

The Second Half of the Tribulation

27 This king will make a seven-year treaty with the people, but after half that time, he will break his pledge and stop the Jews from all their sacrifices and their offerings; then, as a climax to all his terrible deeds, the Enemy shall utterly defile the sanctuary of God. But in God's time and plan, his judgment will be poured out upon this Evil One" Daniel 9:27 (The Living Bible).

The Anti-Christ will have many problems by the time He reaches the middle of the Tribulation even though he will be operating through the power of Satan. " ¹ Then I saw a beast come out of the sea with ten horns and seven heads; on its horns were ten diadems, and on its heads blasphemous name (s). ² The beast I saw was like a leopard, but it had feet like a bear's, and its mouth was like the mouth of a lion. To it the dragon gave its own power and throne, along with great authority. ³ I saw that one of its heads seemed to have been mortally wounded, but this mortal wound was healed. Fascinated, the whole world followed after the beast. ⁴ They worshiped the dragon because it gave its authority to the beast; they also worshiped the beast and said, "Who can compare with the beast or who can fight against it?" ⁵ The beast was given a mouth uttering proud boasts and blasphemies, and it was given authority to act for forty-two months. ⁶ It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling and those who dwell in heaven. ⁷ It was also allowed to wage war against the holy ones and conquer them, and it was granted authority over every tribe, people, tongue, and nation. ⁸ All the inhabitants of the earth will worship it, all whose names were not written from the foundation of the world in the book of life, which belongs to the Lamb who was slain. ⁹ Whoever has ears ought to hear these words. Revelation 13:1-9 (The New American Bible)

In addition to the wars, the natural disasters and the unnatural disasters that are taking place, I strongly suspect that radical Muslims will initiate world-wide terrorism on a scale that we have never seen before. " ⁸ I looked, and there before me was a pale horse! Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth." Revelation 6:8 (The New International Version)

There are several reasons why we believe the Muslims will eventually reject (and declare war against) the Antichrist. First the Muslims will reject him when they find out he is a Jew. The Anti-Christ will be able to trace his lineage back to King David and because of this he will claim the right to sit on David's throne in Jerusalem as the king of kings. Because of their cultural and religious background many Muslims have been taught to hate the Jews and the infidels who do not embrace their extremist religion. As such they could never accept a Jew as the hope of the world. You know how most of the people of the Muslim faith in the Middle East feel about the Jews.

Secondly, they will reject him because he will honor and promote a trinity of gods, that is, God the Father, God the Son and the Queen of Heaven, Mother of God. ¹⁶ *You, now, do not intercede for this people; raise not in their behalf a pleading prayer! Do not urge me, for I will not listen to you.* ¹⁷ *Do you not see what they are doing in the cities of Judah, in the streets of Jerusalem?* ¹⁸ *The children gather wood, their fathers light the fire, and the women knead dough to make cakes for the queen of heaven, while libations are poured out to strange gods in order to hurt me.* ¹⁹ *Is it I whom they hurt, says the LORD; is it not rather themselves, to their own confusion?* ²⁰ *See now, says the Lord GOD, my anger and my wrath will pour out upon this place, upon man and beast, upon the trees of the field and the fruits of the earth; it will burn without being quenched. Jeremiah 7:16-20 (New American Bible)*

¹⁵ *Then all the men who knew that their wives had burned incense to other gods, with all the women who stood by, a great multitude, and all the people who dwelt in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying:* ¹⁶ *"As for the word that you have spoken to us in the name of the LORD, we will not listen to you!"* ¹⁷ *But we will certainly do whatever has gone out of our own mouth, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to her, as we have done, we and our fathers, our kings and our princes, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. For then we had plenty of food, were well-off, and saw no trouble.* ¹⁸ *But since we stopped burning incense to the queen of heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have lacked everything and have been consumed by the sword and by famine."* ¹⁹ *The women also said, "And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, did we make cakes for her, to worship her, and pour out drink offerings to her without our husbands' permission?"* ²⁰ *Then Jeremiah spoke to all the people--the men, the women, and all the people who had given him that answer--saying:* ²¹ *"The incense that you burned in the cities*

