

DESTRUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE OTHER NATIONS OF THIS WORLD

We suggest that you carefully read the things we share in this paper since they will affect the quality of our days on this earth as well as the quality of our life in the world to come.

“¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. ¹³The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done... ¹⁴Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. ¹⁵If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.” Revelation 20:11-15 New International Version

“¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” ⁵He who was seated on the throne said, “I am

making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true”. ⁶He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life.” Revelation 21:1-6 NIV

Each of us chooses where we will spend eternity. How can we drink, without cost, from the spring of the water of life? What is God’s plan of salvation from the Lake of Fire? We can know God’s true plan of salvation if we just find the answer to one question. How were the people in the Old Testament days saved?

They could not have been saved by keeping the Ten Commandments because James 2:10 says that if we only commit one sin during our entire lifetime, God holds us accountable as if we broke all His laws. *“¹⁰For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.* In Galatians 3:11 we find *“¹¹But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for the just shall live by faith.”*

They could not have been saved because they lived in a different dispensation because everyone who will be saved from Adam and Eve to the last person who will be saved will be saved because of the grace (unmerited favor) of God (Genesis 6:8; . In fact, we find in Galatians 3:8 *“⁸And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.”* Also, Acts 15:1-11 teaches that the people of the circumcision (the Jews) were saved by grace just as we are. *“¹¹No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are”* Acts

15:11. This fact is also taught in Romans 3:24-31, Romans 4:1-25, Romans 5: 1-21 and Genesis 6:8, just to name a few.

Hebrews 10:1-4 says that the blood of bulls and goats cannot take away sins. It will not pay our sin debt.

They did not “join a church” because there was no church to join.

They did not “get baptized” because there was no one to baptize them.

They were not saved by their good works because, in God’s eyes, all their good works looked like filthy rags. *“⁶But we are all like an unclean thing and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; we all fade as a leaf and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.” Isaiah 64:6*

“⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9”

God had shed the blood of an innocent animal in the Garden of Eden in order to cover the nakedness of Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:21). Could Jehovah have clothed their nakedness without sacrificing an innocent animal? Of course, He could. However, God was giving them a reality picture of their need for the sacrifice that His Son, Jesus Christ, would give one day in the future. From that day forward, every Patriarch testified about the coming Messiah each time He offered a sacrifice to Jehovah.

As the innocent animal was dying, the people of the Old Testament went to God in prayer and asked forgiveness of their sins. While looking forward in faith, they asked that the sacrifice the innocent Son of God would give one day, pay the sin debt they owed God. Every sin has to be paid for by either the Messiah or by us. Each time the Patriarch was

asked by his friends and family why he was sacrificing animals and birds, he was to explain the gospel to them. He was to tell them about the death of the coming Messiah and he was to invite them to repent of their own sins and accept the coming Messiah as their personal Savior. It did not take them any more faith to believe that He would die then it takes us to believe that He has died. All are saved by faith in Christ because of the grace (the unmerited favor) of God (Romans 4:1-16).

The age or dispensation of Grace will last from the time of Adam and Eve to the last person who will take advantage of God's glorious plan of salvation (before we go back into unmeasured time, that is to say, eternity).

I pray that you have taken advantage of God's glorious plan of salvation. However, this paper was prepared with the hope that we might observe what is happening around us right now and to help us understand what must be done if we expect to postpone the certain destruction that will be brought upon the citizens of this earth in the last days before the catching up.

¹Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. ²“Do you see all these things?” he asked. “I tell you the truth, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.” ³As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. “Tell us,” they said, (1) “when will this happen, and (2) what will be the sign of your coming and (3-what will be the sign) of the end of the age?”

⁴Jesus answered, “Watch out that no one deceives you. ⁵For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Christ (Messiah),’ and will deceive many. ⁶You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. ⁷Nation

will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸All these are the beginning of birth pains.

⁹*“Then you (the saved) will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. ¹⁰At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, ¹¹and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. ¹²Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, ¹³but he who stands firm to the end will be saved (σώζω- be delivered or protected). ¹⁴And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.*

¹⁵*“So when you see standing in the holy place ‘the abomination that causes desolation spoken of through the prophet Daniel (Daniel 9:27; Daniel 11:36-45; Daniel 12:1-13)—let the reader understand—¹⁶then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. ¹⁸Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak. ¹⁹How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! ²⁰Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. ²¹For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. ²²If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect, those days will be shortened. ²³At that time if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or, ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. ²⁴For false Christs (Messiahs) and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect—if that were possible. ²⁵See, I have told you ahead of time.*

²⁶“So if anyone tells you, ‘There he is, out in the desert,’ do not go out; or, ‘Here he is, in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it. ²⁷For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ²⁸Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather.

