

Opening Scripture Reading/Prayer:

Exodus 31:12-17

The Sabbath

¹² And the Lord said to Moses, ¹³ “You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, ‘Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you. . . .’ ¹⁶ Therefore the people of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath throughout their generations, as a covenant forever. ¹⁷ It is a sign forever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.”

Isaiah 58:13-14

¹³ “If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath,
from doing your pleasure on my holy day,
and call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the Lord honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly;
¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the Lord,
and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

Isaiah 66:22-23

²² “For as the new heavens and the new earth
that I make
shall remain before me, says the LORD,
so shall your offspring and your name remain.
²³ From new moon to new moon,
and from Sabbath to Sabbath,
all flesh shall come to worship before me,
declares the LORD.

Jesus Lord of the Sabbath

“For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.” Matthew 12:8

Opening Discussion:

Jeremiah 31:21-40

²¹ “Set up road markers for yourself;
make yourself guideposts;
consider well the highway,
the road by which you went.
Return, O virgin Israel,
return to these your cities.

²² How long will you waver,
O faithless daughter?

For the LORD has created a new thing on the earth:
a woman encircles a man.”

²³ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: “Once more they shall use these words in the land of Judah and in its cities, when I restore their fortunes:

“‘The LORD bless you, O habitation of righteousness,
O holy hill!’

²⁴ And Judah and all its cities shall dwell there together, and the farmers and those who wander with their flocks. ²⁵ For I will satisfy the weary soul, and every languishing soul I will replenish.”

²⁶ At this I awoke and looked, and my sleep was pleasant to me.

²⁷ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man and the seed of beast. ²⁸ And it shall come to pass that as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring harm, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, declares the LORD. ²⁹ In those days they shall no longer say:

“‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes,
and the children’s teeth are set on edge.’

³⁰ But everyone shall die for his own iniquity. Each man who eats sour grapes, his teeth shall be set on edge.

The New Covenant

³¹ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land

of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my **law** within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

³⁵Thus says the LORD,

who gives the sun for light by day
and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night,
who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar—
the LORD of hosts is his name:

³⁶“If this fixed order departs
from before me, declares the LORD,
then shall the offspring of Israel cease
from being a nation before me forever.”

³⁷Thus says the LORD:

“If the heavens above can be measured,
and the foundations of the earth below can be explored,
then I will cast off all the offspring of Israel
for all that they have done,
declares the LORD.”

³⁸“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when the city shall be rebuilt for the LORD from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate. ³⁹And the measuring line shall go out farther, straight to the hill Gareb, and shall then turn to Goah. ⁴⁰The whole valley of the dead bodies and the ashes, and all the fields as far as the brook Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be sacred to the LORD. It shall not be plucked up or overthrown anymore forever.”

Jeremiah 32:6-44

⁶Jeremiah said, “The word of the LORD came to me: ⁷Behold, Hanamel the son of Shallum your uncle will come to you and say, ‘Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.’ ⁸Then Hanamel my cousin came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the LORD, and said to me, ‘Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.’ Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

⁹“And I bought the field at Anathoth from Hanamel my cousin, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. ¹⁰I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. ¹¹Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions and the open copy. ¹²And I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of Hanamel my cousin, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. ¹³I charged Baruch in their presence, saying, ¹⁴‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware vessel, that they may last for a long time. ¹⁵For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.’

Jeremiah Prays for Understanding

¹⁶“After I had given the deed of purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed to the LORD, saying: ¹⁷‘Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you. ¹⁸You show steadfast love to thousands, but you repay the guilt of fathers to their children after them, O great and mighty God, whose name is the LORD of hosts, ¹⁹great in counsel and mighty in deed, whose eyes are open to all the ways of the children of man, rewarding each one according to his ways and according to the fruit of his deeds. ²⁰You have shown signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, and to this day in Israel and among all mankind, and have made a name for yourself, as at this day. ²¹You brought your people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs and wonders, with a strong hand and outstretched arm, and with great terror. ²²And you gave them this land, which you swore to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey. ²³And they entered and took possession of it. But they did not obey your voice or walk in your law. They did nothing of all you commanded them to do. Therefore you have made all this disaster come upon them. ²⁴Behold, the siege mounds have come up to the city to take it, and because of sword and famine and pestilence the city is given into the hands of the Chaldeans who are fighting against it. What you spoke has come to pass, and behold, you see it. ²⁵Yet you, O Lord GOD, have said to me, “Buy the field for money and get witnesses”—though the city is given into the hands of the Chaldeans.”’

²⁶The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: ²⁷“Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for me? ²⁸Therefore, thus says the LORD: Behold, I am giving this city into the hands of the Chaldeans and into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and he shall capture it. ²⁹The Chaldeans who are fighting against this city shall come and set this city on fire and burn it, with the houses on whose roofs offerings have been made to Baal and drink offerings have been poured out to other gods, to provoke me to anger. ³⁰For the children of Israel and the children of Judah have done nothing but evil in my sight from their youth. The children of Israel have done nothing but provoke me to anger by the work of their hands, declares the LORD. ³¹This city has aroused my anger and wrath, from the day it was built to this day, so that I will remove it from my sight ³²because of all the evil of the children of Israel and the children of Judah that they did to provoke me to anger—their kings and their officials, their priests and their prophets, the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ³³They have turned to me their back and not their face. And though I have taught them persistently, they have not listened to receive instruction. ³⁴They set up their abominations in the house that is called by my name, to defile it. ³⁵They built the high places of Baal in the Valley of

the Son of Hinnom, to offer up their sons and daughters to Molech, though I did not command them, nor did it enter into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.

They Shall Be My People; I Will Be Their God

³⁶“Now therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning this city of which you say, ‘It is given into the hand of the king of Babylon by sword, by famine, and by pestilence’: ³⁷Behold, I will gather them from all the countries to which I drove them in my anger and my wrath and in great indignation. I will bring them back to this place, and I will make them dwell in safety. ³⁸And they shall be my people, and I will be their God. ³⁹I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them. ⁴⁰I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me. ⁴¹I will rejoice in doing them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul.

⁴²“For thus says the LORD: Just as I have brought all this great disaster upon this people, so I will bring upon them all the good that I promise them. ⁴³Fields shall be bought in this land of which you are saying, ‘It is a desolation, without man or beast; it is given into the hand of the Chaldeans.’ ⁴⁴Fields shall be bought for money, and deeds shall be signed and sealed and witnessed, in the land of Benjamin, in the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, in the cities of the hill country, in the cities of the Shephelah, and in the cities of the Negeb; for I will restore their fortunes, declares the LORD.”

Jeremiah 33:5-22

⁵ . . . for I have hidden my face from this city because of all their evil. ⁶Behold, I will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them and reveal to them abundance of prosperity and security. ⁷I will restore the fortunes of Judah and the fortunes of Israel, and rebuild them as they were at first. ⁸I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me. ⁹And this city^[c] shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and a glory before all the nations of the earth who shall hear of all the good that I do for them. They shall fear and tremble because of all the good and all the prosperity I provide for it.

¹⁰“Thus says the LORD: In this place of which you say, ‘It is a waste without man or beast,’ in the cities of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are desolate, without man or inhabitant or beast, there shall be heard again ¹¹the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voices of those who sing, as they bring thank offerings to the house of the LORD:

“Give thanks to the LORD of hosts,
for the LORD is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!”

For I will restore the fortunes of the land as at first, says the LORD.

¹²“Thus says the LORD of hosts: In this place that is waste, without man or beast, and in all of its cities, there shall again be habitations of shepherds resting their flocks. ¹³In the cities of the hill country, in the cities of the Shephelah, and in the cities of the Negeb, in the land of Benjamin, the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, flocks shall again pass under the hands of the one who counts them, says the LORD.

The LORD's Eternal Covenant with David

¹⁴“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’

¹⁷“For thus says the LORD: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, ¹⁸and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in my presence to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings, and to make sacrifices forever.”

¹⁹The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: ²⁰“Thus says the LORD: If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night will not come at their appointed time, ²¹then also my covenant with David my servant may be broken, so that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne, and my covenant with the Levitical priests my ministers. ²²As the host of heaven cannot be numbered and the sands of the sea cannot be measured, so I will multiply the offspring of David my servant, and the Levitical priests who minister to me.”

The Hope of Jeremiah: the Hope of Israel

“Houses, fields and vineyards will again be bought in this land.”

