America in Prophecy: 'The Exile of Ephraim'

INTRODUCTION

Prophecy did not stop when Jesus died. World affairs after the cross right up to and through the Great Tribulation are recorded in the Bible in detail. Many of these prophecies were written by Moses in the Torah over 3,500 years ago. They were expanded upon by Jewish prophets 2,700 years ago. In the last days these prophecies are being brought to light so that men will fear God. The LORD knows the end from the beginning. He determines the boundaries of the peoples, their times, and their destinies.

AMERICA IN PROPHECY

The arrangement of the tribes of Israel in the desert camp is described in Numbers chapter 2. Each tribe of Israel is prophetic of a specific prominent nation in world history. They are presented in the desert camp in the exact order that each nation becomes prominent in world history as follows:

| East | | South | | West | | North | |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Ancient World | | European Powers | | Western Powers | | Final World Government | |
| Judah | Babylon | Reuben | Catholic Empire | Ephraim | United States | Dan | False Prophet |
| Issachar | Media/Persia | Simeon | Crusaders | Menasseh | United Kingdom | Asher | Rich Powerful Few |
| Zebulon | Greece/Rome | Gad | Colonies | Benjamin | State of Israel | Naphtali | Antichrist |

The United Kingdom became a power before the United States, but the United States received the greater power and authority in the world according to the crossing of Jacob's arms in blessing¹.

We provide an in-depth study of Ephraim in the desert camp to show this tribe is prophetic of the United States of America. See our paper on Page 4.0 Prophecy on our website². We will assume here that the identity of Ephraim as a prophetic type of America is a settled issue.

PROPHETS IN THE BIBLE WHO SPOKE CONCERNING EPHRAIM

This paper will examine the **prophecies concerning Ephraim spoken by Isaiah**. There are also parallel prophecies elsewhere in Scripture that expand on this theme. The reader would do well to consult them. In particular the prophets Amos and Hosea were called to speak of the sin of Ephraim and the judgment coming upon her.

It is recognized these prophets spoke concerning the tribe Ephraim that dwelt in the land in their days. But, knowingly or unknowingly their prophecies also have application to America many centuries later.

¹ See Genesis 48:17

² Or, use this link: http://biblenumbers.files.wordpress.com/2013/02/tribe-of-ephraim-a-type-of-the-united-states.pdf

PROPHECIES OF ISAIAH

Isaiah was a prophet in the time after the split between the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah (see 2 Chronicles 10). When Isaiah refers to 'Israel' he is referring to the Northern Kingdom. The Northern Kingdom is also known as 'Ephraim' because Ephraim was the leading tribe and the kings who ruled the tribes of the northern confederacy came from Ephraim.

Part 1 – Judgment of America Begins

The LORD has sent a message against Jacob; it will fall on Israel [America]. (Isaiah 9:8)

All the people [of the world] will know it – Ephraim [America] and the inhabitants of Samaria [spiritual leaders of America] – who say with pride and arrogance of heart:

The bricks have fallen down, but we will rebuild with dressed stone;

The fig trees have been felled, but we will replace them with cedars" (Isaiah 9:9)

Isaiah predicts that there will be a specific calamity in America which he describes as 'the bricks falling down' and 'the fig trees being felled'.

Bricks in the Bible point to **the tower** of Babel:

Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. As men moved eastward they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. They said to each other 'Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.' They used brick instead of stone, and tar instead of mortar. Then they said 'Come let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the earth. (Genesis 11:1-4)

Evidently, in the case of Ephraim there was not one tower because more than one fig tree was felled.

We conclude: The destruction of the two towers of the World Trade Center in New York on September 11, 2001 is the seminal prophetic event Isaiah is referring to in the history of America.

America did not recognize the hand of God in the destruction of the two towers.

America did not search their hearts for sin against God that would bring this punishment upon them.

On the day of the attacks, New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani proclaimed: "We will rebuild. We're going to come out of this stronger than before, politically stronger, economically stronger. The skyline will be made whole again."

Just as Isaiah prophesied, the spirit of America was not repentant before God, but confident in their strength to make the country stronger: 'we will replace [the bricks] with dressed stones.'

Part 2 – America's Soul Becomes Lost to Sin

But the LORD has strengthened Rezin³'s foes against them and spurred their enemies on. (Isa. <u>9:11</u>)

Arameans from the east, Philistines from the west have devoured Israel with open mouth. (Isa. 9:12)

America's pride and arrogance of heart is so great she is incapable of repenting of sin, or even stopping for a second to consider that she might be guilty of a sin deserving punishment or that God might punish her. America's insensitivity to sin spurs on the bitter enemies of her historic Christian piety.

Twin towers fall in New York, but Twin enemies rise up and devour America!

The first enemy: Arameans!