²⁹Immediately after the distress of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’ ³⁰“At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. ³¹And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

³²“Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. ³³Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. ³⁴I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³⁵Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³⁶“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Two men will be in the field; one will be

taken and the other left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

⁴²“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. ⁴³But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

⁴⁵“Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? ⁴⁶It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. ⁴⁷I tell you the truth, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. ⁴⁸But suppose that servant is wicked and says to himself, ‘My master is staying away a long time,’ ⁴⁹and he then begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards. ⁵⁰The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. ⁵¹He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” *Matthew 24 New International Versions*

There comes a time in a nation’s life (and sometimes in a church’s’ life) that the Lord says, “Enough is enough”. When He does, He withdraws the blessings of His Sevenfold Spirit (*Revelation 1:4; 3:1; 4:5 and 5:6*) and the nation or the church begins a downward spiral that few survive (*Hosea 4:1-9*). Their only hope is to turn back to the Lord in repentance and to begin to follow and to teach His laws again as King Solomon pointed out in his prayer at the dedication of the Temple.

“³⁰And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place: and hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place: and when thou hearest, forgive. ³¹If any man trespass against his neighbor, and an oath be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house: ³²Then hear thou in heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness. ³³When thy people Israel be smitten down before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn again to thee, and confess thy name (thy authority), and pray, and make supplication unto thee in this house: ³⁴Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest unto their fathers. ³⁵When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them: ³⁶Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, that thou teach them the good way wherein they should walk, and give rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people for an inheritance. ³⁷If there be in the land famine, if there be pestilence, blasting, mildew, locust, or if there be caterpillar; if their enemy besiege them in the land of their cities; whatsoever plague, whatsoever sickness there be; ³⁸What prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house: ³⁹Then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;) ⁴⁰That they may fear thee all the days that they live in the

land which thou gavest unto our fathers. ⁴¹Moreover concerning a stranger, that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake; ⁴²(For they shall hear of thy great name, and of thy strong hand, and of thy stretched out arm;) when he shall come and pray toward this house; ⁴³Hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for: that all people of the earth may know thy name, to fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name. ⁴⁴If thy people go out to battle against their enemy, whithersoever thou shalt send them, and shall pray unto the LORD toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house that I have built for thy name: ⁴⁵Then hear thou in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause. ⁴⁶If they sin against thee, (for there is no man that sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captives unto the land of the enemy, far or near; ⁴⁷Yet if they shall bethink themselves in the land whither they were carried captives, and repent, and make supplication unto thee in the land of them that carried them captives, saying, We have sinned, and have done perversely, we have committed wickedness; ⁴⁸And so return unto thee with all their heart, and with all their soul, in the land of their enemies, which led them away captive, and pray unto thee toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, the city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for thy name: ⁴⁹Then hear thou their prayer and their supplication in heaven thy dwelling place, and maintain their cause, ⁵⁰And forgive thy people that have sinned against thee, and all their transgressions wherein they have transgressed against thee, and give them compassion before them who carried them captive, that they may have compassion on them: ⁵¹For they be thy people, and thine inheritance, which

thou broughtest forth out of Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of iron: ⁵²That thine eyes may be open unto the supplication of thy servant, and unto the supplication of thy people Israel, to hearken unto them in all that they call for unto thee. ⁵³For thou didst separate them from among all the people of the earth, to be thine inheritance, as thou spakest by the hand of Moses thy servant, when thou broughtest our fathers out of Egypt, O Lord GOD.”
1 Kings 8:30-53 King James Version

There did come a time in Israel’s life when the Lord said, “Enough is enough”. The Lord then called out to the prophet Ezekiel to witness why He was about to do what He was about to do.

“¹In the sixth year, in the sixth month on the fifth day, while I was sitting in my house and the elders of Judah were sitting before me, the hand of the Sovereign LORD came upon me there. ²I looked, and I saw a figure like that of a man. From what appeared to be his waist down he was like fire, and from there up his appearance was as bright as glowing metal. ³He stretched out what looked like a hand and took me by the hair of my head. The Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven and in visions of God; he took me to Jerusalem, to the entrance to the north gate of the inner court, where the idol that provokes to jealousy stood. ⁴And there before me was the glory of the God of Israel, as in the vision I had seen in the plain.