Jeremiah 32:15

The Prophetic portion, reading, echoes the theme found in the Torah portion of the purchase and redemption of land.

This portion opens with a rather bizarre situation.

King Zedekiah has imprisoned Jeremiah in Jerusalem because **he had prophesied the destruction of Jerusalem and the exile of the Jewish People.**

Jerusalem is under siege by the Babylonians who will soon overtake the Land. Nevertheless, the Lord tells Jeremiah that his uncle will ask him to **purchase his field**, and God instructs Jeremiah to accept the offer.

“Buy my field in Anatot, since you have the right of redemption to purchase it.”

Jeremiah 32:7

This seems like an absurd thing to ask of Jeremiah! **What? Buy a field that will soon be Babylonian property?** Ridiculous, especially for a man rotting in jail.

But this is no ordinary purchase. It is a prophetic act.

Despite Jeremiah’s accurate predictions of Jerusalem’s destruction, **he retains the ability to see hope in the face of desolation.**

Even though he knows that the city is about to be destroyed and the rest of the land conquered, in obedience to the Lord, Jeremiah redeems the land.

In doing so, he affirms his faith in the Eternal who promised the redemption of Israel — that houses and fields would once again be bought in the land. Jeremiah 32:15

Although it is unlikely that Jeremiah will ever live on that land during his lifetime, **this prophetic act displays his refusal to give in to hopelessness.**

He trusts in God’s mercy. **One day, God will bring His people back home** to the Land and to Himself.

“Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.” Jeremiah 32:17

The exiled people of Israel did rebuild Jerusalem and again inhabited Israel, as God promised. However, after AD 70 they were scattered by the Romans, **though a remnant has always remained in the Land.**

Yet, God promised that a *second time*, He would return His people to His land — not from Babylon but from the four corners of the earth to never be dispersed again:

“I will bring my people Israel back from exile. They will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit. I will plant Israel in their own land, never again to be uprooted from the land I have given them.” Amos 9:14–15

Our generation is witnessing the fulfillment of the hope of many prophets — the miraculous restoration of the nation of Israel and the regathering of its people from the four corners of the earth.

We have yet to see the fulfillment of the promise that the Jewish People will turn back to God and be re-united in the Land under the sovereign rule of the Messiah, sitting on the eternal throne of His father, David.

Just like in **the Year of Jubilee**, **when debts were forgiven** and the Hebrew **slaves set free**, the day is soon coming when all of Israel will recognize that Jesus is the Messiah who forgives us and releases (**shemitah**) us from slavery to sin.

“We know that our old self was put to death on the execution-stake with Him, so that the entire body of our sinful propensities might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin . . . so now offer your various parts as **slaves to righteousness, which leads to being made holy, set apart for God.” Romans 6:6, 19**

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THE PROPHECY

Jeremiah was held captive in Jerusalem for prophesying that the King of Babylon would sack the city.

The people became fearful of the future. For a few weeks the Babylonians unexpectedly withdrew from Jerusalem to deal with an attack from Egypt. (Jeremiah 37:5) During this lull, Jeremiah’s cousin came to Jerusalem to sell his father Hanameel’s field in Anathoth to Jeremiah.

Jeremiah signed the deed of purchase and paid over the money: with foreknowledge of the matter by divine revelation.

This was designed by God to be a prophecy: that the time would come when once again the people would return to the land after the exile; and regain their historic possessions (Jeremiah 32:8-9).

Jeremiah prophesied up to the time of the fall of Jerusalem under the Babylonian siege: even under threats of death by his fellow townsmen in Anathoth. He was fearful for his life, but God prophesied that the people of Anathoth would be punished by the sword and famine; which came to pass exactly as predicted. (Jeremiah 11:21-23).

The few Anathothites who survived the siege of Jerusalem, were taken to Babylon: after 70 years, only 128 returned to Anathoth.

The more you study the fulfilled prophecies of the Bible the more you understand that God holds the future in His hands, and protects His own as He did Jeremiah of Anathoth.

Whatever happens around you, you can trust the Lord to take care of you, when you are walking with Jesus.

<https://journeyonline.org/jeremiahs-field-anathoth/>

PROPHETIC TALK IN THE EARTH TODAY, ARE WE LISTENING?:

Potential Signs of the Creation of the Fourth Beast of the Book of Revelation (Chapter 13) and Daniel 2:41-43, and a Unified Nation of 10-kings, from which the Anti-christ will come out of:

More Bureaucracy! Macron Calls for a New Europe-Wide Political Org On Top of the European Union

<https://www.breitbart.com/europe/2022/05/10/more-bureaucracy-macron-calls-for-a-new-europe-wide-political-org-on-top-of-the-european-union/>
May 10, 2022

French President Emmanuel Macron wants to see a new Europe-wide political organization created that would exist in parallel with the European Union.

Seemingly not content with the bureaucracy of the European Union, France’s newly returned president Emmanuel Macron has called for the creation of another Europe-wide political organization that would run in parallel with the EU.

Macron called for the creation of such an entity during a speech in front of the European Parliament in Strasbourg marking the end of the controversial Conference on the Future of Europe.

According to a report by *Le Parisien*, the French President requested the creation of the organization after saying that Ukraine’s potential admission to the EU — which currently is assessing whether it could join bloc — would take years if the union wants to maintain its standards.

Instead, Macron suggested the creation of an even broader organization that would be able to accommodate the likes of Ukraine, as well as nations that have left the EU, hinting at the potential inclusion of the UK.

“This new European organization would allow democratic European nations adhering to our core values to find a new space for political cooperation, security and cooperation,” Macron said, describing his vision.

“Joining it does not prejudice future membership of the European Union,” *Le Monde* meanwhile reports Macron as saying. **“As it would not necessarily be closed to those who left it.”**

“We must unite our Europe in the truth of its geography with the desire to preserve the unity of our continent,” he went on to say.

Macron’s speech — which also covered the topics of his reelection and Russia’s role in the Ukraine conflict — occurred during the closing ceremony of the Conference of the Future of Europe, which some MEPs have **criticized as having been used to push towards the creation of a transnational “federal superstate”.**

The conference published over 300 recommendations — including the likes of the removal of the national veto and the creation of a joint-EU military — which would see even more state-level powers ceded to Europe.

“Once these [powers] go [to Brussels], you are no longer a separate state, but a province of something larger,” one critic of the conference, Alternative für Deutschland’s Dr. Gunnar Beck MEP, told Breitbart Europe.

However, these concerns did not seem to cause much concern for the proponents of the recommended measures, who celebrated the end of the project within the parliament chamber with music and interpretive dancers.

This last part in particular was seemingly not to the taste of everyone, with Brexit mastermind and Ex-EU-level representative Nigel Farage expressing relief that he had managed to escape the union before the event occurred.

“There are many reasons why I am pleased to no longer be an MEP,” the populist firebrand wrote online. “Not having to witness this “interpretive dance” is one of them.”

Macron is Calling for a European Super State – Is this the Prophesied 10-Nation Union that the Bible talks about?

Potential Signs of the of the Strengthening of a Israeli Peace Accord Prophesied in Daniel 9:27:

“Special importance in bringing French leadership and newly reelected French President Emmanuel Macron into the Abraham Accords process.”

“I do believe it would be beneficial for him (President Macron of France) to be involved in strengthening the Abraham Accords.
– Ruth Wasserman-Lande, member of the Knesset for the Blue and White party

Israel-Palestine: Emmanuel Macron on the Way to Europe should establish coordinated body on Abraham Accords – MK (Member of Knesset) Blue and White MK Ruth Wasserman-Lande (an Israeli politician, diplomat and activist. She is currently a member of the Knesset for the Blue and White party) called on the European Union to set up an inter-governmental body to implement accords (Abrahamic Accords) policies and get Europe to join.

By RINA BASSIST

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Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stands with US President Donald Trump after signing the Abraham Accords, normalizing relations between Israel and some of its Middle East neighbors, in a strategic realignment of Middle Eastern countries against Iran, on the South Lawn of the White House

PARIS – Realizing their potential for deep regional changes, **the European Union is increasingly interested in the Abraham Accords**, Blue and White Knesset member Ruth Wasserman Lande said Monday in Paris. As such, she **called upon the EU to establish an inter-governmental body dedicated to promoting the accords and policies related to their implementation**. Wasserman Lande made her statement after participating in a conference in the French capital addressing the normalization agreements signed between Israel, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Morocco. She was invited to participate as co-chair (together with Ofir Akunis of Likud) of the Knesset's Abraham Accords Caucus.

