re all familiar with Mordecai’s query of his cousin in Esther 4:14, “...and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”

It’s obvious that the Holy Spirit is at work when God is ready to put His plan into action. But there’s also a bit of courage, or holy boldness at work on the human side as well. And from where do we summon that courage to move forward in the will of God but by faith? Without faith it’s impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6). By faith Noah built an ark, Abraham went out into a place, not knowing where he was going, and Moses, when he was born, was hidden in the bulrushes of the Nile by his faithful mother. Church history, as well is replete with instances of faithful courage, not the least of which was the stand taken by Martin Luther and the Reformers against the powerful Church of Rome.

But what about you? Does God have a plan for your life? You don’t need to look any further than the Great Commission. You’re here for a reason. That much is clear. Believers have received the highest calling from heaven. Share the gospel with the lost. Someone once shared it with you. This is how God has chosen to bring His sheep into the fold. If you love the Lord, prove Him. In Malachi 3:10 He said prove Me and see if I will not pour out a blessing upon you. In 2 Chronicles 16:9 God said He wants to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose hearts are perfect toward Him. If it’s just courage you lack, ask Him for it. The apostle Peter told us that it’s God’s will that He doesn’t want any of His children to perish (2 Peter 3:9). Jesus said in John 14 whatever we ask in His name (His will) He will do it. We all have friends and family who are still dead in their sins, sitting on the very edge of hell itself. Don’t let them fall in without hearing the truth of the gospel.

Rev. David Lewis

Israel and End-Time Prophecies
Part 1 – Holy Men Wrote By the Spirit of God

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

Our Creator and Savior chose to bring Divine wisdom to His adopted children through the Old and New Testaments penned by “Holy Men” moved by the Holy Spirit (2 Pet. 1:19-21; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). All who love the Lord (Mark 12:30) rejoice in the promise of Christ our Redeemer’s words, “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions... (John 14:1-3). I go to prepare a place FOR YOU.” What must we do to acquire our mansion? The only thing we can do – “believe” (Acts 16:30-31). Jesus also plainly said, “Ask and it shall be given ...” (Matt. 7:7-11).

All chosen by Christ (John 15:16; Acts 13:48) are taught there is “ONE GOD” (Deut. 6:4) living and true (1 Thes. 1:9) who manifests before mankind in a Divine plurality (“Let US make man in OUR IMAGE and LIKENESS” – Gen. 1:26-27) that the ever-living Christ calls “Father, Son and Holy Spirit” (Matt. 28:18-20; see also 1 Pet. 1:2).

The eternally begotten Son of the Living God (John 3:16, 1 John 4:9) never uttered an unimportant word or an unimportant doctrine. At Christ’s ceremonial baptism by John in the Jordan, John asked, “I have need to be baptized of thee and comest thou to me?” Jesus answered, “Suffer it [allow it] now ... it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness” ... many prophecies were to be accomplished in the three-year ministry of Jesus Christ including His coming crucifixion death and burial after rejection by unsaved, unsanctified lost leaders ruling Israel (John 3:18-19; Matt. 23: ALL; John 10:24-26).

Regarding God’s chosen nation Israel, many prophecies had been promulgated from early in Genesis (Gen. 2:17; 3:15; 12:1-3) by numerous prophets called by God (Moses: Deut. 18:15-22; David: Ps. 2:2, 69:21, 110:1; Isaiah: 2:3-4; 7:14; 9:6-7; Jer. 23:5; Daniel:2:44; 4:35; 9:25; Micah: 5:2; Zech. 6:12; 9:9; 12:9; 14:4); many more could be cited.

The New Testament goes further showing God’s Word to be nearly one-third composed of prophecies in over two thousand verses. From this foundation God has challenged every false teacher and every satanically inspired philosopher and every tenet of man-made works – righteousness religions; to give proof that God alone can declare the future.

The Lord declared to false teachers, “Present your case, bring forward your strong arguments ... what is going to take place ... announce to us what is coming” (Is. 41:21-23). Isaiah further wrote these words of God, “I Am the Lord ... I will not give my glory to another ... I declare ‘NEW THINGS’; before they spring forth I proclaim them to you” (Is. 42:8-9).

At this time in October 2023, Almighty God has allowed Israel to again suffer a new Holocaust. Israel still has many enemies with whom she has had to engage in warfare. While Jordan has been such a nation at times, she has recently been defeated and was routed out of Jerusalem in the “Six Day” war in June of 1967. Yet Israel still does not possess all the land God promised to Abraham (Gen. 17:7-8).

