

Revelation Step by Step, 3

As we continue with the first half of those last 7 years, called the ‘[tribulation of those days](#)’ in Matthew 24:29, we need to remember some changes God made at the death of Christ.

From then on, the Jews had disqualified themselves from their special relationship with Christ because of their rejection of Him as their Messiah. They would no longer play any significant role in their relationship to the Kingdom of God and they would be replaced by God’s Church. 1Peter 2:7-8, [Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, “The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone, and “A stone of stumbling And a rock of offence.” ‘They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.’](#)

Matthew 21:43, [‘Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be **taken away** from you and given to a people producing its fruits.’](#) Matthew 8:12, [‘But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’](#) As such we should not expect them to be in any way central to God’s work during the End Time.

Instead, God has chosen those who have sought Him diligently; those who have repented, been baptised, and given the Holy Spirit, 1Corinthians 3:16-17, [‘Do you not know that you are **God’s temple** and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him. For God’s temple is holy, and **you are that temple.**’](#) Together with our brethren, the spiritual Church is built into the sanctuary of God, Ephesians 2:20-22, [‘built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into **a holy temple** in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.’](#)

Continuing the analogy, the faithful diligently offer **spiritual sacrifices** by their Godly services, day by day. 1 Peter 2:5, [‘you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to **offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.**’](#) God even illustrated His taking away the need of a physical temple by showing our access to our Heavenly Father. He tore in half the curtain which protected the Holy of Holies! Matthew 27:50-51, [‘And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.’](#)

The other important change is that Jesus Christ will become even more selective. He will select *from* the Church those who qualify to become His Bride! He had originally married Israel at Sinai by the Old Covenant, and it ended in divorce, Jeremiah 3:8.

“She saw that for all the adulteries of that **faithless** one, Israel, I had sent her away with a decree of divorce. Yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear, but she too went and played the whore.” Now He desires the closest of relationships and will choose only the most faithful in spiritual Israel to become His Bride, those whose hearts are in the Kingdom of God! Matthew 6:21, “**Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 21, For where your treasure is, there **your heart will be** also.**”

Do you share Jesus Christ’s yearning for the Kingdom of God here on the earth, and are preparing to follow God’s End-Time instructions, as we press on towards Revelation 5:10? ‘**And have made us kings and priests to our God; And **we shall reign on the earth.****’

Together, Christ and His Bride will become the **spiritual parents** of converted Humanity, as the Millennium progresses, Isaiah 9:6, ‘**For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, **Everlasting Father**, Prince of Peace.**’ God the Father will become a Grandfather! No wonder Christ has become so much more selective. After that marriage ceremony, **no-one else** will *ever* become such a close member of God’s Family!

Now to progress through the first 3½ years of the ‘Tribulation of those days’: When God’s people arrive in Jerusalem, they will put into practice their plans to broadcast of **God’s commanded message** when the US and UK fall. Jeremiah 31:6-9, ‘**For there will be a day when watchmen will call out on the hills of Ephraim, ‘Arise, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God!’ ”** For **this is what the LORD says:**

“Sing with joy for Jacob;
shout for the foremost of the nations!
Make your praises heard, and **say,**
‘O LORD, save Your people,
the remnant of Israel!’
Behold, I will bring them from the land of the north
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
including the blind and the lame,
expectant mothers and women in labor.
They will return as a great assembly!
They will come with weeping,
and by their supplication I will lead them;
I will make them walk beside streams of waters,
on a level path where they will not stumble.
For I am Israel’s Father,

and Ephraim is My firstborn.”

The Jews have laws to protect their religion which are complex, though not necessarily prohibitive and this is the reason why our approach to **broadcast God’s message** must be researched and prepared beforehand.

We don’t know how much detail the First Angel (Rev 14:6-7) will provide, but after his message to the world, things will not be normal again, and the message we will prepare to broadcast includes good news for the Jews, see Isaiah 40:

“Comfort, comfort My people,”
says your God.

“Speak **tenderly to Jerusalem**,
and proclaim to her
that her forced labor has been completed;
her iniquity has been pardoned.
For she has received from the hand of the LORD
double for all her sins.”
A voice of one calling:

“Prepare the way for the LORD in the wilderness;
make a straight highway for our God in the desert.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill made low;
the uneven ground will become smooth,
and the rugged land a plain.
And the glory of the LORD will be revealed.....
and all humanity together will see it.
Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and His arm establishes His rule.
His reward is with Him,
and His recompense accompanies Him.
He tends His flock like a shepherd;
He gathers the lambs in His arms
and carries them close to His heart.
He gently leads the nursing ewes.”