⁵Then he said to me, “Son of man, look toward the north”. So I looked, and in the entrance north of the gate of the altar, I saw this idol of jealousy.

*⁶And he said to me, “Son of man, do you see what they are doing—the utterly detestable things the house of Israel is doing here, **things that will drive me far from my sanctuary?** But you will see things that are even more detestable.”*

⁷Then he brought me to the entrance to the court. I looked, and I saw a hole in the wall. ⁸He said to me, “Son of man, now dig into the wall.” So I dug into the wall and saw a doorway there.

⁹And he said to me, “Go in and see the wicked and detestable things they are doing here”. ¹⁰So I went in and looked and I saw portrayed all over the walls all kinds of crawling things and detestable animals and all the idols of the house of Israel. ¹¹In front of them stood seventy elders of the house of Israel and Jaazaniah son of Shaphan was standing among them. Each had a censer in his hand, and a fragrant cloud of incense was rising.

¹²He said to me, “Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel are doing in the darkness, each at the shrine of his own idol? They say, ‘The LORD does not see us; the LORD has forsaken the land.’” ¹³Again, he said, “You will see them doing things that are even more detestable.”

¹⁴Then he brought me to the entrance to the north gate of the house of the LORD, and I saw women sitting there, mourning for Tammuz. ¹⁵He said to me, “Do you see this, son of man? You will see things that are even more detestable than this.”

¹⁶He then brought me into the inner court of the house of the LORD, and there at the entrance to the temple, between the portico and the altar, were about twenty-five men. With their backs toward the temple of the LORD and their faces toward the east, they were bowing down to the sun in the east.

¹⁷He said to me, “Have you seen this, son of man? Is it a trivial matter for the house of Judah to do the detestable things they are doing here? Must they also fill the land with violence and continually provoke me to anger? Look at them putting the branch to their nose! ¹⁸Therefore I will

*deal with them in anger; I will not look on them with pity or spare them. Although they shout in my ears, I will not listen to them.” Ezekiel chapter 8
The New International Version*

According to Ezekiel 9:3, 10:18-19 and 11:23, Ezekiel watched in horror as the glory of the Lord (the power and blessings of the Sevenfold Spirit of God) departed from Israel. As we shared earlier, when the Lord withdraws the blessings of His Sevenfold Spirit, the nation or the church begins a downward spiral that few survive. Their only hope is to turn back to the Lord in repentance and to begin to follow His laws again.

Isaiah was given a complete understanding of the procedure the Lord follows when He withdraws His blessings from a nation or from a church. It has happened many times in the past and will no doubt happen to many nations and churches that turn away from the Lord in the future. We know it will happen to most of Christ's scriptural churches because of the letter He sent to the Laodicean church in Revelation 3:14-22. There were, indeed, seven churches in existence to which Jesus Christ sent seven letters in Revelation chapters 2 and 3. However, as we read those seven letters we see that those seven churches also represented the progression and conditions of most of Christ's churches during the church age. The last church mentioned, the Laodicean church, represented the conditions most of Christ's churches will be in when His Father sends Him to retrieve the saved (1st Corinthians 15:51-54; 2nd Corinthians 4:14; 2nd Corinthians 5:1-10; 1st Thessalonians 4:13-17). We find in Revelation 3:14-22 that Christ will find most of His churches have departed from the solid footing upon which they began. The situation will have become so terrible that Christ will have already departed from most of them. How do we know? Because Jesus had been sending

them the invitation to open the door and He would come in and sup with them. ²⁰*Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.* Revelation 3:20. If He is promising to come in, that means He is on the outside of that particular church. In addition, Christ said He would come in and sup with them. When do the members enjoy a supper with Christ? The members of His scriptural churches enjoy a supper with Him when we observe what we refer to as “the Lord’s Supper”. That means He is not present when most of the churches in the last part of the church age observe what they call “The Lord’s Supper”. Please note again, what the Lord said to Ezekiel in Ezekiel 8:6. ⁶*And he said to me, “Son of man, do you see what they are doing—the utterly detestable things the house of Israel is doing here, things that will drive me far from my sanctuary?”* Israel drove the Lord from His sanctuary in the Old Testament just as many congregations will drive Jesus Christ out of their churches in our church age.

The procedure the Lord follows when He withdraws His blessings from a nation or from a church is found in the third chapter of the book of Isaiah.