Aram was the land to the north of the Northern Kingdom, the land that is modern day Syria. The capital of Syria was Damascus – **famous for its markets and bazaars**. Damascus was located on the trade route between Tyre on the coast of the Mediterranean and the kingdoms of Assyria and Babylon. Although Aram possessed a spiritual heritage in the past⁴ it had become **a city of merchants**.

America has become a nation that is devoted to consumerism. The streets and malls of America are full of shops and businesses that provide all the amenities imaginable to self-indulgent consumers. As far back as 1610 there were so-called 'blue laws' in America that ensured businesses were closed on Sunday. Citizens observed a day of rest and exercised sober spiritual reflection. They don't any longer.

Spiritual Aram is about more than shopping malls, it is about **powerful commercial interests controlled by corporations**. Aram was frequently at war with Ephraim. Loss of life and loss of land occurred at the hands of the Arameans. The prophet Amos warned how concentration of riches will be America's downfall: "You lie on beds inlaid with ivory ... but do not grieve for the sin of Joseph" (Amos 6:3-7)

America has become a plutocracy: the rule of the rich. Geographically, Aram is located to the north of Ephraim. The north is the symbolic location of power and control. America began as a democracy with power in the hands of citizens who elected officials. Today elections are conducted in the form of

³ Resin was the king of Ephraim at this time.

⁴ The two wives of Jacob and the mother of Jacob were all Arameans

expensive media wars⁵. Only candidates with wealthy financial backers can afford to wage campaigns for political office. Therefore, only a candidate with the support of the wealthy can be elected.

The love of money wages war on the pious soul too. Paul wrote to Timothy: "Godliness with contentment is great gain. We brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many ... harmful desires that plunge men into ruin ..." (1 Tim. 6:6-9).

The second enemy: **Philistines**!

The Philistines were a grave threat to the existence of the holy people for hundreds of years and were never vanquished until the reign of Hezekiah.

These are some of the characteristics of Philistines:

- Drinkers and carousers
- Professional warriors
- Worshipers of vain idols
- Mockers of God
- Enthralled by contests: feats of strength and athletic matches

The Philistine is typified by Goliath: a professional soldier who loved the spirit of the athletic or military contest; a hard hearted sinner who made a profession out of killing and rejoicing in the death and loss of others; a man who mocked God openly; a man who would take advantage of the vulnerable and less fortunate for his own gain; above all a man who gloried in his own strength.

The spirit of the Philistine warrior has soaked into the core of the American soul:

- Every major city in America has sports teams, often multiple sports teams
- The teams compete, often in violent matches, to subdue teams from other towns
- Sports events are held on every day of the week and draw the attention of tens of millions
- Gambling on the outcome of sports consumes billions of dollars
- Competitors in sporting events are highly paid professionals idolized by youth

America is filled with bars, night clubs, lounges, gyms, theaters, arenas, and playing fields catering to millions of Philistines seeking glory for their town's team in athletic competition. It is not uncommon for the fans of teams involved in championship contests to riot if their team does not win.

⁵ Cost of the 2012 Presidential election was over \$2 billion. Source: Huffington Post 2012/12/06/

The geographic location of the Philistines was south of Ephraim. Thus, the effect of the Philistine spirit of blood sport is to drag the soul of America down from the uplifting Christian moral teachings of charity, good will, long suffering, love for enemies, and concern for the less fortunate.

The Philistines waged war on Israel. Towns were taken, livestock was taken, and the blood of many holy people was spilled because of the aggression of Philistines. From an early age children in America are not learning the truth about the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ. Children in America learn from an early age that their allegiance is to local sports icons. The eternal destinies of young people are sealed because their souls are so soaked in Philistine culture they cannot see beauty and sublime perfection in the holy life of Jesus Christ. Ephraim is devoured by Philistines.

Part 3 The Honorable Leader and the Devout Religious Teacher Disappear from America

Yet for all of this his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised (Isaiah 9:12 b)

But the people have not returned to him who struck them, nor have they sought the LORD Almighty. (Isaiah 9:13)

So the LORD will cut off from Israel [America] both head and tail, both palm branch and reed in a single day; (Isaiah 9:14)

The elders and prominent men are the head, the prophets who teach lies are the tail. (Isaiah 9:15)

Those who guide this people mislead them; and those who are guided are led astray. (Isaiah 9:16)

What is the great sin of America? (Verse 13) **She will not receive the discipline of God**. She will not return to the one who strikes her. Nor does she seek the LORD to learn what she has done wrong.

Who will the LORD punish first for America's sin? Here is the principle of leadership we don't hear taught very often: **God holds leaders responsible for the actions of the people**.

Remember Meribah? The day the men of Israel began to indulge in sexual relations with the daughters of Moab? What did the LORD say?

Take the leaders of the people, kill them and expose them in broad daylight before the LORD so that the LORD's fierce anger may turn away from Israel. (Numbers 25:4)

Over the generations the leaders of America have failed to instruct the people who is the LORD, how he deals with sin, and how a nation might learn from the discipline of the LORD.