It is a message of fulfilment of Old Testament prophecy, of all the Jews’ hopes and dreams, as well as great encouragement for invaded Israel, and so the Jews may start moving towards their eventual repentance, and look favourably on the broadcast. Zechariah 13:10, “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, **when they look on me**, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.”

Will we use TV, short wave radio, the internet? We don't know, for it will depend upon the numbers who sell up and bring their funds with them to Israel in faith, when the first angel brings his worldwide message, Revelation 14:6,-7 'Then I saw another angel flying overhead, with the **eternal gospel** to proclaim to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation and tribe and tongue and people. And he said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come. Worship the One who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and the springs of waters."

Some seven months or so later we will need to be in Israel, for by the eighth month God **will bring down the US and UK**, (Dan. 8:14) verse 8, 'Then a second angel followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, who has made all the nations drink the wine of the passion of her immorality.' These nations have acted as Babylon.

But this is God's work, and He will provide. It takes faith even now, as I have learned, to accept God's instructions to move out of our comfort zone when His command goes forth, but faith is probably the most important qualification of those who have made themselves ready, Revelation 19:7, 'Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride **has made herself ready.**'

Not all will have that kind of faith, and when Christ finally returns from Heaven *with* His Wife, Revelation 17:14, 'They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and **those with him** are called and chosen **and faithful.**' Faith is belief *in action* and this Jerusalem Church, for that is what it will become, is ready to do God's will,

Luke 12:32-34, "So don't be afraid, little flock. For it gives your Father great happiness to give **you** the Kingdom. "Sell your possessions and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! And the purses of heaven never get old or develop holes. Your treasure will be safe; no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be. NLT.

Once they hear the miraculous, earth shaking message of that 1st angel, any doubts that remain are removed!

With the **US and Britain brought low** in economic and social chaos, and the EU refusing Britain's appeal for help (Hosea 5:13) as we saw in Step 2, we go to the **book of Daniel** for the detail of this period as he was given several visions, which he did not understand, but which the angel Gabriel explained, were for the time of the end. Daniel 8:17, 'So he came near where I stood. And when he came, I was frightened and fell on my face. But he said to me, "Understand, O son of man, that the vision is for the time of the end," the times of the Gentiles which conclude with the final return of Christ, *with* His Bride.

The vision closely parallels the career of Antiochus Epiphanes who foreshadows the Antichrist of the End- Time, Daniel 8:23-25. We must recognise that Daniel 11 is clearly dual in prophecy.

‘In the latter part of their reign, **when the rebellion has reached its full measure**, an insolent king, skilled in intrigue, will come to the throne. His power will be great, but **it will not be his own**. He will cause terrible destruction and succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy the mighty men along with the holy people. Through his craft and by his hand, he will cause deceit to prosper, and in his own mind he will make himself great. In a time of peace he will destroy many, and **he will even stand against the Prince of princes**. Yet he will be broken off, but not by human hands.’

The rebellion referred to in its duality is Antichrist’s, who tries to unseat God and Christ from their rule and take over the earth in Satan’s name. We see him start off small as a ‘little’ horn (Dan 7:8,) but become strong until he rules most of the world, in chapter 11.

A study of the book of Daniel reveals that there will be a final resurrection of the Roman Empire which will ‘**devour the whole earth and tread it down and break it in pieces,**’ Daniel 7:23.

We have to remember that this is speaking of the known earth from the perspective of those days, but this talks of very many nations!

We can see that this fourth beast exists at the time of the end, for it is replaced by the Kingdom of God, Daniel 7:27, ‘**And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.**’ The ten kings of the beast’s kingdom mentioned in Daniel 7:24 are the same kings described in Revelation 17:12-14, ‘**And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.**’

Thus we can see that the king of the North described in Daniel 11, is the ruler of this final end-time resurrection of the Roman Empire in Europe. He it is that Jesus Christ speaks of in Matthew 24:15- 16, ‘**When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains.**’ Jesus Christ thereby confirms the duality of prophecy found in the prophet Daniel’s book and its vital importance for us at the end-time. The amazing thing is how much time and effort is spent by the Beast on Israel and the Middle East.

Daniel himself states that he was told by the archangel Michael, Daniel 10:14, that his visions were about the end-times, ‘Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people **in the latter days:** for yet the vision is for many days.’

In chapter 11 the first 20 verses reveal fulfilled prophecy up to Antiochus 3rd. In verse 21, the prophecy picks up with the story of Antiochus 4 and events in his lifetime, which picture future end-time events in the duality of prophecy mentioned by Jesus Christ. Most commentaries recognise Antiochus 4 as the End Time Beast, but fail to apply verses 21-39 to End Time events.

Verses 21-22 appear to be an introduction to or summary of the following verses in the chapter.