of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, you and your fathers, your kings and your princes, and the people of the land, did not the LORD remember them, and did it not come into His mind? ²² So the LORD could no longer bear it, because of the evil of your doings and because of the abominations which you committed. Therefore your land is a desolation, an astonishment, a curse, and without an inhabitant, as it is this day. ²³ Because you have burned incense and because you have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD or walked in His law, in His statutes or in His testimonies, therefore this calamity has happened to you, as at this day." ²⁴ Moreover Jeremiah said to all the people and to all the women, "Hear the word of the LORD, all Judah who are in the land of Egypt! ²⁵ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying: 'You and your wives have spoken with your mouths and fulfilled with your hands, saying, "We will surely keep our vows that we have made, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to her." You will surely keep your vows and perform your vows!' ²⁶ Therefore hear the word of the LORD, all Judah who dwell in the land of Egypt: 'Behold, I have sworn by My great name,' says the LORD, 'that My name shall no more be named in the mouth of any man of Judah in all the land of Egypt, saying, "The Lord GOD lives." ²⁷ Behold, I will watch over them for adversity and not for good. And all the men of Judah who are in the land of Egypt shall be consumed by the sword and by famine, until there is an end to them. ²⁸ Yet a small number who escape the sword shall return from the land of Egypt to the land of Judah; and all the remnant of Judah, who have gone to the land of Egypt to dwell there, shall know whose words will stand, Mine or theirs. ²⁹ And this shall be a sign to you,' says the LORD, 'that I will punish you in this place, that you may know that My words will surely stand against you for adversity.' ³⁰ Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will give Pharaoh Hophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies and into the hand of those who seek his life, as I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, his enemy who sought his life.' " *Jeremiah 44:15-30 (The New King James Version)*

A person of the Muslim faith is not going to worship a woman even if they are told she was the mother of God and the queen of heaven. Their religion is monotheistic, that is, they believe that there is only one god, Allah, and Mohammad is his prophet.

Third they will hate him because he will use his authority to allow the Jews to tear down one of their mosques, the Mosque of Omar (the Dome of the Rock), in order to rebuild their Jewish temple. The Mosque of Omar was built around the tip of the mountain that was part of

the temple built by King Solomon. The Mosque of Omar (the Dome of the Rock) is one of the Muslim's sacred shrines and right now it occupies a prominent place on the present Jewish temple site. The Muslims believe it is the spot where Mohammad left the earth on his journey to visit their Heaven.

We believe the Muslim nations to the south of Jerusalem, the Muslim nations to the north of Jerusalem and the Muslim nations to the east of Jerusalem are going to eventually rebel against the rule of the Anti-Christ. " ⁴⁰ *And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.* ⁴¹ *He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.* ⁴² *He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.* ⁴³ *But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.* ⁴⁴ *But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.* ⁴⁵ *And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him." Daniel 11:40-45 (The King James Version)*

Near the end of the Tribulation the nations to the south and to the east will join the nations to the north. They will organize a large army and invade the Promised Land from the north with the intentions of overthrowing the Anti-Christ. " ¹² *The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East.* ¹³ *Then I saw three impure spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet.* ¹⁴ *They are demonic spirits that perform signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty.* ¹⁵ *"Look, I come like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed."* ¹⁶ *Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon. Revelation 16:12-16 (The New International Version)*

They will be led into battle by Iran and some of the weapons used will be nuclear. The land we call Iran today was originally the land of **the Medes** who were part of the Medo-Persian empire. After Noah's flood, some of the descendents of Gog or Magog (Genesis 10:2) settled in the land we call Iran today. Do you suppose that is why the Living God is allowing Iran to develop nuclear capabilities?

*"³ I have commanded my dedicated soldiers, I have summoned my warriors, eager and bold to carry out my anger. ⁴ Listen! the rumble on the mountains: that of an immense throng! Listen! the noise of kingdoms, nations assembled! The LORD of hosts is mustering an army for battle. ⁵ They come from a far-off country, and from the end of the heavens, The LORD and the instruments of his wrath, to destroy all the land. ⁶ Howl, for the day of the LORD is near; as destruction from the Almighty it comes. ⁷ Therefore all hands fall helpless, the bows of the young men fall from their hands. Every man's heart melts ⁸ in terror. Pangs and sorrows take hold of them, like a woman in labor they writhe; They look aghast at each other, their faces aflame. ⁹ Lo, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with wrath and burning anger; To lay waste the land and destroy the sinners within it! ¹⁰ The stars and constellations of the heavens send forth no light; The sun is dark when it rises, and the light of the moon does not shine. ¹¹ Thus I will punish the world for its evil and the wicked for their guilt. I will put an end to the pride of the arrogant, the insolence of tyrants I will humble. ¹² I will make mortals more rare than pure gold, men, than gold of Ophir. ¹³ For this I will make the heavens tremble and the earth shall be shaken from its place, At the wrath of the LORD of hosts on the day of his burning anger. ¹⁴ Like a hunted gazelle, or a flock that no one gathers, Every man shall turn to his kindred and flee to his own land. ¹⁵ Everyone who is caught shall be run through; to a man, they shall fall by the sword. ¹⁶ Their infants shall be dashed to pieces in their sight; their houses shall be plundered and their wives ravished. ¹⁷ **I am stirring up against them the Medes, who think nothing of silver and take no delight in gold.** ¹⁸ The fruit of the womb they shall not spare, nor shall they have eyes of pity for children. ¹⁹ And Babylon, the jewel of kingdoms, the glory and pride of the Chaldeans, Shall be overthrown by God like Sodom and like Gomorrah. ²⁰ She shall never be inhabited, nor dwelt in, from age to age; The Arab shall not pitch his tent there, nor shepherds couch their flocks. ²¹ But wildcats shall rest there and owls shall fill the houses; There ostriches shall dwell, and satyrs shall dance. ²² Desert beasts shall howl in her castles, and jackals in her luxurious*

palaces. Her time is near at hand and her days shall not be prolonged. Isaiah 13:3-22 (The New American Bible)