The LORD is clear in this regard that it is not only the religious leaders who have failed in this duty it is the civic leaders too. **Not since Lincoln's second inaugural address in 1865 have we seen a senior civic leader acknowledge the hand of the LORD in administering justice to America**.

And so, the LORD says he will 'cut off from Israel both head and tail'. What does this mean?

The leaders did not respect God enough to order their lives according to the fear of the LORD, so the LORD will close the hearts of the people so that they will pay no respect to their religious teachers nor to their elected officials. They will not trust them. They will not listen to them.

So it is today. Church enrollments are declining. The popular support of the President falls below 50%.

America! The nation that began under the inspirational leadership of Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, and Jackson. The nation that was inspired by the preaching of Simpson, Moody, King, and Graham. According to Isaiah after the 911 spiritual defeat America will have no leaders worth a sniff.

Part 4 – Wickedness Breaks All Restraint Across America

Therefore the Lord will take no pleasure in the young men, nor will he pity the fatherless and widows; for everyone is ungodly and wicked, every mouth speaks vileness." (Isaiah 9:17)

Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised. (Isaiah 9:17 b)

Surely wickedness burns like a fire; it consumes briars and thorns, it sets the forest thickets ablaze so that it rolls upward in a column of smoke. (Isaiah 9:18)

By the wrath of the LORD Almighty the land will be scorched and the people will be fuel for the fire; no one will spare his brother. (Isaiah 9:19)

On the right they will devour, but still be hungry; on the left they will eat but will not be satisfied. Each will feed on the flesh of his own offspring. (Isaiah 9:20)

By every measure America has become a place of overflowing wickedness 'burning like a fire':

- Young women idolize **scantily clad sirens** who sing enticingly of free love
- Young men are sunk deep in pornography and violent video games
- Drugs of every possible description capture swaths of people in addiction
- Rampant divorce destroys the concept of Christian marriage as a life-long commitment
- The unborn child receives no legal protection; millions of innocents die without a qualm
- Television brings blood, gore, torture, and murder into the living rooms of the nation
- The **aged are abandoned** by their children to institutions and die of lonely hearts

The land will be 'scorched'. We are already seeing this:

- Drought hits 50% of counties across the United States and persists for three years
- Grass fires hit California; Land is so dried out it becomes a tinder box.

Politically there is no solution. How amazingly accurate the prophet of the LORD is in his words! American political parties are split: 'on the right' there are Republicans and 'on the left' there are Democrats. Republicans fight for the rich: 'they will devour' the poor. Democrats fight for the poor through higher taxes: but 'they will eat but not be satisfied' because no one will have enough food. Both parties are in favor of borrowing money. The national debt becomes so large the next generation will never be able to pay to service it: 'each feeds on the flesh of his own offspring'.

Every mouth speaks vileness. Even the speech of Americans is stripped of all decency and respect. No one says 'please'. No one says 'thank you.' The young man does not address the mature man as 'Sir.' In the shops on Black Friday the patrons push and shove to get the best deal. There is swearing in public. The LORD cannot even walk the streets of America without being deeply offended.

<u>Part 5 – America's Power in International Affairs Wanes</u>

Manasseh will feed on Ephraim, and Ephraim will feed on Manasseh; together they will turn against Judah. (Isaiah 9:21)

Manasseh represents the old ally of America and its spiritual elder brother, the **United Kingdom** (see the tribes of the desert camp on page 1).

America will lose its stature as the foremost nation of the confederacy of the Northern Kingdom.

Since World War II America has been the leader of the free world. However, increasingly the United Kingdom will cut its ties and make its own way in international affairs. Even now the United Kingdom is considering whether to increase ties with Europe and adopt the Euro. Should that event come to pass it will make the United Kingdom less of a trade partner and more of a trade competitor.

The prophecy also predicts that **the states within the United States will be set at odds against each other**. If California defaults will the other states of the Union support the Federal Government bailing California out if it means less Federal support for them?

Ephraim and Manasseh will turn on Judah. Who is Judah in prophecy? Judah is interpreted as ancient Babylon according to the tribes of the desert camp. However in the book of Isaiah Judah represents the genuine worshipers of Jehovah (Jesus) who worship at the holy mountain in Jerusalem (heaven).

Judah represents the invisible community of true spiritual believers. In terms of America the Christians who attend local churches which are part of religious denominations (e.g. Baptists,

Pentecostals, Presbyterians, and Catholics) represent Samaria. Their teachers are all false prophets. Their altar is on earth and their worship consists of vain assembly in buildings made by human hands.

The central truth of the faith which is under attack by religion in America is this: the Kingdom of God with Christ at its head is not divided. **Any man that promotes factions or denominations within the body of Christ is guilty of the rebellion of Korah** and therefore participates in the most infamous treason against God of all time. *The division of the Northern Kingdom and the Southern Kingdom is the specific historic event that foreshadows the division of the body of Christ into the kingdoms of men (denominations) and the Kingdom of God.*

To be clear, there were true prophets in the historical Ephraim in the Bible. We know they were true prophets because they taught the proper worship of the LORD is on his holy hill in Jerusalem, which for Christians represents the Jerusalem that is above. On earth our bodies are the sanctuary of Christ.