¹*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water, ²The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, ³The captain of fifty, and the honorable man, and the counselor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator. ⁴And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them. ⁵And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbor: the child shall behave himself*

proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honorable. ⁶When a man shall take hold of his brother of the house of his father, saying, Thou hast clothing, be thou our ruler, and let this ruin be under thy hand: ⁷In that day shall he swear, saying, I will not be an healer; for in my house is neither bread nor clothing: make me not a ruler of the people. ⁸For Jerusalem is ruined, and Judah is fallen: because their tongue and their doings are against the LORD, to provoke the eyes of his glory.

⁹The show of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! For they have rewarded evil unto themselves. ¹⁰Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. ¹¹Woe unto the wicked! It shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him. ¹²As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths. ¹³The LORD standeth up to plead, and standeth to judge the people. ¹⁴The LORD will enter into judgment with the ancients of his people and the princes thereof: for ye have eaten up the vineyard, the spoil of the poor is in your houses. “¹⁵What mean ye that ye beat my people to pieces, and grind the faces of the poor”?, saith the Lord GOD of hosts.

¹⁶Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: ¹⁷Therefore the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts. ¹⁸In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of their tinkling ornaments about their feet, and their cauls, and their round tires like the moon, ¹⁹The chains, and the bracelets, and the

mufflers, ²⁰The bonnets, and the ornaments of the legs, and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings, ²¹The rings, and nose jewels, ²²The changeable suits of apparel, and the mantles, and the wimples, and the crisping pins, ²³The glasses, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the veils. ²⁴And it shall come to pass, that instead of sweet smell there shall be stink; and instead of a girdle a rent; and instead of well set hair, baldness; and instead of a stomacher, a girding of sackcloth; and burning instead of beauty. ²⁵Thy men shall fall by the sword and thy mighty in the war. ²⁶And her gates shall lament and mourn; and she being desolate shall sit upon the ground.”

Since the Lord lists so many bad things that He will do to an ungodly nation or to a church whose members are just “playing church”, I feel that it is important to offer some hope to those of you who are saved and who are serving Him. The Lord offered hope to the righteous in verse 10. *“¹⁰Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.”*

I do not know how the Lord will keep the righteous safe while at the same time punishing the wicked and destroying a nation or a wayward church. Nevertheless, I know that He will because He said He would. The Lord has done this many times in the past. He protected Noah and his family while at the same time He destroyed every other human on the face of the earth (Genesis 7:23; Hebrews 11:7; 2nd Peter 2:5-9). God protected the children of Israel while at the same time He brought judgment upon the people of Egypt (Exodus 8:20-23; Exodus 9:1-7; Exodus 9:22-26).

Isaiah 3

When we compare what happened to Israel once the Lord began the procedure and what is happening to most of the nations since World War II, the similarity is alarming. It has already begun within many of Christ's churches also. Let us look at the procedure in detail. We will begin by looking at who is going to be doing this.

Isaiah 3

*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem
and from Judah...*

We find that Strong's Concordance of the Bible defines the Hebrew words that were translated "the Lord" as the Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign, that is, the Self-Existent, Eternal Controller. Strong's says that the Hebrew word that was translated "Hosts" mean a mass of people.

Isaiah 3

*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem
and from Judah ... the whole stay of bread,*

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away the blessings of food we have been enjoying. We will explain how this might be done a little later in this paper.

Isaiah 3

*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem
and from Judah ... the whole stay of water*

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away the blessings of water that we have been enjoying.

A-The word translated water is also used in the Old Testament to refer to water out of the wells of salvation (Isaiah 12:3). Could this be a fulfillment of Romans 1:18-32?

“⁸For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; ¹⁹Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them. ²⁰For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: ²¹Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ²²Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, ²³And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. ²⁴Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: ²⁵Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen...²⁸And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not

convenient; ²⁹Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, ³⁰Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, ³¹Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: ³²Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.” Romans 1:18-32 KJV

That would mean that people turned over to a reprobate mind would no longer have a desire to seek water out of the wells of salvation. They would not have the protection of salvation when they face the Living God at their judgment (Revelation 20:11-15).

B- On the other hand, taking away the blessings of water might mean that the Lord will shut up the heavens and there will not be adequate rain upon our land. If so, that would indeed bring about a lack of food as the Lord threatened in Isaiah 3:1.

C-Water is also used in the Old Testament to refer to the blessing of the Lord when He pours out the power of His Spirit upon us (Isaiah 44:3). For more information about the blessings of the Spirit of the Lord, please read the paper “The Sevenfold Spirit of God”.