Organized by Netanya Academic College francophone campus president Claude Grundman-Brightman in partnership with the European Leadership Network (ELNET), and hosted by the French Senate, Wasserman Lande was asked to speak at the conference twice. **The MK stressed that the only way to defeat terrorism, war and instability in the region is to strengthen the Abraham Accords and enlarge the circle of countries participating in or supporting them.**

“Europe should create a steering committee that shall oversee and assemble all activity and strategic thought on the issue of the **Abraham Accords**,” she said. *“Europe must also create a pro-Abraham Accords caucus at the European Parliament, to liaise with its counterparts in the Knesset and the US Congress and Senate, as well as with our regional partners in the Emirates, Morocco and Bahrain.”*

Speaking with *The Jerusalem Post*, Wasserman Lande said that *“The European Union is increasingly interested in the Abraham Accords. We see it also in Israel. The European Union’s mission in Israel has reached out to us – to Ofir Akunis and myself – to be included in the different meetings we are holding. They want to be part of this process, to be involved. In fact, little by little, they are becoming an anchor for our activities, alongside the American Embassy.”*

Wasserman Lande pointed out that France could become a leading force within Europe on the issue of the accords.

“The meeting yesterday in Paris was organized in partnership with the French senate,” she said. “This was no coincidence. **The Europeans are starting to recognize the importance and the potential of the Abraham Accords** - first of all for the stability of the Middle East, but also on other levels.

“One such level is the economic one. Another is food security, because of the war in Ukraine, of course. Then we have the issues of water and energy. These as well have become very relevant and important because of the war in Ukraine,” she said.

“It is important that the European Parliament sets up a body that would really get into the thick of things, a body that would comprehensively address all the aspects of the Abraham Accords and how Europe can fit in,” Wasserman Lande explained. “To start with, the European Union would do well to set up a lobbying group, a caucus like we did, as the American Congress and Senate did. The British Parliament also has an Abraham Accords group, with an active delegation.”

Beyond establishing a parliamentary lobbying group, she said that Europe needs something bigger.

“We are talking about so many countries, so I think that they should set up a special body that will coordinate policies, advance projects, help initiatives. The Abraham Accords have far-reaching strategic implications. Such a European body could help to create Middle East cooperation that would preserve regional stability, and this is critical not just for Israel, but globally.”

The Israeli Embassy in Paris, under the guidance of Ambassador Yael German, has been working in recent months to engage France over the accords and the strategic changes they are generating for the Middle East and beyond. As a result of these efforts, France currently realizes the global implications of the process that the Middle East is now going through. Diplomatic sources said the embassy considers this shift in perception from Paris as especially important, on both the European level and in the international arena.

Addressing the same conference in the Senate, German told its participants about the Mimouna celebration organized after Passover at her residence just last weekend, where the national anthems of both Israel and Morocco were played, and with both Jewish and Muslim guests dining and celebrating together. For her, it was a beautiful expression of the Abraham Accords spirit. Similarly, **Wasserman Lande sees special importance in bringing French leadership and newly reelected French President Emmanuel Macron into the Abraham Accords process.**

“President Macron has a strong and friendly relationship with Foreign Minister Yair Lapid and with others in Israel’s leadership,” she said. *“I do believe it would be beneficial for him to be involved in strengthening the Abraham Accords. After all, it’s an interest we all share. It is actually one of the rare issues that Israel’s coalition and opposition see eye-to-eye on.”*

Scriptural Context

Daniel 7:7-27

⁷ After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. ⁸ I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots. And behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things . . .

. . . ¹⁹ “Then I desired to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the rest, exceedingly terrifying, with its teeth of iron and claws of bronze, and which devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet, ²⁰ and about the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn that came up and before which three of them fell, the horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and that seemed greater than its companions. ²¹ As I looked, this horn made war with the saints and prevailed over them, ²² until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints possessed the kingdom.

²³ “Thus he said: ‘As for the **fourth beast**, there shall be a **fourth kingdom on earth**, which shall be different from all the kingdoms, and it shall devour the whole earth, and trample it down, and break it to pieces.

²⁴ As for the **ten horns**, out of this kingdom **ten kings** shall arise, and another shall arise after them; he shall be different from the former ones, and shall put down three kings.

²⁵ He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

²⁶ But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away, to be consumed and destroyed to the end.

²⁷ And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; his kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.’

Daniel 2:25-45

²⁵ Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste and said thus to him: “I have found among the exiles from Judah a man who will make known to the king the interpretation.” ²⁶ The king declared to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, “Are you able to make known to me the dream that I have seen and its interpretation?” ²⁷ Daniel answered the king and said, “No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or astrologers can show to the king the mystery that the king has asked, ²⁸ but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream and the visions of your head as you lay in bed are these: ²⁹ To you, O king, as you lay in bed came thoughts of what would be after this, and he who reveals mysteries made known to you what is to be. ³⁰ But as for me, this mystery has been revealed to me, not because of any wisdom that I have more than all the living, but in order that the interpretation may be made known to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your mind.

Daniel Interprets the Dream

³¹ “You saw, O king, and behold, a great image. This image, mighty and of exceeding brightness, stood before you, and its appearance was frightening. ³² The head of this image was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its middle and thighs of bronze, ³³ its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. ³⁴ As you looked, a stone was cut out by no human hand, and it struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. ³⁵ Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold, all together were broken in pieces, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

³⁶ “This was the dream. Now we will tell the king its interpretation. ³⁷ You, O king, the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, and the might, and the glory, ³⁸ and into whose hand he has given, wherever they dwell, the children of man, the beasts of the field, and the birds of the heavens, making you rule over them all—you are the head of gold. ³⁹ Another kingdom inferior to you shall arise after you, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. ⁴⁰ And there shall be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron, because iron breaks to pieces and shatters all things. And like iron that crushes, it shall break and crush all these. ⁴¹ And as you saw **the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron**, it shall be a divided kingdom, but some of the firmness of iron shall be in it, just as you saw iron mixed with the soft clay. ⁴² And as the toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. ⁴³ As you saw the iron

mixed with soft clay, so **they will mix with one another in marriage**, but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay. ⁴⁴ And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever, ⁴⁵ just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain by no human hand, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. A great God has made known to the king what shall be after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure.”

Revelation 13:1-9

The First Beast

¹ And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with **ten horns** and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads. ² And the beast that I saw was like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority. ³ One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth marveled as they followed the beast. ⁴ And they worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?”

⁵ And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. ⁶ It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. ⁷ Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation, ⁸ and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain. ⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear:

¹⁰ If anyone is to be taken captive,
to captivity he goes;

if anyone is to be slain with the sword,
with the sword must he be slain.

Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

The Second Beast

¹¹ Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. ¹² **It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast**, whose mortal wound was healed. ¹³ It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, ¹⁴ and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived. ¹⁵ And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast might even speak and might cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain. ¹⁶ Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, ¹⁷ so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. ¹⁸ This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666.

Daniel 2:41-43

⁴¹ And as you saw **the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron**, it shall be a divided kingdom, but some of the firmness of iron shall be in it, just as you saw iron mixed with the soft clay. ⁴² And as the toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. ⁴³ As you saw the iron mixed with soft clay, so . . .

. . . they will mix with one another in marriage

The *Holy Roman Empire* was actually born in 800 A.D., when Pope Leo III placed the crown on the head of Charlemagne, announcing that he was now the emperor of the *Holy Roman Empire*. So, when the Bible depicts the Feet or Iron Mingled with Clay (Daniel 2:41-43), the Iron was the Roman element, but the Clay was the Religious element.

Following are Commentary Notes from “**THE REBORN HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE**” teaching of the late Irvin Baxter of Endtime Ministries:

- AFTER WORLD WAR II, THE EMPIRES OF EUROPE LAY IN ASHES BECAUSE OF THE PLUNDER OF NAZI GERMANY AND WORLD WAR II.
- GREAT BRITAIN, GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY, ALL OF THE BIG POWERS OF EUROPE WAS REDUCED TO RUBBLE. THESE WERE THE OLD, TRADITIONAL POWERS THAT RAN THE WORLD, HOWEVER. THEY DIDN'T WANT TO BE LEFT OUTSIDE OF THE POWER EQUATION OF THE WORLD TO COME.
- THERE WERE TWO EMERGING NUCLEAR SUPER POWERS, THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
- WINSTON CHURCHILL FORESAW THAT THERE HAD TO BE A RADICAL REALIGNMENT OR ELSE EUROPE WOULD BECOME IRRELEVANT.