Therefore, Isaiah predicts **America will become a place that is intolerant of true Christianity**. Read the history of Ephraim and you will see badly how the daughter of Zion is abused: Judges 19.

<u>Part 6 – America's Legacy in God's Eyes: A Nation of Robbers and Oppressors</u>

Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised.

Woe to those who make unjust laws, to those who issue oppressive decrees. To deprive the poor of their rights and rob my oppressed people of justice, making widows their prey and robbing the fatherless. (Isaiah 9:21,10:1)

What will you do on the day of reckoning, when disaster comes from afar? To whom will you run for help? Where will you leave your riches? (Isaiah 10:3)

Nothing will remain but to cringe among the captives or fall among the slain. (Isa. 10:4)

The glorious United States of America, a place of vast bounty and natural beauty, the home of the American Dream and prosperity, has become a nation full of poor people: over 45 million of them.

According to the latest statistics, November 2012, the U.S. Census Bureau reports that 16% of Americans live in poverty and 20% of American children. The population in poverty increased from the level of 14.3% in 2009 and 13.2% in 2008.

Poverty rates in America are consistently higher than other wealthy countries. In 2013 UNICEF reported that America has the second highest child poverty rate in the developed world.

Why does poverty persist in a rich country like America? Because **the laws of America ensure the rich get richer and the poor get poorer**. Some examples:

- Funding for education is based on the local municipality. Poor towns and districts receive poor education while rich towns and districts receive above average education. **America denies poor citizens an adequate education.** These poor souls have no way to exit the poverty cycle.
- Children in single parent families are much more likely to be in poverty: 8.3% of children in two parent families are in poverty; 19.6% of children in single father families are in poverty; but a whopping 47.1% of children in single mother families are in poverty. Is it the fault of the children their family has no father? America abandons the fatherless children to poverty.
- American laws do not protect minimum wages at a level that poor people can work to climb out
 of poverty. The wages of the bottom 10% of American workers are only 47% of the median
 American workers. The average for developed countries is 62% and America is the worst of the
 21 OECD countries in the Survey.⁶ America robs poor workers of a fair wage. Who benefits
 from low wage workers? The rich business owners!

Why does this situation not change? The LORD is furious about this robbery and oppression!

Part 7 – The End of America: A Strong Enemy Is Raised Up

Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised. (Isaiah 10:4 b)

Woe to the Assyrian, the rod of my anger, in whose hand is the club of my wrath! (Isaiah 10:5)

I send him against a godless nation, I dispatch him against a people who anger me, to seize loot and snatch plunder, and to trample them down like mud in the streets." (Isaiah 10:6)

But this is not what he intends, this is not what he has in mind; his purpose is to destroy, to put to an end many nations. (Isaiah 10:7)

Are not my commanders all kings? He says. (Isaiah 10:8)

Has not Calno fared like Carchemish? Is not Hamath like Arpad, and Samaria like Damascus? (Isaiah 10:8)

As my hand seized the kingdoms of the idols, kingdoms whose images excelled those of Jerusalem and Samaria – shall I not deal with Jerusalem and her images as I dealt with Samaria and her idols? (Isaiah 10:9)

⁶ http://www.epi.org/publication/ib339-us-poverty-higher-safety-net-weaker/

Who is the Assyrian? Who is the club of the wrath of the LORD? Who will punish America?

We have some intriguing clues in this prophecy:

- The Assyrian will be the head of a group of nations: 'Are not my commanders all kings?'
- The Assyrian will have a **private agenda to erase many nations from the earth**: 'to destroy, to put to an end many nations'
- The Assyrian is godless, and he will zealously destroy religion: 'my hands seized the kingdoms of the idols'
- Before he attacks America he will gain other victories: 'Is not Hamath like Arpad?'
- His chief victory will be securing Damascus, Syria: 'Is not ... Samaria like Damascus?'

More clues:

When the LORD has finished all his work against Mount Zion and Jerusalem he will says 'I will punish the king of Assyria for the willful pride of his heart and the haughty look in his eyes. (Isaiah 10:12)

For he says: By the strength of my hand I have done this, and by my wisdom because I have understanding. I removed the boundaries of nations, I plundered their treasures; like a mighty one I subdued their kings. (Isaiah 10:13)

As one reaches into a nest, so my hand reached for the wealth of the nations; as men gather abandoned eggs, so I gathered all the countries; not one flapped a wing, or opened its mouth to chirp. (Isaiah 10:14)

More details of the ways of the Assyrian:

- He will work by cunning and by craft, not by brute force: 'I have done this by my wisdom'.
- Nations will possess no strength to resist him: 'not one flapped a wing'
- Nations will capitulate rather than resist: 'not one ... opened its mouth to chirp'
- Nations will have no strong protector to defend them: 'gathered abandoned eggs.'