Isaiah 3

For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah...²The mighty man, and the man of war.

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away the blessings of generals, commanders, and other military men who are capable of bringing victory. They will be killed in battle, they will become discouraged with the defeats they meet, or they will become discouraged with the interference from our government officials. They shall throw up their hands and resign their commissions or possibly resolve to fade into the background until its time for their retirement. They might possibly be disabled by sickness, or become so discouraged that they become unfit for service. Even the inferior officers (the captain of fifty) shall become ineffective as leaders. Although the United States of America has won many battles, we have not had a decisive victory in a single war since World War II.

Isaiah 3

For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah... the judge.

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away judges who are skilled in the laws and who will administer justice fairly and impartially. The Hebrew word is used in the Old Testament to refer to a human judge who makes judgments according to the laws of God.

Isaiah 3

*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from
Jerusalem and from Judah... the prophet.*

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away ministers who, through devoted study, understand the deeper things of God's Divine Word and are able to share it with others. All that will be left are ministers who teach milk and fluff (1st Corinthians 3:1-3). They will only preach on subjects that the congregation wants to hear rather than the messages that the Lord wants them to deliver. People will flock to hear them. The people do not desire to be committed to serving the Lord so they do not study on their own and they become willingly ignorant of the deeper things of God's Word. ³*For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths (supplements to God's laws, traditions, symbolic interpretations, and generally, false doctrines).” 2nd Timothy 4:3-4 NIV*

When the majority of the members do not want to study strong doctrine and they call pastors and elevate teachers who will say only what their itching ears want to hear, it will eventually kill that church. ⁶*My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.” Hosea 4:6 NIV*

Isaiah 3

*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from
Jerusalem and from Judah... the prudent.*

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away the prudent. The prudent were celebrated as men of sense and wisdom above all others. Based upon what God said in other passages, the word translated “the prudent” seems to have a reference to being able to understand and to forecast what was going to happen in the future. Those who predict false things will replace them. The Lord will allow those who replace them to gain control of the news media of that nation. They will keep repeating messages of false hope until the general population believes everything is getting better, not worse. Because of this, the people will wander as sheep oppressed for lack of a shepherd. When the Lord brings chastisement upon that nation or upon that church, the citizens of that nation or the members of that church will not have a clue why these things are happening to them.

Isaiah 3

*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from
Jerusalem and from Judah... the ancient.*

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away the ancient. Based upon what God said in other passages, the word translated “the ancient” is often used in the Old Testament to refer to men who were mature leaders of the nation of Israel, men who the people could depend upon to make judgments that were based upon the laws of the Lord (Exodus 19:7; Exodus 24:1-9; Numbers 11:16-17).

When a church loses leaders who make judgments in their church that are based upon the laws of the Lord, that church is no longer a theocracy. In a true theocracy, a wise and benevolent God rules that church or that nation.

“⁴You must obey my laws and be careful to follow my decrees. I am the LORD your God. ⁵Keep my decrees and laws, for the man who obeys them will live by them. I am the LORD.” Leviticus 18:4-5 NIV

The church in Jerusalem began with this type of government. When the members became disciples of Jesus Christ, they put themselves under His authority. Christ’s disciples agreed His laws would govern their lives and actions and they would be sustained by His power. The Holy Spirit of God inspired the recording of these laws in a library of books under one cover, the Bible.

Once a church ceases to be a theocracy, they become an oligarchy. An oligarchy is a form of government in which the ruling power belongs to a few, elite people. Satan, the prince of this world, loves an oligarchy when the elite group that controls a church or a nation is composed of his children (*the lost- Matthew 13:24-30*) and the saved that are following his leadership.

Isaiah 3

*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from
Jerusalem and from Judah... the honorable man.*

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away the honorable man. Based upon how the Hebrew word is used in many other passages in the Old Testament, the word translated “honorable man” is often used to describe a person who will come in and become actively involved in bearing and helping to solve our personal problems, our national problems or our church problems. It is a root word that is used 654 times and means, “*to lift*” in a great variety of applications, literal and figurative.

Isaiah 3

*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from
Jerusalem and from Judah... the counselor.*

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away the counselor. Based upon how the Hebrew word is used in many other passages in the Old Testament, the word translated “counselor” is often used to describe a person who can help to resolve problems, one who is capable of advising and guiding.