HE ACTUALLY PROPOSED IN A SPEECH SHORTLY AFTER WORLD WAR II WAS OVER, THAT THERE WOULD BE ESTABLISHED A UNITED STATES OF EUROPE.

HE SAID IN THIS DAY OF THE NUCLEAR SUPERPOWER, IT TAKES 200 MILLION POPULATION IN ORDER TO HAVE THE POPULATION BASE AND THE ECONOMIC RESOURCES TO PLAY BALL IN THE DAY OF THE NUCLEAR SUPER POWER.

HE SAID, “WE EITHER FORGET OUR DIFFERENCES AND UNIFY AS ONE IN EUROPE, CREATING A UNITED STATES OF EUROPE.”

HE ACTUALLY USED THAT TERM, “OR ELSE ALL OF THE POWER WILL MOVE TO THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.”

- WELL, THE OLD, PROUD STATES OF EUROPE WERE USED TO PLAYING A CENTRAL ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS AND THEY DID NOT WANT TO BE SHUNTED TO THE SIDE OF HISTORY.

CONSEQUENTLY THEY MADE A DECISION.

IN 1957 THERE WAS A TREATY SIGNED CALLED THE TREATY OF ROME.

THEY CREATED, WITH THE SIGNING OF THE TREATY OF ROME, WHAT’S CALLED THE COMMON MARKET.

THE FIRST GOAL WAS ECONOMIC UNION, BUT THAT WAS NOT THE ULTIMATE GOAL.

THE LEADERS KNEW THAT ECONOMIC UNION HAD TO COME FIRST, BUT POLITICAL UNION WAS SURE TO FOLLOW.

BECAUSE ONCE YOU JOIN ENTITIES TOGETHER ECONOMICALLY, THEY HAVE TO PASS LAWS TO CONTROL AND REGULATE THEIR INTERACTION.

AND ULTIMATELY, YOU WOULD BUILD A BODY OF LAWS THAT WOULD BECOME A POLITICAL UNION AS WELL AS AN ECONOMIC UNION.

- OH, BY THE WAY, OTHER NATIONS ARE STILL LINING UP TO JOIN BECAUSE THE EUROPEAN UNION IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE POWERFUL.

NOT ONLY AS AN ECONOMIC ENTITY, BUT AS A POLITICAL UNION IN THE WORLD.

AND MANY PEOPLE ARE STILL MAKING APPLICATION TO BECOME A PART OF THE EUROPEAN UNION.

BUT WHEN THEY WANT TO PRESENT THEIR APPLICATION, THERE IS A SPECIAL BUILDING IN BRUSSELS, WHICH IS THE CAPITOL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION.

IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM THERE’S A SPECIAL BUILDING WHERE THEY MUST APPLY, AND ALSO WHERE THEY MUST GO TO CONDUCT THE INTRICATE NEGOTIATIONS REQUIRED FOR THEM TO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION.

IS THERE A CHANCE THAT YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO GUESS WHAT THEY CALL THE BUILDING WHERE THEY HAVE TO GO TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE EUROPEAN UNION?

WELL, IF YOU GUESSED CHARLEMAGNE BUILDING, THEN YOU’RE RIGHT.

SO, THE QUESTION IS, DO THESE PEOPLE KNOW WHAT THEY’RE DOING?

CHARLEMAGNE ON THEIR FIRST MONEY, CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE, CHARLEMAGNE PAGE IN THE ECONOMIST MAGAZINE, CHARLEMAGNE BUILDING WHERE YOU GO.

I THINK THEY KNOW WHAT THEY’RE DOING.

I THINK THEY KNOW THAT THEY ARE PRESIDING OVER THE REBIRTH OF THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE.

Potential Signs of the Prophesied Re-Birth of a Holy Roman Empire of Daniel 2:34, 41-43 and Revelation 13:

The Church Behind Europe’s Unification

Just because a church is behind a project doesn’t mean it is good.

BY JOSUÉ MICHELS • MAY 11

<https://www.thetrumpet.com/25602-the-church-behind-europes-unification>

Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich of Luxembourg, the president of the Commission of the Bishops’ Conferences of the European Union, published a statement to support European unification in celebration of Europe Day on May 9. His statement “Faithfulness to European Values” marked the anniversary of the 1950 Schuman Declaration, which proposed the European Coal and Steel Community. It also came the same day that the Conference of the Future of Europe pleaded to Parliament for European integration.

“Today, we may live in a world where faithfulness to this inspiration and these values again means to imagine change for the European Union,” Hollerich said. He also praised the “*creativity and freshness*” of the new proposals and promised: “As a church, we are ready to play an even more active role in it.” Cardinal Hollerich pointed to Pope Pius XII who supported the European unification project after World War II. But that very history is a warning.

“Prior to World War II, the cardinal who later became Pope Pius XII successfully negotiated the Reich Concordat with Adolf Hitler in 1933, which effectively removed all political opposition to the growing Nazi movement in Germany,” Trumpet executive editor Stephen Flurry wrote in “Was Pope Pius XII Pious?” Our book *The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy* further explains:

Germany’s ex-chancellor Heinrich Brüning had no doubts about who was primarily responsible for this nightmarish alliance. “Behind the agreement with Hitler stood not the pope [Pius XI who preceded Pius XII], but the Vatican bureaucracy

and its leader, Pacelli,” Brüning said in 1935. “He visualized an authoritarian state and an authoritarian church directed by the Vatican bureaucracy, the two to conclude an eternal league with one another.”

Read that powerful and condemning admission again. And remember, Cardinal Pacelli – the man former Chancellor Brüning believed was more responsible than anyone else in bringing Hitler to power – later became Pope Pius XII, the pope during the Second World War!

Pope Pius XII supported the European unification project while the Vatican enabled many Nazis to escape through the ratlines to Latin America. (Read “The Ratlines” to learn more about this condemning history.) The fact that Pius XII is still greatly venerated in the Catholic Church and Europe should be alarming.

Yet many in Europe still see the Catholic Church as the tool to unite Europe. But just because a church is behind a European project doesn’t mean it is good. The late Herbert W. Armstrong warned about this for decades. “In only one way can this resurrected Holy Roman Empire be brought to fruition – by the ‘good offices’ of the Vatican, uniting church and state once again, with the Vatican astride and ruling,” he wrote. Nations in Europe have united in the so-called Holy Roman Empire throughout history.

In *The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy*, we write:

The keynote prophecy of Herbert W. Armstrong’s 55-year ministry was about the seventh and final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. As early as the mid-1930s, during the Second World War, and even immediately after the war—when the battlefields of Europe were still smoldering and Germany was a wasteland—Mr. Armstrong warned that Germany would once again emerge as the leader of a united European superpower that would plunge mankind into World War III.

Informed by Bible prophecy and history, Mr. Armstrong explained that while Germany would lead this final resurrection, it would be underpinned by the same religious entity that inspired all the other resurrections. “The politicians cannot [unite Europe] by themselves,” he wrote in a co-worker letter on Jan. 23, 1980. “Only with the collaboration of the pope can they do it” (emphasis added throughout).

Mr. Armstrong died in 1986 when Germany and Europe were still divided. But today, with Britain out of the EU, Germany is the clear power behind a united European superpower. What’s more, the Catholic Church is again ready to be Europe’s unifying factor and kingmaker.

The resurrected Holy Roman Empire is prophesied in various biblical passages. Revelation 17 describes a woman riding a “scarlet coloured beast.” This symbolizes a political empire controlled by a church. This church was prophesied to have a global influence; this could refer to no other institution than the Catholic Church. (Request a free copy of *Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?* for more information.)

We are already seeing the beginning of the fulfillment of this prophecy—the end of which will change our world dramatically. Request *The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy* to understand the spiritual underpinning of Europe and how it will impact our future.

Scriptural Context

Daniel 2:34, 41-43

³⁴ As you looked, a stone was cut out by no human hand, and it struck the **image on its feet of iron and clay**, and broke them in pieces . . .

. . . ⁴¹ And as you saw the **feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom**, but some of the firmness of iron shall be in it, just as you saw **iron mixed with the soft clay**. ⁴² And as the **toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay**, so **the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle**. ⁴³ As you saw the **iron mixed with soft clay, so they will mix with one another in marriage**, but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay.