In order to piece this puzzle together it is useful to examine the order of the historic exile of the Israelite tribes by the Assyrians. It did not start with Ephraim it started with Manasseh.

Part 8 – The Spirit of Assyria and Examples in History

Who is Assyria? To interpret this in our day we must appreciate who Assyria was in the past.

The essence of Assyria:

The spirit of Assyria is possessed by a great nation that once was full of faithful God fearers but departed from the faith and became a godless club smashing and subduing other nations.

Historic Assyria is the prime example of this phenomenon as documented in the Bible but there have been many 'Assyria's in the history of the world. We will provide you with four examples.

Example A – Ancient Assyria

Nineveh, the capital of Assyria, repented at the preaching of Jonah. The king of Assyria called the whole nation to repent in dust and ashes:

Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach ... its wickedness has come up before me. (Jonah 1:2)

Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go all through it. 'Forty more days and Nineveh will be destroyed'. The Ninevites believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth" (Jonah 3:3-5)

When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. (Jonah 3:6)

Then he issued a proclamation: ... <u>Let everyone call urgently on God</u>. <u>Let them give up their evil ways and their violence</u>. Who knows? <u>God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish."</u> (Jonah 3:7-9)

The ancient nation Assyria was once, for a brief time, a nation full of people who feared Jehovah!

Yet, the repentance of Assyria did not last. They returned to their 'evil ways and their violence'.

Assyria was a by-word barbarity in the ancient world. Assyria was first in blood thirst!

Ashurbanipal II, King of Assyria (884 - 859 BC), called himself "trampler of nations". Blood-curdling inscriptions of his achievements include:

I besieged and conquered the city... I captured many troops alive. I cut off of some their arms and hands. I cut off others their noses, ears and extremities. I gouged out the eyes of many troops. I made one pile of the living and one of heads. I hung their heads on trees around the city. I flayed as many nobles as had rebelled against me and draped their skins over the pile of corpses... I flayed many, right through my land and draped their skins over the walls. I cut off the heads of their fighters and built with them a tower before the city. I burnt their adolescent boys and girls. (Bleibtreu 1991)

Example B – Modern Assyria

In the New Testament era Assyria was the first nation in the world to convert to Jesus Christ! The apostles Thomas, Thaddeus and Bartholomew came to the Assyrian city of Edessa and founded the Assyrian Church of the East, known in Scripture as 'the elect church which is in Babylon' (1 Pet 5:13). The bulk of the Assyrian population converted to Christianity, becoming the first Gentile nation to glorify the LORD. This was not a momentary repentance such as ancient Assyria experienced this was a massive spiritual rebirth! Did Jesus have modern Assyria in mind when he said 'the fields are ripe for harvest' (John 4:35)? (Note: Assyria has always been famous for its grain crops)

Yet, the glorious first century was ultimately followed by the shameful crimes of Sadaam Hussein, the modern ruler of twentieth century Iraq. A partial description of his deeds:

1988: The Anfal ('Spoils') campaign is designed to depopulate the Kurdish regions in northern Iraq. Up to 182,000 people are killed or die from cold and hunger.

1988: A chemical attack against the Kurdish village of Halabja kills 5,000 people in one day during the Anfal campaign.

Example C – Mongol Empire

How few know the Christian influences among the Mongols and the connection to Assyria.

The Assyrian Church of the East sent out great numbers of missionaries. In the 5th century the Church of the East moved to Persia where it was protected by the Sassanid ruler Yazdegerd. Faith flourished and missionaries were sent to all parts of Asia. By the end of the twelfth century the Church of the East was larger than the Greek Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches combined. It spanned all of Asia, from Syria to Mongolia, Korea, China, and Japan. (Note: Why is it Westerners don't appreciate Iran? From Cyrus of the Medes and the Persians to Yazdegerd of the Sassanids, the people of Iran have through history practiced religious toleration and protected the worshipers of Jehovah.)

Church of the East missionaries penetrated every nation of Asia. When Marco Polo visited China in the thirteenth century, he was astonished to find Christian priests in the Chinese royal court, and tens of thousands of Chinese Christians. Missionaries had reached China by the sixth century. These messengers had walked thousands of miles across mountain ranges along the old Silk Road.

The armies who first marched from Mongolia were full of converts to the Church of the East. When Genghis Khan swept through Asia (some reports say) he brought with him an army over half of which belonged to the Church of the East. Missionaries had had such an influence that the first Mongolian system of writing used the Assyrian alphabet. Early Mongol rulers tolerated the practice of Christian

religion and all religions. It was later that Mongol leaders adopted fanatical Islam and persecuted Christians ruthlessly (Tamerlane).