Isaiah 3

*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from
Jerusalem and from Judah... the wise artificer.*

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away the wise artificer. The Hebrew word is used 107 times in the Old Testament and only is translated artificer twice (Genesis 4:22 and Isaiah 3:3). However, we find that it is used 15 times to refer to plowing or farming. The root word means to scratch, that is, to engrave, or to plow. I am of the opinion that when God moves against a nation that forsakes Him and forsakes His laws, He brings about conditions so that food produced from the ground is greatly affected (Genesis 41:27-32; 2nd Samuel 21:1; 2nd Kings 6:24-33; 2nd Kings 8:1). In many cases, the small farmer has been replaced by mega farms that often receive government money. In the last great depression, most people lived on farms and they knew how to feed themselves. If the economy fails and the government cannot borrow the money to operate (as they are doing now) they will not be able to send

checks to the mega farms nor will they be able to send checks to farmers who are struggling. Without those government checks, many farmers will not be able to produce the food. In addition, many farms must have an abundant harvest just to make a small profit. In order to have that type of harvest, they depend upon using hybrid seeds supplied by an outside source. What do you suppose would happen if a sufficient supply of hybrid seed were not available to raise enough food to feed a nation? Many farms also depend upon pesticides and herbicides in order to save on their labor cost so that they can make a small profit. What would happen if an adequate supply of pesticides and/or herbicides were not available? How long could the farms operate at a loss? Any or all of these things might partially explain point #1 where we find God saying He would take away the blessings of the food we have been enjoying. I am told that at any given time, there is only about a five-day supply of food in most major cities. We have already seen what people do when the grocery shelves start to become bare. In addition, a “natural disaster” or a “crisis” could also affect the production and/or the distribution of food.

Isaiah 3

*For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from
Jerusalem and from Judah... the eloquent orator.*

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will take away the eloquent orator. This one is very, very serious and affects most of the citizens of many nations and the members of many churches. `

Strong’s Concordance of the Bible tells us the Hebrew word that was translated “eloquent” is a root word and means to separate mentally (or

distinguish), that is, (generally) to understand. The Hebrew word translated “eloquent” is also used in the Old Testament to refer to a person who is discreet (Genesis 41:33 & 39), wise and understanding (Deuteronomy 1:13 & 4:6). It is also used to refer to a person who considers past experiences ((Isaiah 1:3; Deuteronomy 32:7 & 32:29), a nation who receives the instructions of God ((Deuteronomy 32:19), or a person who perceives what God is doing (1st Samuel 3:8).

Barnes, in “Barnes Notes on the Old Testament” explains that the Hebrew word that was translated “orator” denotes one that influences another and persuades them in any way, as an orator does by argument and appeal.

When the Lord removed “the Glory of the Lord” from Israel (Ezekiel 10:4, 10:18 and 11:23), He removed from them the ability to perceive what He was doing and the ability to receive and understand the instructions of God. No matter how good a person was at persuasion, they were unable to reach the people of that nation (Jeremiah 7:27). The Glory of the Lord or the sevenfold power of the Holy Spirit includes the Spirit of Understanding (Isaiah 11:1-2). The Spirit of Understanding gives a person the ability to understand (1) God’s Word, (2) God’s will and (3) God’s way. Without the illumination of the Spirit of Understanding, the people were unable to comprehend what the person was sharing. Isaiah recorded the results of the Lord taking away the eloquent orator in the sixth chapter.

“⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!” ⁹He said, “Go and tell this people: “‘Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.’ ¹⁰ Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes,

hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed”.
Isaiah 6:8-10 NIV

Jesus Christ experienced the results of this during His earthly ministry even though He operated through unlimited Holy Spirit power (John 3:34).

“³⁷Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. ³⁸This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: “Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” ³⁹For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere: ⁴⁰“He has blinded their eyes and deadened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn—and I would heal them.” John 12:37-40 NIV

We find in Exodus 19:3-6 that before the Jewish nation lost the Glory of the Lord (Ezekiel chapters 8, 9, 10 and 11), they had been the Lord’s authorized agency to publish the good news of God’s salvation. *“³And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; ⁴Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles’ wings, and brought you unto myself. ⁵Now therefore **if ye will obey my voice** indeed, and **keep my covenant**, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: ⁶And **ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests**, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.”*

When Jesus first began His earthly ministry, He offered to relieve Israel of the terrible chastisement of Isaiah 6:8-10 and to restore them as His authorized agency to publicize the good news of salvation but they refused.