Revelation 13

The First Beast

¹ And I saw a **beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads**. ² And the beast that I saw was like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority. ³ One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth marveled as they followed the beast. ⁴ And they worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?”

⁵ And the **beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months**. ⁶ It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. ⁷ Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation, ⁸ and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain. ⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear:

¹⁰ If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes;

if anyone is to be slain with the sword,
with the sword must he be slain.
Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

The Second Beast

11 Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. 12 It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed. **13** It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, **14** and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived. **15** And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast might even speak and might cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain. **16** Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave,^[e] to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, **17** so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. **18** This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666.

PROPHETIC TALK IN THE EARTH TODAY, ARE WE LISTENING?:

Potential Signs of the coming Prophesied 3rd Temple of Daniel 9:24-27, Ezekiel 41-48, Matthew 24:15, and Revelation 11:

JEW'S BEGIN BUILDING THIRD TEMPLE ON ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

BY ADAM ELIYAHU BERKOWITZ | MAY 6, 2022 | JERUSALEM
<https://www.israel365news.com/269118/jews-begin-building-third-temple-on-israel-independence-day/>

*“Go and say to My servant David: Thus said Hashem: Are you the one to build a house for Me to dwell in?
2 Samuel 7:5 (The Israel Bible™)*

While most Israelis were celebrating Independence Day by having family barbecues, a small group gathered in the Old City of Jerusalem and began chipping away at stones, preparing them to be used to build the prophesied Third Temple.

The event was organized by Rabbi Aryeh Lipo who envisioned it while on his way to the funeral of Rabbi Chaim Kanievsky in March. Lipo ascends to the Temple Mount on a daily basis (when the Israeli police permit Jews to enter) but was deliberating with a friend which was more important: to attend the funeral of a tzaddik (righteous Jew) or to ascend to the Temple Mount.

To honor Rabbi Kanievsky, he and a friend were learning a halachic (Torah law) ruling written by Rabbi Kanievsky in which he stated that the stones for the Temple had to be cut by Jews with the intention of honoring God's name.

“We have a mitzvah (Torah commandment) to build the Temple. This mitzvah is not conditional or time-bound. We have this requirement at all times. So it is a pity that we are not actively engaged in it. Right now, it is politically complicated for us to begin building on the Temple Mount but that does not exempt us from this mitzvah.”

Rabbi Lipo realized that it was possible to begin to actually perform this mitzvah by preparing the stones that will be used to build the Third Temple. He explained that Rabbi Moses ben Maimon, the medieval Torah authority known as Maimonides or by the acronym Rambam, taught that the stones for the Temple building were cut outside of the Temple Mount and transported to the Temple Mount. Once on the Temple Mount, it was forbidden to use iron tools to form the stones. It was, of course, forbidden to use iron tools at any stage to form the stones for the altar.

As an aside, Rabbi Lipo has already begun collecting stones for the altar. Rabbi Lipo cited Rabbi Tzvi Yehudah Kook who, in 1937, wrote an article relating to Ezekiel's vision of the Jews' return to Zion:

And I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit into you: I will remove the heart of stone from your body and give you a heart of flesh; Ezekiel 36:26

“There are hearts and there are hearts,” Rabbi Kook wrote. “There are human hearts, and there are hearts of stone. There are stones and there are stones. There are silent stones, and there are stones which are hearts. These stones, remnants of our dwelling on high, “retain their holiness even in desolation” (*Megillah* 3:3), for “the Shekhinah has never left the Western Wall” (*Tanhuma Shemot* 10)... These stones are our hearts!”

In order to perform the mitzvah properly, Rabbi Lipo had to consult with several rabbis who were expert in issues concerning the Temple. Because of its politically sensitive nature, an aspect some rabbis consider when ruling about the Temple Mount and Third Temple, there are normally vastly divergent views regarding such issues.

“All of the rabbis we consulted agreed that we should begin preparing the stones,” Lipo said “This wasn't just a physical action to produce dressed stones. We had to be very careful about our intentions. Of course, this was not a political statement. The intention was to unify the Jews and all of the world in making God One and His Name One.”

It was for this reason that they chose to begin forming the stones for the Third Temple on Yom Haatzmaut, Israel’s Independence Day. Rabbi Lipo cited commentaries that explained that when God appeared to Moses at the burning bush, He told Moses that the reason for bringing the Jews out was in order to serve Him in Jerusalem:

And He said, “I will be with you; that shall be your sign that it was I who sent you. And when you have freed the people from Egypt, you shall worship *Hashem* at this mountain.” Exodus 3:12

“The unifying identity of the Jewish people is expressed in the Temple in Jerusalem,” Rabbi Lipo explained. “On this day, 74 years ago, Israel became a state but the essence of the nation is the Temple in Jerusalem.”

Most quarries in Israel are operated by Arabs and they preferred not to use stones from those locations. They collected 23 sizable stones from a field near the community of Eish Kodesh (holy fire) in Samaria. A contractor from Judea transported the stones to an area near the Hurva Synagogue in the Old City. Lipo’s mother, who was born with the State of Israel 74 years ago, took part, enthusiastically helping to chip away at the stones.

Lipo plans on holding more events of this type to prepare more stones for the Third Temple.

Joshua Wander took part in the event. While cutting the stones, Wander wore tefillin (phylacteries) and had his sidearm ready, personifying the prophecy of Nehemiah:

As for the builders, each had his sword girded at his side as he was building. The trumpeter stood beside me. Nehemiah 4:12

“This was an important act unto itself and a message to the nation as well as to the world, but it was also message to Hashem that we were not just sitting around waiting for the Messiah,” Wander told Israel365 News. “We had the intention to show that we are actively working to bring the Third Temple, as prophesied and as commanded.”

The current situation in which Israel is a beautifully developed country while the Temple Mount is under the control of the Palestinians is similar to the situation described by the Prophet Haggai:

Is it a time for you to dwell in your paneled houses, while this House is lying in ruins? Haggai 1:4

The Israel Bible explained a message that is equally relevant today:

Addressing the Jews who returned to the Land of Israel after seventy years of Babylonian exile, *Chagai’s* mission is to motivate them to resume construction of the second Temple. He begins by challenging them to reflect on their priorities, and to consider what is more important: Their comfort, or God’s? While they dwell in paneled houses, *Hashem’s* house lies in ruins. The Hebrew term for ‘paneled’ is *sefunim* (ספונים). According to some, the panels were made out of cedar wood, imported from Lebanon. *Chagai* is accusing the people of not learning from King *David*, who said to the prophet *Natan*, “Here I am dwelling in a house of cedar, while the *Aron* of *Hashem* abides in a tent!” (II Samuel 7). *David* longed to overcome that disparity and build the first *Beit Hamikdash*, while the Israelites in *Chagai’s* time are unconcerned. *Chagai* tries to break their complacency. The stones are being stored for their intended purpose.

Scriptural Context

Daniel 9:24-27

The Seventy Weeks

²⁴ “Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place. ²⁵ Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word **to restore and build Jerusalem** to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time. ²⁶ And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And the people of the prince who is to come shall **destroy the city and the sanctuary**. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed. ²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put **an end to sacrifice and offering**. And **on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate**, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

Ezekiel 40

Vision of the New Temple

² **In visions of God he brought me to the land of Israel, and set me down on a very high mountain, on which was a structure like a city to the south.** ³ When he brought me there, behold, there was a man whose appearance was like bronze, with a linen cord and a measuring reed in his hand. And he was standing in the gateway. ⁴ And the man said to me, “Son of man, look with your eyes, and hear with your ears, and set your heart upon all that I shall show you, **for you were brought here in order that I might show it to you**. Declare all that you see to the house of Israel” . . . **43** . . . ⁴ **As the glory of the LORD entered the temple** by the gate facing east, ⁵ the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, **the glory of the LORD filled the temple**. ⁶ While the man was standing beside me, I heard one speaking to me out of the

temple,⁷ and he said to me, “*Son of man, this is the place of my throne and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the people of Israel forever.*”

Matthew 24:15

The Abomination of Desolation

¹⁵ “So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand).

Revelation 11

The Two Witnesses

¹ Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told, “Rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there, ² but do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months. ³ And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth.”

Transition:

The World is being Called to a Higher Standard of Service, realizing the doing things the same way is not going to keep the doors open (i.e. CEO of AirBNB – May 2021), but somehow the Church does not believe, Spiritually, that too is what God is Calling them to, a Higher Standard of Service, realizing that without it the world will not see God (Heb 12:14). That in fact, they are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked (Rev 3:17); not relevant anymore (Rev 3:15-16); but being called to Zealously Repent, returning back to God and start doing it His way, and no longer are way anymore.