Danny Miller, in his 1988 edition of his book “Israel, THE FUTURE AND YOU” stated that the place to begin a study of “end-time” prophecy is with Jordan because Israel is in control of the land Islam

believes belongs to them, and historically Jordan was composed of EDOM, MOAB and AMMON and some of God's decrees and judgments still apply to these three. This current October 2023 war will certainly engender calls for condemnation of Israel even though "they were attacked" and today many nations are avowed enemies of Israel including Russia and China (see Zech. 12:2-3).

Isaiah recorded that Israel will one day "... plunder the people to the east. They will lay hands on Edom and Moab and the Ammonites will be subject to them" (Is. 11:14). Israel in 1967 took Philistia for the first time (including the Gaza strip). Israel was left with no choice but a lightning attack upon the nations amassed on her tiny borders (Egypt, Jordan, Syria, etc.) with planes, tanks, and troops) all avowing to shove Israel into the sea. For the first time since Isaiah penned 11:14, Israel took Philistia but very quickly traded land for peace and so is fighting again in that same area (2023 war).

Perhaps the greatest miracle of 1967 was Israel taking back Jerusalem after centuries of having been under Gentile control and much of the time with Israel dispersed throughout the world. Now Jerusalem is no longer under Gentile domination; Israel is undivided and without a King. Thus far Israel has yet to fully recover the lands of Edom, Moab, and Ammon (Is. 11:14b).

Israel came through centuries of captivity and widespread dispersion up to the mid-twentieth century having been scattered for nearly 2,500 years and no people was subject to them. Isaiah was born into a time when Israel was a divided Jewish state; ten tribes controlled the north, Judah and Benjamin the south, each having their own Kings. In God's time, Assyria conquered the North and deported them and later the Babylonians crushed and deported Israel's Southern Kingdom to Nebuchadnezzar's land of Babylon.

Nevertheless, Isaiah's prophecies also promised a future when God's chosen nation would not only live again in their own land (May 14, 1948) and later set Jerusalem free from Jordanian captivity (June 1967) and rise in mighty enough power to one day possibly see the fulfillment of all of Isaiah 11:14 and all other land promises. If God has decreed it, Israel will surely come to possess not only Jordan but parts of other lands as well. "Hear the Word of the Lord, in that day the root of Jesse [DAVID] will stand as a banner ... nations will rally to him ... the Lord will ... reclaim the remnant ... of His people from Assyria ... Cush, Egypt, Elam, Babylonia, Hamath and the 'islands of the sea'." He will ... gather the exiles of Israel ... from the four quarters of the earth ... Ephraim will not be jealous of Judah, nor Judah hostile toward Ephraim. They will swoop down on the slopes of Philistia toward the west and spoil them of the east and bring to completion all prophecies and land promises for Israel.

None know if this war in 2023 will now bring complete fulfillment of Isaiah's and other prophecies and promises of God; or will it be a yielding and a volunteering to be under God's rule as happened with Rahab and her family at Jericho or when the Jebusites acknowledged David's rule in Jerusalem (Hittites like Uriah who swore allegiance to David and to Israel – 2 Sam. 11:11).

The balance of Danny Miller's book deals mostly with the other nations that will fall before the might of God and of Israel. Syria and Damascus are a present day remnant of ancient Assyria and still carries several unfulfilled biblical judgments that have not been completed including the final ruination of Damascus and also with Moab and Ammon some judgments remain to be realized.

The ancient prophet Isaiah, who saw firsthand the defeat of Israel's Northern tribes by Assyrian hordes, heard also God's promises that the future will not only hold defeat for Assyria (Isaiah 10:5-

12) but likewise future judgment awaits Damascus; “The burden of Damascus ... it shall be a ruinous heap” (Is. 17:1). Isaiah reiterates that the yet unfulfilled judgment against Assyria is tied to the cessation of God’s anger against disobedient Israel. “In that day” Syria will be judged while Israel will be in an “era of blessing” (the Lord Almighty will lash them ... as He did in Egypt ... (Is. 10:26-27).

From the mid-twentieth century and up to our day (since May 14, 1948) Israel has transformed a desert wasteland into a veritable “breadbasket” blossoming like a rose (Is. 35:1). Israel’s fatness includes one of the mightiest armies on earth considering its size. In medical and laser technologies, etc., Israel leads in the world. In our time, God’s hand of protection continually rests upon His sovereignly chosen in spite of only a small remnant have come to their Messiah Jesus Christ. Still the ranks of true believers is growing every day and their testimonies can be viewed on line at www.ONEFORISRAEL.com and www.IFOUNDSHALOM.com.

Isaiah had recorded centuries before He came that the Hebrew leaders would turn from their promised Messiah (Is. 53; Daniel 9; Zech. 13&14). All the Old Testament prophets declared the Jews will return in mass to their Promised Land and to their God and Savior, Jesus Christ (Zech. 12:8-10). Christ will return to deliver Israel with His bride – His church (1 Thes. 4:13-18; Rev. 19:1-16). No one knows the day or hour so ... Keep looking up (Luke 21:28).