Verse 23, ‘**And after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people.**’ After making a treaty or league with the nation of Israel (as we read in Dan. 9:27), the king of the North enters into the land named Israel today, on the invitation of its leaders, with only a token force of soldiers to ‘protect its sovereignty’, (This event will take place at the fall of America and Britain, when the surrounding nations begin to threaten Israel with invasion, some 7-8 months after the beginning of the last 7 years – see End Time Timeline). Revelation 14:8, ‘**Then another angel, a second one, followed him, saying, "Fallen! Babylon the Great has fallen! She has made all nations drink the wine, the wrath earned for her sexual sins."** ISV.

Verse 24, ‘**He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time.**’ Corrupting people with the power and wealth available to him in the region, he begins to devise plans to gradually take over the whole land. Despite not yet having come to full power in Europe, this man hides his ulterior motives at this point.

Verse 25-26 ‘**And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand: for they shall forecast devices against him. Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow: and many shall fall down slain.**’

His ambitions extend to a campaign against the Islamist combine of nations to the South (v42-43) – Iran, Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia and Libya. By corruption, some of the King of the South’s closest allies are persuaded to desert him so that his army is overcome.

Verse 27, ‘**And both these kings' hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time**

appointed.’ At a conference the two evil and deceitful leaders lie to each other but no final conclusion is reached, for the end must await the appointed time.

Verse 28, **‘Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land.’** The King of the North returns to Europe with his victory spoils, angry at God’s people in Israel for their broadcast warnings of the Beast’s final end, and not to become involved with him in any way.

Verse 29, **‘At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter.’** At God’s appointed time he again returns after finding treachery in the agreement made with the king of the South. Again he attacks Egypt but this time it is different.

Verse 30, **‘For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.’** He receives urgent demands from his masters in Europe to withdraw, signifying his as yet, incomplete emergence as the dictator of Europe, which he will soon become. An analogy can be drawn here to the actions and treatment of General Patton in World War 2. In his anger and humiliation he will vent his anger against God’s people, attempting to gain intelligence from those who fall away, fearful of his persecution.

Verse 31, **‘And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.’**

Gaining great strength and growing support from his now numerous loyal troops, just as did Hitler from his black shirts, he will become much bolder, knowing that his time to grasp complete power in Europe is near at hand. Now he will feel strong enough to begin persecuting God’s faithful in Jerusalem in earnest, taking over and finally stopping the broadcast which has warned the world against his worship, completely silencing the daily work **and sacrifice** of God’s church from Jerusalem to encourage the remnant of captive Israel, and taking complete control of the government of Israel, bringing about its desolation. Compare: Daniel 12:11, **‘And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days,’** (to the final return of Christ with His bride) and 30 days to the half way point in the 7 years. Some are expecting this to apply to sacrifices in a Temple the Jews may build. It does not, but rather to the life endangering sacrifice of that God commanded daily broadcast by God’s servants, of hope to remnant Israel and warning against the Beast.

Verse 32, **‘And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.’** With flattery, he will encourage those Jews who have been against God’s people in

Jerusalem, though some Jews who have come to recognise the work of God will resist him, along with the Christians themselves.

Verse 33, ‘And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days.’ That has been their role, and it includes confirmation of the message of the third angel of Revelation 14, which so angers the Beast! Revelation 14:9-11, ‘And a third angel followed them, calling out in a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and its image, and receives its mark on his forehead or on his hand, he too will drink the wine of God’s anger, poured undiluted into the cup of His wrath. And he will be tormented in fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment rises forever and ever. Day and night there is no rest for those who worship the beast and its image, or for anyone who receives the mark of its name.”’

There is now a **period of 30 days** until the end of the first 3½ years, which determines the faithful to flee from Jerusalem.

Verse 34, ‘Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries.’ Some aid will be provided by God, but many who have been witnessing and warning from Jerusalem to the world, will be betrayed by insincere converts. When the Beast’s main armies arrive from Europe *they* will not flee.

Verse 35, ‘And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed.’ Some of God’s people will suffer and die for their faith to test and refine them; this is becomes the 5th Seal of Revelation 6:9-11, ‘And when the Lamb opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony they had upheld. And they cried out in a loud voice, “How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You avenge our blood and judge those who dwell upon the earth?” Then each of them was given a white robe and told to rest a little while longer, until the full number of their fellow servants, their brothers, were killed, just as they had been killed.’

Finally, as the King of the North orders his armies from Europe to land at Haifa, and the end of the first 3½ years approaches, God’s *faithful* servants flee South from Jerusalem before they can become trapped in the city, Luke 21:20-21, “‘But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. Then let those who are in Judea **flee to the mountains**, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it.’”

What happens next will be covered in Revelation Step 4.

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