Will the Church answer the Higher Standard of Service that the World is being Called to, Spiritually, or fail like all those secular businesses who choose not to answer the Call, and choose to go back to the same old way of doing it before this Pandemic.

1 Peter 2:9

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Transition: We are Lamp Lighters! God has called us to be in proximity of others to ignite the oil that God has already prepared in them to Light their lives on fire for His purposes.

Shavuot 2022 (4-weeks out):

*the Giving of the Law, fulfilled in the Giving of the Holy Spirit – The Forerunner of all Prophecy
(the Spirit of Elijah, John the Baptist, and the Second Coming)
will begin in the evening of
Saturday, June 4th
and ends in the evening of
Monday, June 6th*

Transition: We are Lamp Lighters! Picture – Jesus turning Water into Wine, set apart for a Transformed life (John 2:1-12). The purpose of God bringing the Israelites into the Wilderness was to give His Law and speak to His people, not just to Deliver them.

Ezekiel 22:26

²⁶ Her priests have done violence to my law and have profaned my holy things. They have made no distinction between the holy and the common, neither have they taught the difference between the unclean and the clean, and they have disregarded my Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them.

1 Timothy 4:1-10

Some Will Depart from the Faith

¹ Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, ² through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, ³ who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. ⁴ For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, ⁵ for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.

A Good Servant of Christ Jesus

⁶ If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. ⁷ Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; ⁸ for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. ⁹ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. ¹⁰ For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.

2 Thessalonians 2

The Man of Lawlessness

¹ Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, ² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. ³ Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless (the False Doctrine of Eminency) the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction.

Message Reading:

Week 30 - BEHAR (On the Mount) Leviticus 25:1–26:2; Jeremiah 32:6–27; Romans 6:1–23

“The Lord said to Moses at Mount Sinai, ‘Speak to the Israelites and say to them: **When you enter the land I am going to give you, the land itself must observe a Sabbath to the Lord.**’” Leviticus 25:1–2 (Year of Jubilee)

“Driven by Eternity”

Last week, in the Reading “Say” (Emor), God called the Kohen (priests), whom God has called all of His people to be, a “Royal Priesthood”, to live lives that expressed a greater measure of holiness. It also described the essential festivals that God calls His feasts, which included the Sabbath.

This week, in the Reading “On the Mount” (Behar) God gives Moses the law of the Shemitah (literally, release but commonly translated Sabbatical Year).

This law is related to the pattern or rhythm of seven in Scripture. Here are a few instances:

- God created the universe in seven days;
- There are seven days in the week;
- God rested on the seventh day;
- The Temple menorah was seven-branched;
- There are seven moadim or appointed times (Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits, Pentecost, Day of Blowing Trumpets/New Year, Day of Atonement, and Tabernacles); and
- The Israelites made seven circuits around Jericho before the walls fell.

Seven is the number that celebrates **the sacred purpose of infusing holiness into the whole of Creation.** (Jewish Wisdom in the Numbers)

Review of teaching the last couple of weeks:

Jesus’ Teaching Validation of the Feast of Atonement & Future Revelation (just following his Temptation and during the Feast of Atonement):

¹⁶ And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, . . .” Luke 4:16-19

Jesus stops just short of the vengeance/wrath of the Lord, which he will fulfill in his Second Coming:

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
² to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, . . .
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;” Isaiah 61:1-2

The beginning of the Next Sabbath Cycle is this

The next Shmita falls in the Jewish year 5782, which begins on Sept. 7, 2021. Just as the Torah calls for Jews to work six days and rest on the seventh, it calls for them to work the land six days and let it rest in the seventh. After 49 years, seven cycles of seven, the 50th is Yovel – the Jubilee year. However, the Jubilee year has not been marked for centuries.

* **Timeline of Jesus’ Ordination (Baptism, (late-August); Temptation, 40 Days prior to the Feast of Atonement (late-September/early-October); Commissioning, in the Temple and Reading of Isaiah 61:1-2: “‘The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ²to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor (Jesus, our High Priest, Declares here the “Year of Jubilee” – the Biblical Cancellation of All Debts), and the day of vengeance of our God.”** Isaiah 61:1-2; Second Coming of Jesus, will fall on the same Feast, “Atonement” (late-September/early-October), where he will complete the reading of Isaiah 61:2, which he did not complete Reading in his First Coming, but will Declare in his Second Coming: “to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor (Jesus, our High Priest, Declares here, again, the “Year of Jubilee” – the Biblical Cancellation of All Debts), and the day of vengeance of our God (Jesus here Declares God’s Wrath to be Poured Out on all the Nations that “do not Repent”).”

Closing The Gate (ceremony of the Feast of Atonement)

Just prior to nightfall a hushed congregation prepares to observe the last service of Yom Kippur called **Ne’ilah**, which means, “**closing the gate**” (A person could not have atonement and forgiveness without entering the temple courts before the gate was closed.). The cantor calls, “*Hear, O Israel, the Lord (Yahuwah/Jehovah) is our God, the Lord (Yahuwah/Jehovah) is one.*” Immediately following this comes the threefold repetition of the words, “*Blessed be the name (Yahushua/Joshua/Jesus) of Him whose glorious kingdom endures forever.*” The attendant worshipers anciently uttered these words when the high priest pronounced the name of God (Yahuwah/Jehovah) in the Temple. Then, beginning in a whisper and progressively increasing in volume of his voice, the cantor declares seven times, “The Lord (Yahuwah/Jehovah) is God.” When the last notes of the chant have died away, a long blast, Tekiah Gedola is sounded on the shofar and the Day of Atonement comes to an end. This last trump proclaims the **year of Jubilee** every fiftieth year.

* **Year of Jubilee:** Now, using Ezra’s decree as the starting point (457 B.C.), if we count forward 483 years we will arrive at **27 A.D.** (There is only one year between 1 B.C. and 1 A.D.) According to the translator of Josephus, the Jewish new year that began in the fall of 27 A.D. marked the beginning of the last Jubilee Year that the Jews enjoyed in the land before their worldwide dispersal by the Romans in 70 A.D. This is most likely the year that **Jesus began His public ministry**. This is hinted at in **Luke 4** where it says that when Jesus launched His ministry at the synagogue in Nazareth, He did so by reading a passage from Isaiah 61 about the way in which the Messiah would fulfill the spiritual essence of the Jubilee. After finishing the reading, Jesus proclaimed, “**Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing**” **Luke 4:21.**

(<https://christinprophecy.org/articles/daniels-70-weeks-of-years/>)

Putting the next Jubilee Year around 2027 to 2030, starting around 2021-2022 or 2022-2023, of the last seven years prior to the fulfillment of the Last Jubilee of the Messiah’s Return.

Leviticus 25:1-26:2

The Sabbath Year – the prophetic Millennial Reign of Christ – The Feast of Tabernacles (only observed and fulfilled in the Land itself – The Promise Land)

Leviticus 25:1

¹The Lord spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying,

Mount Sinai: *And G-d spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying . . . Leviticus 25:1*

What has the sabbatical year to do with Mount Sinai? Were not all commandments given on Sinai? But the verse wishes to tell us: just as with the Sabbatical year both its general principle and its minute details were ordained on Mount Sinai, so, too, was it with all the Commandments--their general principle as well as their minute details were ordained on Mount Sinai.

(Torat Kohanim; Rashi)

Rabbi Akiva says: The general principle *and* the details were given at Sinai. They were then repeated in the Tent of Meeting, and enjoined a third time in the Plains of Moab (i.e., in Moses’ narrative in the book of Deuteronomy).

(Talmud, Shabbat 6a)

Leviticus 25:2

²“Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘**When you come into the land that I give you, the land shall keep a Sabbath to the Lord.**”

sabbath: When you come into the land which I give you, the land shall rest a sabbath unto G-d (25:2)

Taken on its own, this verse seems to imply that “a sabbath unto G-d” is to be observed immediately upon entering the Land. But in practice, when the Jewish people entered the Land of Israel they first worked the land for six years, and only then observed the *seventh* year as the *shmittah* (sabbatical year)--as, indeed, the Torah clearly instructs in following verses.

