

## Solid Proof We Are in the Last Days

Many people in the church are in the dark about so much because they don't read the whole Word. They got saved and then got told to read the Gospel of John. Many were likely handed a New Testament (solely, without the Old Testament at all). The pastor then focuses many of his sermons on New Testament sound bites and passages that, without the foundation of the Old Testament, cannot be rightly understood.

In fact, everywhere in the New Testament that the word "Scripture" is used, you need to remember there WAS no New Testament at that time, so it is referring to the Old Testament! For example, 2 Timothy 3:16 "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for DOCTRINE, for reproof, for correction, for INSTRUCTION in righteousness." (Emphasis mine)

So, what is "instruction?" TORAH! Torah literally means "instruction." That's the "manufacturer's handbook" for how things are SUPPOSED to work. Torah is simply the first five books of the Old Testament. All the rest are books of prophets, poetry and historical record. Still the Word of God, but all the rest of the books revolve around the instructions of our Creator. But that's a whole other topic for another day.

Because of these misunderstandings, many (not all, but many) do not realize that the Old Testament history of the Israelites was about MORE people than just the "Jews."

There were 12 tribes of Israelites AND a "mixed multitude" that went up out of Egypt at the exodus. The Bible said these all with one accord agreed to YHWH's (commonly referred to as "God") terms at Mt. Sinai, thereby becoming His people. But by the time Solomon came along, he strayed from the commands and was drawn into idolatry due to his many pagan wives, which he was warned about by YHWH Himself. Thus, the kingdom was torn from his son Rehoboam and 10 of the 12 tribes were given to Solomon's servant, Jeroboam. From here, Israel became two nations: the southern kingdom of Judah which encompassed the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, as well as the Levitical priesthood. (Judah is where the term "Jews" is derived from.) The northern kingdom was then called the "House of Israel," and also sometimes referred to as "Ephraim." (See Genesis 48:17-20)

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Because of the severe idolatry of the House of Israel, YHWH declared a "divorce" from the northern kingdom prophesied in Hosea 1:9 "Then said God, 'Call his name Loammi: for ye are not My people, and I will not be your God.'" Subsequently testified to by Jeremiah in chapter 3, verse 8, "And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery, I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also."

You can clearly see here the two kingdoms being addressed. They both went into exile for their harlotry (idolatry) Israel in 721 BCE and Judah in 588 BCE (+/- since their's was done in phases pinpointing a year is less accurate).

So, is there anything in the "instructions" regarding idolatry? Yes, as a matter of fact let's look and see what happens when those who agreed to the rule book at Mt. Sinai decide to renege on their oath to "do all that you have commanded."

Leviticus 26:14-18 "But if you will not hearken unto Me, and will not do all these commandments; and if ye shall despise My statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all My commandments, but that ye break My covenant: I will also do this unto you: I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague (fever) that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart; and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. And I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you. And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will PUNISH YOU SEVEN TIMES MORE FOR YOUR SINS." (Emphasis mine)

So, when Israel and Judah were deep into their rebellion against the rulebook (Torah) by all their idolatrous ways, Ezekiel was told to physically act out a prophetic judgment against both. A kind of pre-enactment show of what was to come for the dull of hearing.

Ezekiel 4:1-8 "Thou also, son of man, take thee a tile, and lay it before thee, and portray upon it the city Jerusalem; and lay siege against it, and build a fort against it, and cast a mount against it; set the camp also against it and set battering rams against it round about. Moreover take thou unto thee an iron pan, and set it for a wall of iron between thee and

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the city: and set thy face against it, and it shall be besieged, and thou shalt lay siege against it. This shall be a sign to the HOUSE OF ISRAEL. Lie thou also upon thy left side, and lay the iniquity of the House of Israel upon it: according to the number of days that thou shalt lie upon it thou shalt bear their iniquity. For I have laid upon thee the years of their iniquity according to the number of days, THREE HUNDRED NINETY DAYS: so shalt thou bear the iniquity of the House of Israel. And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the House of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year. Therefore thou shalt set thy face toward the siege of Jerusalem, and thine arm shall be uncovered, and thou shalt prophesy against it. And behold, I will lay bands upon thee and thou shalt not turn thee from one side to another til thou hast ended the days of thy siege." (Emphasis mine)

With no Lego Kingdom set to play with, Ezekiel basically had to build a little diorama of Jerusalem and then play out, for roughly a year and 2 months, this coming siege as he lay on his side in full view of the public. But what do we glean from this passage? Well, a student of the Old Testament will know that Judah repented in their exile and returned to Jerusalem after the 40 year penalty. But the House of Israel NEVER repented and was eventually assimilated into the Gentile nations as prophesied.

But wait. Remember Leviticus 26:18 tells us the UNREPENTANT will be punished SEVEN TIMES the prescribed sentence! So what was the House of Israel's sentence? 390 years in exile. What is 7 times 390? 2,730 years. WHEN did the House of Israel go into exile? 721 BCE. Where does that put the end of the exile? 2009 AD!! And HOW does this give us proof positive that we have therefore entered the "last days?"

Speaking of the miraculous return of the House of Israel to the kingdom, Hosea prophesies in chapter 3, verse 5 "Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek YHWH their God, and David their King; and shall fear YHWH and His goodness in the LAST DAYS." (Emphasis mine)

This hidden truth has now come to light thanks to many good Bereans! Studying the Scriptures (O.T.) to see if those things they be told are true. Be a good Berean. Open and study the WHOLE Word of God. The Front of the book (O.T.) is the foundation of our faith. Without it, you're building a second floor with no support. =)

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Spread the Word. Time is short. Shalom.

For more discussions along these lines, check out the following links:

Rob Skiba's Yahuwah's Triangle:

<http://youtu.be/lqhPI2NDuYY>

Jim Staley's Identity Crisis:

<http://youtu.be/3dcwuuULYJs>

119 Ministries

<http://testeverything.net>