In the true spirit of Assyria, the Mongols were probably the greatest butchers of all time. The wars of the Mongols appreciably reduced the world's population. A sample of their ways:

A certain city revolted against Tamerlane by killing the tax collectors and some of his soldiers. Tamerlane ordered the massacre of the city's citizens with the death toll reckoned at between 100,000 and 200,000. An eye-witness counted more than 28 towers constructed of about 1,500 heads each. Tamerlane used terror as a psychological weapon.

Example D – Nazi Germany

Germany is the cradle of Protestantism. Most of the German nation repented at the preaching of Luther who showed them forgiveness of sin was by God's grace not by our works. Millions of Germans believed. Millions of saints in neighboring countries also believed. Yet Germany became the fount of Nazism whose genocide and lust for conquest of other nations ranks right up with ancient Assyria and the Mongols.

Are we seeing the pattern yet? A nation experiences repentance and faith in the true God but does not keep its covenant with him and in the process of time the vacuum is filled with warmongering evil.

When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man [faith in Christ], he walks through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, I will return unto my house whence I came out. And when he cometh, he finds it swept and garnished. Then goes he, and takes to him seven other spirits more wicked than him; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. (Luke 11:24-26)

Part 9 - Who Will Be Prophetic Assyria? Who Will Punish America?

The opinion of this author is Assyria will not be a Moslem nation. To appreciate this we refer to an earlier reference to the judgement of Ephraim in the Book of Isaiah:

In that day the LORD will whistle for flies from the distant streams of Egypt and for bees from the land of Assyria. They will all come and settle in the steep ravines and in the crevices in the rocks, on all the thorn bushes and at all the water holes. In that day the Lord will use a razor hired from beyond the River – the king of Assyria – to shave your head and the hair of your legs and to take off your beards also. (Isaiah 7:18-19)

The King of Assyria will bring American men into subjection will shave their beards off. Moslems would not do this. (If you do not convert they will kill you, but they will never shave your beard off). In

contrast to Moslems, the King of Assyria is the head of a godless nation. Say what you want of Moslems but they are not godless.

Even so, in the opinion of this author Moslems will be involved in the downfall of America. **Moslems** are the 'flies from the distant streams of Egypt'. Egypt is the type of slavery in the Bible. Moslems are in slavery to their prophet, whose words have ruled over them with the absolute authority of a godlike king for over 1300 years.

Isaiah says the flies will settle 'in the steep ravines and in the crevices in the rocks'. Their invasion will be silent and invisible. If anyone were to charge them with plotting insurrection and treason they would reply: 'Not us, we are harmless as a fly'. Isaiah also says the flies will roost 'on the thorny bushes'. Islam will take root in the lives of those who are embittered and who despise America. An example of this would be the two Moslem immigrants, Dzhokhar and Tamerlan Tsarnaev, who blasted Boston. Close relatives to those individuals reported they were bitter they could not make a life in the USA. We immediately see the futility of America embarking on a 'war on terror' that targets Moslem nations in other lands. America! The danger lies within you.

Now we come to the bees. They are like the flies but capable of inflicting more painful stings. Here is the real threat. The bee is the hardworking gift of God to flowers and the fruit that comes from pollination which they assist. The bee is communal and sacrificial. Bees are organized and the head of their colony is a female, not a male.

In the opinion of this author the bees will be people who love America (the female leader) more than they love God (the male leader). The bees will come from the stock of people who worked hard and long to build America and make it fruitful. Just as every natural bee has its own stinger, and every prophetic 'bee' will carry his own gun. No one will be able to identify who the 'bad' bees are because they hide themselves, like the flies, 'in the steep ravines and in the crevices in the rocks'. However, they are a deadly force. The moment their hive is threatened or they are somehow stirred up they will swarm to the attack and harass the bee-keeper (national government).

Nazism began as a 'brown shirt' movement. The brown shirts were **zealous nationalists** who accused world Zionism of plotting the downfall of Kaiser's Germany. The brown shirts were **bullies** who formed the paramilitary wing of Nazism. The brown shirts formed a protective shield at rallies. The brown shirts engaged in street fights with communists. The brown shirts transformed into the SS, the separate military wing who reported directly to Hitler and were assigned the task of committing his most heinous crimes (ethnic cleansing of all descriptions, not only killing Jews).

Interestingly, Isaiah says the bees **congregated 'at every watering hole'** because the brown shirts were typically **veterans** of the First World War who engaged in **bar brawls**. We are not saying US veterans are the prophetic bees. However there were 21 million ex-servicemen in the US in 2012. Some of the

prophetic bees may come from this group. With assurance we can say the US is full of **trained killers** who satisfy the three prophetic requirements: **they love their country**, **they distrust their government**, **and they deny God**.

This leaves the all-important question of who is Assyria.

At one time ancient Assyria did repent 'from the least to the greatest' such as the Ninevites repented at the preaching of Jonah. This made ancient Assyria the appropriate instrument to punish ancient Ephraim, who would not repent in spite of prophets like Amos and Hosea that were sent to her.