We find a similar duality in regard to the weekly seven-day cycle. The weekly Shabbat has a twofold role: a) It is the day “from which all successive days are blessed”--the source of material and spiritual sustenance for the week to follow. b) It is the “culmination” of the week-- the day on which the week’s labors efforts are harvested and sublimated, and their inner, spiritual significance is realized and brought to light. – **therefore God must be REST for this truth and reality to be true, as it was out of God, REST, that He Created the next seven days, including the seventh day, Shabbat/Rest.**

Therein lies an important lesson in how we are to approach the mundane involvements of life. True, we begin with the material, for in a world governed by cause and effect, the means inevitably precede the end. But what is first in actuality need not be first in mind. In mind and consciousness, **the end must precede the means, for without a clear vision of their purpose to guide them, the means may begin to see themselves as the end.**

The spiritual harvest of a Shabbat or *shmittah* can be only achieved *after* a “work-week” of dealing with the material world and developing its resources. But it must be preceded and predicated upon “a sabbath unto G-d” that occupies the fore of our consciousness and pervades our every deed.

Transition: *Why do we work? As Sabbath teaches us, to ultimately put God’s pleasures above our own pleasures. In essence, to establish our material world as a place where God can dwell in our lives and in the earth, that we might finally “Rest” in that Truth as our source of strength, provision, and blessing towards God and others.*

Leviticus 25:1-6

³For six years you shall sow your field, and for six years you shall prune your vineyard and gather in its fruits, ⁴but in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath of solemn rest for the land, **a Sabbath to the Lord.** You shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard. ⁵You shall not reap what grows of itself in your harvest, or gather the grapes of your undressed vine. It shall be a year of solemn rest for the land. ⁶The Sabbath of the land shall provide food for you, for yourself and for your male and female slaves and for your hired worker and the sojourner who lives with you, ⁷and for your cattle and for the wild animals that are in your land: **all its yield shall be for food.**

Just as we are to work for six days but rest on the seventh, the land is to be sown and harvested for six years. **In the seventh year, the land is to have its Shabbat year of rest — its Shemitah.**

“But in the seventh year the land is to have a year of Sabbath rest, a Sabbath to the Lord. Do not sow your fields or prune your vineyards. Do not reap what grows of itself or **harvest the grapes of your untended vines. The land is to have a year of rest.**” Leviticus 25:4–5

Of course, this law involved **more than allowing the land to rest.** During the Shemitah, the Israelites were to make some agricultural and economic adjustments in order to rest and **take the time to learn about the Lord.**

It was not only a time of physical rest, saving both the land and the people from exhaustion, it was a time of spiritual refreshment

“At the end of every seven years, in the year for canceling debts, during the **Festival of Tabernacles (Sukkot), when all Israel comes to appear before the Lord your God at the place He will choose, you shall read this law before them in their hearing.** Assemble the people — men, women and children, and the foreigners residing in your towns — **so they can listen and learn to fear the Lord your God and follow carefully all the words of this law.** Their children, *who do not know this law,* must hear it and learn to fear the Lord your God as long as you live in the land you are crossing the Jordan to possess.” **Deuteronomy 31:10–13**

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Leviticus 25:8-10

The Year of Jubilee

⁸“You shall count seven weeks of years, seven times seven years, so that the time of the seven weeks of years shall give you forty-nine years. ⁹Then you shall sound the loud trumpet on the tenth day of the seventh month, **On the Day of Atonement you shall sound the trumpet** throughout all your land. ¹⁰**And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you,** when each of you shall return to his property and each of you shall return to his clan.

Transition: This Trumpet Sound is “The Last Trump” in the Books of Revelation, 1 Corinthians, 1 Thessalonians, Matthew, and many other “Last Trump” references throughout the Bible. It is not only the Return of our Messiah, on the “Feast of Trumpets”, but also our “Atoning Sacrifice”, on the “Feast of Atonement” when God will Atonement for all man’s Sins by holding those who are ultimately responsible, the False trinity (Satan, the Anti-christ, and the False prophet), restoring entire Earth as the footstool of God, but also our Jubilee, when God will Restore all things back as they were Created to be, Cancelling “All Debt” and Establishing a New Beginning for all those who call God their Father:

Seal 6: Heavens open like a Scroll and Jesus Appear in the Sky:

“When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, ¹³ and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. ¹⁴ The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. ¹⁵ Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶ calling to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb,

¹⁷ for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?” Revelation 6:12-17

Seal 7: 7 Seal, 7 Trumpet, 7 Vial (7th Seal - Rev 8:4-5, 7th Trumpet - Rev 8:6-11:19, 7th Vial - Rev 16:1-18) — *all culminate together at the at the Battle of Armageddon and Jesus’ Return (2nd Coming):*

7th Seal

Revelation 8:1-5

The Seventh Seal and the Golden Censer

“When the Lamb opened the **seventh seal**, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ² Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. ³ And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer, and he was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar before the throne, ⁴ and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. ⁵ Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth, and there were **peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.**”

7th Trumpet

The Seventh Trumpet

Revelation 11:19

“Then God’s temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple (only one time a year is the ark of the covenant seen, during the Feast of Atonement, late September to early October). There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.”

7th Vial

Revelation 16:17-18

The Seventh Bowl

“The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple, from the throne, saying, “It is done!”¹⁸ And there were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, and a great earthquake such as there had never been since man was on the earth, so great was that earthquake.”

Other Biblical References to “the last trumpet”:

1 Corinthians 15:52

⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

1 Thessalonians 4:16

¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

Matthew 17

The Transfiguration

¹ And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. ³ And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁵ He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.” ⁸ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. ⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.”

Matthew 24:29-31

The Coming of the Son of Man

²⁹ “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰ Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Revelation 20

The Thousand Years

¹ Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. ² And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, ³ and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.

⁴ Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years . . .

Judgment Before the Great White Throne

¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened (This only happens on the Feast of Atonement). Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵ And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

The Year of Jubilee: the Redemption of the Land

“Count off seven Sabbath years — seven times seven years — so that the seven Sabbath years amount to a period of forty-nine years . . . Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants.” Leviticus 25:8, 10

The seven-year **Shemith** cycle accumulated in sets of seven (49 years) and culminated in **The Year of Jubilee** (Yovel).

Every 50th year, both the land and the people rested.

This is a very special appointed time of freedom and liberty that is sanctified, set apart, or holy (kadosh) to the Lord.

It was proclaimed throughout the land with the blowing of the shofar on the Day of Atonement

With the blast of the shofar, Hebrew slaves were freed and debts were forgiven.

And while the land was left uncultivated, as in the **Shemithah** year, in **The Year of Jubilee** (Yovel), hereditary **property was returned to its original family, even if it had been sold because of misfortune, poverty, or to pay off a debt.**

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Although this type of land ownership may seem foreign and impractical, the intent of this law is to convey the truth that the Lord is the real owner of Israel's real estate; therefore, it cannot be permanently sold.

“The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is Mine and you reside in My land as foreigners and strangers. Throughout the land that you hold as a possession, you must provide for the redemption of the land.” Leviticus 25:23–24

We might liken this concept of land ownership to a lease, with the Jewish People being God's tenants.

This law was for everyone, rich and poor alike. It was designed to protect the rights of each person and prevented land and wealth from being accumulated in the hands of a rich few, while the majority remained poor.

What's more, this law really brings home the fact that no one — no leader or politician or individual — has the right to sell, divide or give away God's land for any reason.

Not even for the purpose of a supposed peace deal with those determined to destroy the Jews in Israel. God will execute His judgment on all those who attempt to divide up His land. **Joel 3:2:**

“I will gather all the nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. And I will enter into judgment with them there, on behalf of my people and my heritage Israel, because they have scattered them among the nations and have divided up my land.”

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Leviticus 25:11-21

¹¹ That fiftieth year shall be a jubilee for you; in it you shall neither sow nor reap what grows of itself nor gather the grapes from the undressed vines. ¹² For it is a jubilee. It shall be holy to you. You may eat the produce of the field.