“⁵These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: ⁶But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷And as ye go, preach, saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Matthew 10:5.

Israel did not take advantage of the opportunity so Jesus Christ called out (*Matthew 4:18-25 and Mark 1:16-20*), trained (*Matthew 5:1 and 9:37*), organized (*Luke 12:22-32 and Ephesians 4:11-16*), authorized (*Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:1-8*), and empowered (*Luke 24:49 and Acts 1:8*) a third agency to publish the good news of salvation until He comes back. Most of His churches are composed of non-Jews.

The nation of Israel did not take advantage of the opportunity Jesus Christ offered them so the ability to perceive what God is doing and the ability to receive the instructions of God (*Matthew 13:13-17*) will not be restored to the nation of Israel until they are converted during the Great Tribulation (*Ezekiel chapter 37*). God’s Divine Word tells us that this was the reason Jesus spoke to the people of the nation of Israel in parables.

“¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ²Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸Still other seed fell on

good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹He who has ears let him hear.”

¹⁰The disciples came to him and asked, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?”

¹¹He replied, “The knowledge of the secrets of the **kingdom of heaven** has been given to you, but not to them. ¹²Whoever has will be given more and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. ¹³This is why I speak to them in parables:

“Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. ¹⁴In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: “‘You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. ¹⁵For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.’ ¹⁶But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. ¹⁷For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

¹⁸“Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹When anyone hears the message about **the kingdom** and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. ²²The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of

this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. ²³But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown.” Matthew 13:1-23 NIV

The Lord removed from the nation of Israel the ability to perceive what He was doing and the ability to receive and understand the instructions Jesus Christ was sharing. No matter how good Christ was at persuasion, He was unable to reach most of the people of that nation. The people were unable to comprehend. That is exactly what will happen to most churches in the last days before the catching up. The members will be so busy just “playing church” that the Lord will remove their ability to perceive what He is doing. God will remove the power of the seven-fold Spirit of God including the Spirit of Understanding. The removing of the illumination of this candlestick (Revelation 2:5) will remove their ability to understand the Bible. A few of the churches will have a pastor or a teacher who studies and understands God’s plan for man. However, when the pastor or the teacher speaks, most of those in the assembly will look the person right in the eye and not be able to understand what they are sharing. Their main concern is how soon the pastor or the teacher will shut up so they can go home. If Christ could not reach that type of person, it is little wonder when the pastor or the teacher cannot reach them either.

Isaiah 3

For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, will make boys their officials; mere children will govern them.

The Self-Existent, Eternal Sovereign Controller of all people will make children their officials. When the mighty men and the prudent are removed children shall become government officials. Matthew Henry observes, “Children in understanding and disposition, childish men, such as are babes in knowledge, no more fit to rule than a child in the cradle. These shall rule over them, with all the folly, fickleness, and forwardness, of a child.”

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Isaiah 3

For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, will cause the people to be oppressed, everyone by another, and every one by his neighbor.

God threatened that He would send an evil spirit among them as He did in Judges 9:23-25. ²²After Abimelech had governed Israel three years, ²³God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and the citizens of Shechem, who acted treacherously against Abimelech. ²⁴God did this in order that the crime against Jerub-Baal’s seventy sons, the shedding of their blood, might be avenged on their brother Abimelech and on the citizens of Shechem, who had helped him murder his brothers. ²⁵In opposition to him these citizens of Shechem set men on the hilltops to ambush and rob everyone who passed by and this was reported to Abimelech.”

Matthew Henry, in “Matthew Henry’s Commentary of the Old Testament” pointed out that this would make them injurious and oppressive toward others, even their neighbors. Their governors, in the folly, fickleness, and forwardness of a child would take no care to restrain the

oppressors or relieve the oppressed. Consequently, they would bite and devour one another.

When the people in a nation turn away from the Lord and begin to operate in open rebellion to His laws, God will send evil spirits to afflict them. Citizens of that wayward nation will find the crime rate and the murder rate soaring out of control. The people will be oppressed by their fellow citizens. After all, the Lord summed up His laws in the Ten Commandments, not the Ten Suggestions. We ignore them at our peril.