Likewise, to be appropriate as a rod for the wrath of the LORD against America, prophetic Assyria must be a country who at one time experienced a mass repentance towards God.

Who is Assyria? Is it not Russia? ASSYRIA = RYSSIA. Russia satisfies the conditions to be Assyria.

When the capital of Russia was Kiev, the citizens repented like unto the repentance of the Ninevites.

All including their king were baptized as Christians. Their leader Vladimir the Great (980–1015) introduced Christianity with his own baptism and, by decree, that of all the inhabitants of Kiev and beyond. Why did Vladimir repent? He saw the Teutonic Knights advancing through Poland and Vladimir realized this was God's punishment coming his way for the paganism of his people. Vladimir repented and his kingdom was spared. Following this the Teutonic movement also lost its steam.

Judgment is coming upon America. Where is the visionary spiritual leader of America who will see judgement coming as Vladimir did, and call upon the nation to repent on its knees? That leader does not exist and will not exist. America has already crossed the river of spiritual ignorance over to the land of arrogance and pride. America will not humble herself in sight of the raised hand of God. And so America will be humbled by the hand of God coming down upon her.

The Global Power Balance is Ripe for a Change in World Leadership

An internal struggle is happening in the Ukraine. This is the model for the fall of many countries, including America. The bees have been sent into Ukraine. Bees loyal to the fascist parties with support in the west of Ukraine deposed the legitimate democratic leader in Kiev after a street battle. In response paramilitary thugs with popular support in the east of the country deposed local police forces and asserted independence for Crimea and other provinces.

In response, the West is threatening to punish Russia with economic sanctions. America has threatened to 'bleed' the economy of Russia. What has Russia done? Did Russia start the conflict? Did Russia send in the bees who deposed the pro-Russian President of the country? Did Russia even send in the bees who have support in the east of the country? The answer to all these questions is no. Russia is being falsely accused of the unrest in the Ukraine and is being unjustly punished by America.

America has a greater military and a greater economy than Russia. Once again, America is behaving like a bully and throwing its weight around the world against anyone who does anything America disapproves of. After the Vietnam War, the Iraq War, the Afghanistan War, and proxy drone wars the list of countries the US has alienated is becoming longer and longer. America has now come to the point where it could make Europe its enemy. Europe relies on Russia for natural gas and other resources. America almost pushed Iran into collapse through economic sanctions. If America pushes Russia into collapse there would be serious consequences to Europe.

China with 1.4 billion people would be happy to see America fall. The entire Moslem world with 1.5 billion people would rejoice. India with 1.2 billion people is moving towards an alignment with China. If Europe were to bluntly tell America to butt out of its business, America would be out in the cold very quickly.

By the defection of Europe Russia would be poised to become the world leader. And this is precisely what prophecy in the Bible teaches us will happen!

Part 10 - The Exile of Reuben, Gad, and the Half Tribe of Manasseh to Assyria

1st Chronicles 5 records the first exile of Israelite tribes at the hands of Assyrians:

The people of the half-tribe of Manasseh were numerous ... but they were unfaithful to the God of their fathers and prostituted themselves to the gods of the people of the land, whom God had destroyed before them. So the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of ...

Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria who took the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh into exile. He took them to Halah, Habor, Hara and the river Gozan where they are to this day. (1 Chron. 5:25-26)

Let's look at the prophetic identity of Reuben, Manasseh, and Gad according to their identities in the Desert Camp (Numbers chapter 2):

Reuben: the Catholic Kingdoms: the Holy Roman Empire; modern Europe

Manasseh: the United Kingdom: the British Isles

Gad: the colonies of the European powers including the Commonwealth

In Biblical history Reuben, Manasseh, and Gad were exiled before Ephraim. Therefore, we can predict with confidence that Europe, the United Kingdom, and even the former European colonies will capitulate to Assyria (Russia) before exile comes to America.

How will it happen? It is not hard to see. Ukraine is only the latest country to undergo domestic uprisings. Before Ukraine there was the Arab Spring. In the case of Egypt and Syria these domestic

insurgencies were put down by strong national leadership and the support of Russia. When domestic insurgencies spread to European nations, for example in the high employment countries of Greece, Spain, and Italy, how will the anarchy be stopped? America spouts forth platitudes regarding human rights and democracy and threatens every country which denies them. This policy will drive the rest of the nations towards iron fisted Russian ideology. When America pushes too hard for the last time, it will become personal and all those nations will form a military alliance that is equal to that of America. Who will lead that alliance? Who could be trusted not to sway in the face of American enticements and/or threats? That could only be mother Russia!

Manasseh and Ephraim are the two sons of Joseph. When Manasseh is exiled by Assyria, Ephraim will not have a friend left in the world.