¹³ **“In this year of jubilee each of you shall return to his property.** ¹⁴ And if you make a sale to your neighbor or buy from your neighbor, you shall not wrong one another. ¹⁵ You shall pay your neighbor according to the number of years after the jubilee, and he shall sell to you according to the number of years for crops. ¹⁶ If the years are many, you shall increase the price, and if the years are few, you shall reduce the price, for it is the number of the crops that he is selling to you. ¹⁷ **You shall not wrong one another, but you shall fear your God, for I am the Lord your God.**

¹⁸ **“Therefore you shall do my statutes and keep my rules and perform them,** and then you will dwell in the land securely. ¹⁹ The land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill and dwell in it securely. ²⁰ And if you say, ‘What shall we eat in the seventh year, if we may not sow or gather in our crop?’ ²¹ I will command my **blessing** on you in the sixth year, so that it will produce a crop sufficient **for three years.**

the sixth year: And if you shall say: What shall we eat in the seventh year? Behold, we shall not sow, nor gather in our produce! But I will command my blessing upon you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth fruit for three years. . . . (25:20-21)

Blessing: barak - to kneel, bless (i.e. and he made his camels kneel)

A primitive root; to kneel; by implication to bless God (as an act of adoration) -- bless abundantly, bless, bless greatly, bless indeed, bless kneel (down), bless still, thank.

i.e. Genesis 24:

Isaac and Rebekah

¹⁰ Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and departed, taking all sorts of choice gifts from his master; and he arose and went to Mesopotamia to the city of Nahor. ¹¹ And he made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well (where all blessing came – living water – i.e. Patriarch's wives/future brides all found at a well, Mary conceives at a well, eternal salvation received by the woman at the well and Jesus . . . Jesus is our living water . . . **John 7:37-39**) . . .

John 7:37-39

Jesus Promises Living Water

³⁷ On the last day, the climax of the festival (the Feast of Tabernacles . . . possibly the **Eight Day** (the climax of the festival), the day of “The Great Day of Salvation”, the day when Mary dedicated Jesus in the temple after 40 days of purification, Jesus our “Great Salvation”), Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, “Anyone who is thirsty may come to me! ³⁸ Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.’” ³⁹ (When he said “**living water,**” he was speaking of **the Spirit**, who would be given to everyone believing in him. But the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory.)

. . . of water at the time of evening, the time when women go out to draw water. ¹² And he said, “O Lord, God of my master Abraham, **please grant me success today and show steadfast love to my master Abraham.** ¹³ Behold, **I am standing by the spring of water,** and the daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water. ¹⁴ Let the young woman to whom I shall say, ‘Please let down your jar that I may drink,’ and who shall say, ‘Drink, and I will water your camels’—let her be the one whom you have appointed for your servant Isaac. By this I shall know that you have shown steadfast love to **my master.**”

¹⁵ **Before he had finished speaking,** behold, Rebekah, who was born to Bethuel the son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, came out with her water jar on her shoulder. ¹⁶ The young woman was very attractive in appearance, a maiden whom no man

had known (a virgin). She went down to the spring and filled her jar and came up. ¹⁷ Then the servant ran to meet her and said, “Please give me a little water to drink from your jar.” ¹⁸ She said, “Drink, my lord.” And she quickly let down her jar upon her hand and gave him a drink. ¹⁹ When she had finished giving him a drink, she said, “I will draw water for your camels also, until they have finished drinking.” ²⁰ So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough and ran again to the well to draw water, and she drew for all his camels. ²¹ The man gazed at her in silence to learn whether the Lord had prospered his journey or not.

The Seven-year *shmittah* cycle corresponds to the Seven Millennia of History

If the first five millennia of history could not provide for the universal Sabbath, what can be expected of us, we of the "sixth year," exhausted and depleted of spirit?

“So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God’s rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.” Hebrews 4:9-11

Our sages tell us **that the seven-year *shmittah* cycle corresponds to the seven millennia of history.** For six thousand years, man labors in the fields of the material world in preparation for the seventh millennium--a millennium that is "wholly sabbath and tranquillity, for life everlasting," the era of Moshiach (the messiah).

Leviticus 25:22-43

²² When you sow in the eighth year, you will be eating some of the old crop; you shall eat the old until the ninth year, when its crop arrives.

Redemption of Property

²³ “The land shall not be sold in perpetuity (forever), for the land is mine. For you are strangers and sojourners with me. ²⁴ And in all the country you possess, you shall allow a redemption of the land.

²⁵ “If your brother becomes poor and sells part of his property, then his nearest redeemer shall come and redeem what his brother has sold. ²⁶ If a man has no one to redeem it and then himself becomes prosperous and finds sufficient means to redeem it, ²⁷ let him calculate the years since he sold it and pay back the balance to the man to whom he sold it, and then return to his property. ²⁸ But if he does not have sufficient means to recover it, then what he sold shall remain in the hand of the buyer until the year of jubilee. In the jubilee it shall be released, and he shall return to his property.

²⁹ “If a man sells a dwelling house in a walled city, he may redeem it within a year of its sale. For a full year he shall have the right of redemption. ³⁰ If it is not redeemed within a full year, then the house in the walled city shall belong in perpetuity to the buyer, throughout his generations; it shall not be released in the jubilee. ³¹ But the houses of the villages that have no wall around them shall be classified with the fields of the land. They may be redeemed, and they shall be released in the jubilee. ³² As for the cities of the Levites, the Levites may redeem at any time the houses in the cities they possess. ³³ And if one of the Levites exercises his right of redemption, then the house that was sold in a city they possess shall be released in the jubilee. For the houses in the cities of the Levites are their possession among the people of Israel. ³⁴ But the fields of pastureland belonging to their cities may not be sold, for that is their possession forever.

Kindness for Poor Brothers

³⁵ “If your brother becomes poor and cannot maintain himself with you, you shall support him as though he were a stranger and a sojourner, and he shall live with you. ³⁶ Take no interest from him or profit, but fear your God, that your brother may live beside you. ³⁷ You shall not lend him your money at interest, nor give him your food for profit. ³⁸ I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan, and to be your God.

³⁹ “If your brother becomes poor beside you and sells himself to you, you shall not make him serve as a slave: ⁴⁰ he shall be with you as a hired worker and as a sojourner. He shall serve with you until the year of the jubilee. ⁴¹ Then he shall go out from you, he and his children with him, and go back to his own clan and return to the possession of his fathers. ⁴² For they are my servants, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt; they shall not be sold as slaves. ⁴³ You shall not rule over him ruthlessly but shall fear your God.

My servants: For they are My servants, whom I took out of the land of Egypt; they cannot be sold into slavery (25:42)

At the time of the Exodus, G-d made freedom the inherent and eternal state of the Jew. From that point on, no power or force on earth can subvert our intrinsic freedom.

(Maharal)

Leviticus 25:44-26:4

⁴⁴ As for your male and female slaves whom you may have: you may buy male and female slaves from among the nations that are around you. ⁴⁵ You may also buy from among the strangers who sojourn with you and their clans that are with you, who have been born in your land, and they may be your property. ⁴⁶ You may bequeath them to your sons after you to inherit as a possession forever. You may make slaves of them, but over your brothers the people of Israel you shall not rule, one over another ruthlessly.

Redeeming a Poor Man

⁴⁷ “If a stranger or sojourner with you becomes rich, and your brother beside him becomes poor and sells himself to the stranger or sojourner with you or to a member of the stranger’s clan, ⁴⁸ then after he is sold he may be redeemed. One of his brothers may redeem him, ⁴⁹ or his uncle or his cousin may redeem him, or a close relative from his clan may redeem him. Or if he grows rich he may redeem himself. ⁵⁰ He shall calculate with his buyer from the year when he sold himself to him until the year of jubilee, and the price of his sale

shall vary with the number of years. The time he was with his owner shall be rated as the time of a hired worker.⁵¹ If there are still many years left, he shall pay proportionately for his redemption some of his sale price. ⁵²If there remain but a few years until the year of jubilee, he shall calculate and pay for his redemption in proportion to his years of service.⁵³ He shall treat him as a worker hired year by year. He shall not rule ruthlessly over him in your sight. ⁵⁴And if he is not redeemed by these means, then he and his children with him shall be released in the year of jubilee. ⁵⁵For it is to me that the people of Israel are servants. They are my servants whom I brought out of the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

Conclusion:

Leviticus 26:1-4

Blessings for Obedience

¹ “You shall not make idols for yourselves or erect an image or pillar, and you shall not set up a figured stone in your land to bow down to it, for I am the Lord your God. ² You shall keep my Sabbaths and reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord. ³ “If you walk in my statutes (“engraved”) and observe my commandments and do them, ⁴ then I will give you your rains in their season, and the land shall yield its increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.

Next Week:

Week 34 - Bechukotai (In My Statutes)

Leviticus 26:3–27:34; Jeremiah 16:19–17:14; Luke 22:7–20

“We can not live an abundant life if we are not willing to live an obedient life.”