When saved people are organized into a local, New Testament church, they agree to (1) make disciples, (2) immersed them by the authority of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and (3) to teach them everything that Jesus Christ taught us in His Divine Word. When the members of one of those churches allows their church to drift away from the three-point commission they were given (Matthew 28:18-20), they can expect divisions to develop. They can also expect an oligarchy to develop. The pastor, the deacons, committees or some families will begin to make the decisions rather than people in the pew who are lead by the Holy Spirit. When that happens, it is not long before the ruling elite began to oppress their opposition in order to silence them. *“For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, will cause the people to be oppressed, everyone by another, and every one by his neighbor.”*

Isaiah 3

For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, will cause children to act rudely against the adults, and the base will act against the honorable.

When young people are arrogant and disrespectful, and they behave scornfully towards adults, their conduct reveals a weakness in their character. Their behavior has a terrible effect upon our society. Please remember, these are the future leaders of our nation and of our churches. If they find the laws of God offensive now and they fail to curb the desires of their sinful nature now, what will they advocate when they begin to set the agenda of our nation or of a church tomorrow?

Isaiah 3

For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, will cause conditions to become so hopeless that no qualified leader will want to run for public office and to help heal the nation.

. “⁶When a man shall take hold of his brother of the house of his father, saying, Thou hast clothing, be thou our ruler, and let this ruin be under thy hand: ⁷In that day shall he swear, saying, I will not be an healer; for in my house is neither bread nor clothing: make me not a ruler of the people. ⁸For Jerusalem is ruined, and Judah is fallen: because their tongue and their doings are against the LORD, to provoke the eyes of his glory.” Isaiah 3:6-8

The few remaining, qualified leaders will be aware that the people who caused the Lord to bring divine discipline upon the nation have no intention of changing or in being converted. They will recognize that those who ask them to run for a government office are just attempting to set up a scapegoat to blame when the policies the oligarchy implemented cause the nation to collapse.

This will happen in churches also. The few remaining, qualified pastors will be aware that the leaders who caused the Lord to bring divine discipline upon a church have no intention of changing or in being converted. They will recognize that the church members who are calling them as pastor really have no use for someone who can and will teach them the truth of God's Word. They are just looking for someone to marry their children, bury their dead and to visit their sick and elderly. The qualified pastors know that they would be kept so busy doing those thing that they would not have time for study, communication with God or ministry of the Word of God. *"It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of (the power) of the Spirit and (full of) wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." Acts 6:2-4 NIV*

An older pastor told me that churches that will not follow the leadership of God soon join a circuit of churches that do not deserve a good pastor. All they can get are pastors who do not deserve a good church

Do you recall what Jesus Christ said about the people of the nation of Israel in Matthew 13:11-15? *"¹¹He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. ¹²Whoever has will be given more and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. ¹³This is why I speak to them in parables:*

"Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. ¹⁴In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: "You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never

perceiving. ¹⁵ For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.' ”

We shared earlier in this paper that the people of Israel rejected Christ's offers to restore them as His authorized priests to the world. They could have been healed but they postponed their healing and restoration until the Great Tribulation.

That is also one of the reasons why churches that will not seek and follow the leadership of God get pastors who do not deserve a good church. The Lord, in His foreknowledge, knows the churches that will never come back to Him no matter how many times He calls to them. Because of this, the Lord does not intend to heal them. He only sends them pastors who have also chosen to walk around in a spiritual fog and who are “*ever hearing but never understanding and ever seeing but never perceiving*”. That type of pastor jumps from church to church every few years and uses the churches as stepping-stones. This is the reason some churches are sick and some of them have died.

Those churches and those pastors may possess a basic knowledge of the Word of God but they did not desire to learn more. They are satisfied to sit in one class a week where the teacher reads from a lesson furnished by their convention or their association. When they go home, they know little more about the Word of God or His plan for man than when they came. After a time, God discerns they do not intend to learn His Word so He says “enough is enough” and He takes away from them the little knowledge and understanding they had. “¹²*Whoever has will be given more and he will*

have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.” Matthew 13:12

Perhaps you might think I am being too harsh on churches. Let me ask you a question. Why do you think Jesus Christ said in Revelation 3:16 that when He returned for the catching up He would find most of His churches lukewarm? Why would Jesus Christ say in Revelation 3:17 He will find them to be wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked?

THIS PAPER IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND WILL BE CONTINUED AND SOME OF IT WILL PROBABLY BE REVISED FROM TIME TO TIME. PLEASE CHECK AGAIN SOON SINCE THE THIRD CHAPTER OF ISAIAH WILL AFFECT THE QUALITY OF OUR DAYS ON THIS EARTH AS WELL AS THE QUALITY OF OUR LIFE IN THE WORLD TO COME.

I WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS.

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