Chief Source:

Author:

Publisher:

Israel, THE FUTURE AND YOU

Danny Miller and Kathy Quintana

Shalom Publications

Loveland, CA (1988 Edition)



Harvesting a Grateful Heart

By Nancy Long

Psalm 69:30 – *“I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving.”*

Psalm 100:4 – *“Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.”*

Psalm 106:1 – *“Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.”*

Psalm 107:8-9 – *“O that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! For He satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.”*

Psalm 145:1 – *“I will extol Thee, my God, O king; and I will bless Thy name for ever and ever.”*

Psalm 150:6 – *“Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.”*

Phil. 4:6 -- *“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”*

Col. 2:6-7 -- *“As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: rooted and built up in Him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.”*

1 Thess. 16&18 – *“Rejoice evermore. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”*

A day set aside for giving thanks has been observed on several dates, throughout history, in the United States of America, but it was not until December 26, 1941, that Congress, under the presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, verified and put it into law, making Thanksgiving a national holiday.

Thanksgiving Day is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November, and from its early beginnings was to be a day set aside to thank God, and be mindful of the One from whom all blessings come but gradually, over the decades, this particular day has become way more secular in nature to the point where it's commonly referred to as “Turkey Day”. Focusing on parades, football games, long weekends in which to

travel to family gatherings, and of course, we must not forget the “feasting”. Where would we be without that fine array of scrumptious foods?!

Regretfully though, in many homes, God is no longer in the center if He even gets a slight nod on the way to the dessert!!

Thanksgiving, however, for the child of God, is much more than just a holiday to be noted once a year. It's a way of life!! The Psalms are replete with admonitions to give praise, and thanksgiving and other Scriptures as well, exhort us to be grateful **in everything**, and **in all circumstances**, and **at all times**, even when the situations of life are pressing hard against our human spirits. This is what's considered to be “thankful living!!” This is not just being “happy” when conditions of life feel good, and are bright, and sunny. God desires the praise, thanksgiving, and trust of His people. It's not for us to know **what** He's doing, or **how** He's working it together for our good and His glory (Rom.8:28). Our only requirement is to trust and obey, believing and knowing that He is sovereign and in control and that He loves us!!

If you are a true follower of Jesus Christ, you have been called to be thankful (Col. 3:15). This can not be viewed as an option, but in order to harvest a grateful heart, one needs to sow the seeds required in bringing forth that yield. Are there times when you don't **feel** like praising God because the situations He's providentially provided are not what you would've chosen? It's at those precise moments when there needs to be a deliberate action taken a conscious voice to say, “*Thank you, Lord, for who You are, for Your mercy endureth forever*” (Psalm 136:2). Praising and thanking the Lord is all about **God** and who He is!! It's **not** about us!! Thankfulness is a learned behavior, an acquired habit that will ultimately produce satisfaction, contentment, peace, and joy a complete attitude of gratitude a way of life.

The apostle Paul states in Phil. 4:11, “*I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.*” Paul was not governed by his circumstances, nor did his demeanor reflect them. Paul had learned to be thankful in whatever happens. Paul had learned to trust the heart of God!!

David's words in Psalm 39:30: “*I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving.*” David, who has blessed us with a good portion of the Psalms, was determined, resolved, and fixed, “*I will!*” I will continue to praise and thank the Lord, in every situation of life in bright seasons of happiness, and in dark periods of gloom! “*I will bless the Lord at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth*” (Psalm 34:1).

I leave you with this quote from Charles Haddon Spurgeon: “*If men's mouths were always thus filled, there would be no repining against God, or slander of neighbors. If we continually rolled this dainty morsel under our tongue, the bitterness of daily afflictions would be swallowed up in joy. God deserves blessing with the heart, and extolling with the mouth --- good thoughts in the closet, and good words in the world.*”

Happy Thanksgiving, Defenders!!

In *everything*
GIVE THANKS



On October 3, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued a formal proclamation, passed by an Act of Congress, initiating the first annual *National Day of Thanksgiving*:

No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the most high God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy ...

I do, therefore, invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens ...[it is] announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord....It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people.

Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.

The Defender is available, free of charge, on audio CD.
Please contact us if you would like to receive a copy by mail.

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and on WCBM AM 680 in Baltimore every Sunday from 6:30-7:00 AM

Listen also to IDOT's "Moment of Truth"
airing Monday through Friday
on WCBM AM 680 in Baltimore.

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WRITE TO US!

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Upcoming Events!

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult & Children's Sunday School	10:15 am
Sunday Morning Worship & Children's Church	11:00 am
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study	12:30 pm
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	7:00 pm
Thanksgiving Day Service	10:00 am