When this occurs it will be the beginning of the end for America! Russia and its allies will then turn the tables and 'bleed' the American economy. Unemployment will rise dramatically in America. The nation will not be able to pay its huge external debt. The life savings of millions of Americans will be lost. Citizens will blame their government. The bees and the flies will be stirred up. Violence and anarchy will erupt. It will all be over quickly.

Part 11 – The Russian World Confederacy Flames Out

Does **the ax raise itself above him who swings**, or **the saw** boast against him who uses it? As if **a rod** were to wield him who lifts it up, or **a club** brandish him who is not the wood! (Isaiah 10:15)

Therefore, the Lord, the LORD Almighty, will send a wasting disease upon his sturdy warriors; under his pomp a fire will be kindled like a blazing flame. (Isaiah 10:16)

The Light of Israel will become a fire, their Holy One a flame; in a single day it will burn and consume his thorns and his briers. (Isaiah 10:17)

The splendor of his forests and fertile fields it will completely destroy, as when a sick man wastes away. (Isaiah 10:18)

And the remaining trees of his forests will be so few that a child could write them down. (Isaiah 10:19)

Russia is a very big place even today. There are huge tracts of forests and fertile lands spanning from Europe all the way to Alaska.

Yet in the course of future events will not the lands under the dominion of Assyria include the United Kingdom and Europe and all the countries that were once colonies of Europe?

And when America is punished, will not the lands under the power of Assyria include the continental United States?

Won't the empire of Assyria include most of the forests and fertile fields of the whole world? Figuratively speaking, in the Bible a tree of Lebanon represents a nation of the world. Won't the Assyrian empire include almost all the countries of the world (except possibly China)? They will burn up.

The punishment of Assyria is fire. Could that fire be a thermonuclear holocaust? We don't think so.

All the sturdy warriors of Assyria will be burned and consumed: 'in a single day'. Are there sufficient nuclear weapons to deliver such massive and simultaneous destruction throughout the whole world?

All the forests and fertile fields will burn up: 'as when a sick man wastes away'. This sounds like the poisoning of radioactive fall-out. More likely it is a sweeping judgement breathed out by God.

The remaining trees, which allegorically represent nations, will be few. What Assyria 'had in mind' will come to pass. Many nations of the world will be destroyed in the process.

It won't be an accident. It won't come to pass because nations with nuclear weapons attack each other. World weaponry will be in the hands of the king of Assyria. No. The fire will be 'lit' by God.

APPENDIX – QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Question 1 – Will the Antichrist be a Russian?

Assyria is not Babylon. Russia is officially a Christian nation. Babylon is an occult kingdom that rises out of the ashes of the punishment of Assyria. The antichrist will be the ruler of Babylon not Assyria. Babylon is a subterranean kingdom, a mystery. Don't look for the antichrist, he is well hidden. He will be revealed only after Christians are raptured and gone. Pay attention to Russia.

<u>Question 2 – Why can't America as a nation repent?</u>

Hosea cries out "Their deeds do not permit them to return to their God. A spirit of prostitution is in their heart; they do not acknowledge the LORD." (Hosea 5:4) Prostitution is paying for love. America is filled with churches where Christians pay ministers and priests. They pay professionals to 'love' them. In so doing the message of the inspired lay minister, like the shepherd Amos, is suppressed. Without a call to return to God proclaimed clearly, how will the people ever repent? These man-made churches acknowledge God but they deny that Jesus is Lord. How so? Jesus is the head of his body the church and he rules in heaven. Professional pastor/minister churches have established a clergy/laity division that has 'taken authority' over the church. They have stepped into the holy sandals of Jehovah and rule over the saints. All church activities and ministries are performed by them or by those they sanction. The body of Christ is meant to be free to obey the commands of Jesus and to love and to serve one another. Through religious prostitution Christians return again to the slavery of Sodom.

Question 3 – What can I do if I am American?

Truly Hosea was correct when he said "Ephraim is like a dove, easily deceived and senseless." (Hosea 7:11) Dear American believer this is what you must do: repent! Four things you must put far from you: (1) the Aramean – love of money, consumerism, gathering wealth, ostentatious living, large homes, oppression of the poor and fatherless and widows, etc.; (2) the Philistine – love of contests, entertainment, sports, drinking, drugs, athlete idols, musician idols, etc.; (3) the Ephraimite – pride and arrogance, love of your country [God never commanded this!], pride in your town, glory in the military might of America, etc.; (4) the Calf Worship of Samaria – if you are a Christian, your temple of worship is in heaven (Jerusalem above), not in a building or a church hall or a cathedral built by human hands (Samaria); your high priest is Jesus Christ the Righteous, not an 'ordained' minister; you belong to the family of the firstborn, not a 'member' of a local congregation; above all – flee from the prostitution of professional Christianity and the accursed denominational division of the body of Christ that comes with them. When you flee to the desert you will be surprised to find how many others are there.

Even wicked Ephraim has a remnant: "I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them. I will be like dew to Israel; he will blossom like a lily" (Hosea 14:4-8)