We have been told that the Jewish people have already begun to prepare men for the priesthood in anticipation for the time they can commence offering sacrifices in the Temple they hope to rebuild. We read an article that announced that they had succeeded in developing a breed of cattle that were completely red. The cattle did not have any white hair or black hair. Such cattle will be necessary if the Jewish people plan to begin to sacrifice the Red Heifer Offering again.

"¹ And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, ² This is the ordinance of the law which the LORD hath commanded, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring thee a red heifer without spot, wherein is no blemish, and upon which never came yoke: ³ And ye shall give her unto Eleazar the priest, that he may bring her forth without the camp, and one shall slay her before his face: ⁴ And Eleazar the priest shall take of her blood with his finger, and sprinkle of her blood directly before the tabernacle of the congregation seven times: ⁵ And one shall burn the heifer in his sight; her skin, and her flesh, and her blood, with her dung, shall he burn: ⁶ And the priest shall take cedar wood, and hyssop, and scarlet, and cast it into the midst of the burning of the heifer. ⁷ Then the priest shall wash his clothes, and he shall bathe his flesh in water, and afterward he shall come into the camp, and the priest shall be unclean until the even. ⁸ And he that burneth her shall wash his clothes in water, and bathe his flesh in water, and shall be unclean until the even. ⁹ And a man that is clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer, and lay them up without the camp in a clean place, and it shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel for a water of separation: it is a purification for sin. ¹⁰ And he that gathereth the ashes of the heifer shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: and it shall be unto the children of Israel, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among them, for a statute for ever. Numbers 19:1-10 (The King James Version).

It is important that we remember that most of the Jews that have gathered in Israel are waiting for their promised Messiah to come to this earth to set up an earthly kingdom. Please read the paper in this series entitled "11-Future Things-Looking In The Wrong Direction" on this website. That is why they will readily accept the Anti-Christ. The point is, because they deny

that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and because they reject Him as the promised Messiah, they have never asked that Christ's sacrifice on Calvary pay their sin debt. It is sad to say but if a person does not ask Jesus Christ to pay their sin debt, they must pay their sin debt, themselves, through eternity, in the Lake of Fire.

"¹⁰ The Devil who had led them astray was thrown into the pool of fire and sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet were. There they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. ¹¹ Next I saw a large White Throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. ¹² I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the Throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the Book of Life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. ¹³ The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.) ¹⁵ Anyone whose name was not found written in the Book of Life was thrown into the pool of fire. Revelation 20:9-15 (New American Bible)

So we see that most of the Jewish nation will embrace and accept the Anti-Christ as their personal savior until he reveals himself for what he really is, a counterfeit of the real Messiah. Later on, when a large number of the Jews accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, the prophecy of Ezekiel 37 will be fulfilled. *"¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me and 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. ² Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. ³ And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know." ⁴ Again He said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!' ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD." ' " ⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Also He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Come from the four winds, O*

breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ' ' " ¹⁰ So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹ Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³ Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. ¹⁴ I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD' " Ezekiel 37:1-14 (The New King James Version).

We do not know when the city of Babylon will become a worldwide trading metropolis but we do know that it will be a worldwide trading metropolis by the second half of the Tribulation because the Lord will destroy it near the end of that time.

" ¹ And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. ² And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. ³ For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. ⁴ And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. ⁵ For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. ⁶ Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. ⁷ How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. ⁸ Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.

⁹ And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, ¹⁰

Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come. ¹¹ And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: ¹² The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, ¹³ And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men. ¹⁴ And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all.

¹⁵ The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, ¹⁶ And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! ¹⁷ For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, ¹⁸ And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! ¹⁹ And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.

²⁰ Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her. ²¹ And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all. ²² And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee; ²³ And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. ²⁴ And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth. Revelation 18:1-24 (The King James Version)

We do not know the exact time the Marriage Supper will commence during the seven years of tribulation nor when it will end. We do know that the first battle in the valley of Megiddo (the first battle of Armageddon) will take place near the last end of the seven years of the Great Tribulation. The second battle in the valley of Megiddo (the second battle of Armageddon), of course, will take place at the end of the Millennial reign of Christ. Near the end of the Millennial reign of Christ, Lucifer (Satan) will be loosed for a short season from Tartarus, the bottomless pit. Tartarus is the pit that enlarges itself to make more room for the lost who are reserved for the White Throne Judgment. Lucifer will lead in the last rebellion on this earth before it is destroyed by fire and earth time as we know it ends. All of these are some of the subjects that will be covered in more detail in following papers.