

“NEVER AGAIN!”

But It Will Happen Again!

“Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace seven times more than it was wont to be heated.

And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.

Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace...

Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astounded, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God [*lit.*, ‘a son of the gods’].

Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, came forth from the midst of the fire.

And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king’s counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them” (Dan. 3:19-21, 24-27).

During the summer of 1941, when British Intelligence began intercepting radio reports about mass killings by the Third Reich in Poland, the outside world — though still unaware of the full extent and dimensions of the "*Final Solution to the Jewish Question*" — became aware of that which would only later be fully known.

Winston Churchill, in a speech shortly afterwards, stated, in a somewhat cryptic manner so that the Germans would not know that their messages were being intercepted, "We are in the presence of a crime without a name."

Down through the years since those days, remembering back on what was later called *The Holocaust* — that which happened to the Jewish people (among others) throughout Europe during the twelve-year reign of the Third Reich (1933-1945) — the Jewish people have had a saying: "Never Again!"

These words, "Never Again," represent a *PROMISE* to past and future generations that *everything possible will be done to INSURE that nothing like the Holocaust will EVER happen again.*

Thus, the numerous Holocaust museums and centers in major cities, particularly throughout Europe and the United States, along with Yad Vashem in Israel (a memorial to the Jewish victims of the Holocaust), are in existence to let the people of the world know, to educate them, pertaining to that which occurred, *seeking to PREVENT such a thing from EVER happening again.*

In line with the preceding, present Jewish thought throughout Israel and the world at large is that the Jewish people will "never again" allow themselves to exist in a position of powerlessness, as the Jewish people found themselves in Germany and throughout Europe during the days of the Third Reich.

The nation of Israel in the Middle East today maintains very active, ever-ready military forces — Army, Navy, and Air Force. They have compulsory military training and military service for all citizens, men and women alike. A high percentage of the population is military-ready; and ready-to-respond armed forces — in any or all branches of service — can be called up overnight.

And these are not just ordinary forces. Israel's Air Force, for example, is recognized as having some of the best trained pilots in the world, flying modern aircraft and using modern weaponry.

Maintaining military forces of this nature, along with having hawkish personnel in positions of authority in both the government and the military, would be another way of letting anyone who would dare even think about trying to come against Israel again to know in advance what to expect.

The Jewish people are determined to “*NEVER AGAIN*” let anything like the Holocaust befall them.

A Date Which *MUST* Be Kept

BUT, with the existence of all the preceding, *IT WILL HAPPEN AGAIN!* The Prophets have spoken, and the Words of the Prophets — God speaking through the Prophets — *CANNOT be circumnavigated.*

Israel has a *pre-set, pre-recorded date with destiny, which MUST be kept.* This date has been *set and clearly marked on God’s prophetic calendar, and it CANNOT be changed.* This date is called “The Time of Jacob’s Trouble” (Jer. 30:7), and it will be kept during and immediately following *Daniel’s Seventieth Week* (seven unfulfilled years relating to God’s dealings with Israel preceding the Messianic Era [Dan. 9:24-27]).

And this pre-set date, reserved for the Jewish people on God’s prophetic calendar, *which MUST be kept*, is for “*a reason*” and for “*a purpose.*”

“The reason” that this date MUST be kept is because of Israeli disobedience over centuries, even millenniums, of time, which Israel has yet to acknowledge and correspondingly return to the God of their fathers.

And “the purpose” for this date is to bring Israel to that place, to bring about repentance, so that God’s plans and purposes for calling this nation into existence 3,500 years ago can be realized.

Thus, *there HAS TO BE another Holocaust*, in order to, through Gentile persecution, bring about Israel’s repentance. And this coming Holocaust *HAS TO BE of a severe enough nature to bring this to pass.*

God drove the Jewish People out among the nations to effect repentance; and He is going to leave them there *UNTIL they repent*, intensifying the persecution until Israel is left *WITHOUT anyplace to turn OTHER THAN back to the God of their fathers.*

(The Jews presently in the land [there in *an unbelieving and unrepentant state*], having returned to the land during decades of time, resulting from a Zionist movement, will have to be uprooted from their land and driven back out among the nations [something which will happen in the middle of the coming Tribulation, the "time of Jacob's trouble" (Matt. 24:15ff; Luke 21:20ff; Rev. 12:6ff)].

This will *HAVE TO OCCUR*, for God drove His people out among the nations to effect repentance through Gentile persecution, and this is the place where He has decreed that He will deal with them in this respect.)

Thus, there is a disobedient Jewish people on the one hand (both in and out of the land) — with all of their Holocaust centers and museums, Yad Vashem, and a mighty military power in the land — saying, "*Never Again!*"

Then, on the other hand, there are the Prophets who spoke millenniums ago, who, in essence, have said, "*Yes, Again!*"

And the Prophets have said this because of *one thing* — *God's omniscience, as He has looked down through centuries of time, seeing and knowing the continued unbelieving and unrepentant state of the Jewish people in the world today, both in and out of the land.*

ONE More Time...

It will take ONE more round of Gentile persecution, ONE more Holocaust, ONE more Furnace. THEN...

And when it does happen again, *the coming Holocaust will be FAR, FAR WORSE than the past Holocaust.* The future Holocaust will exist, not just in Europe, but *worldwide*; and the person in charge will be *a man seated on Satan's throne* to whom Satan will have given "his power" and "great authority" (Rev. 13:2; cf. Rev. 12:1-17).

This coming Holocaust is seen *numerous places in Scripture.*

One such place is in the account of the three Hebrews cast into a fiery furnace heated *seven times hotter than it was normally heated*, in Dan. 3:19ff. These three Hebrews typify *the Jewish nation as a whole*, seen in the coming Holocaust, the coming Furnace, the coming "time of Jacob's trouble," occurring during and immediately following Daniel's unfulfilled Seventieth Week.

But these three Hebrews, seen in a fire heated *seven times hotter*

than it was normally heated ("seven," a complete number, showing that the furnace was evidently heated as hot as possible without destroying the furnace), were not in the fire alone. A fourth Person was in the fire with them.

This *fourth Person*, as seen in corresponding Scripture, can be clearly identified as *God Himself* (Ex. 3:1ff; cf. Isa. 63:8, 9). And, as a result, *the fire, regardless of its intensity, had absolutely no effect upon these three men. For the fire to have affected them in any way, it would have had to affect the One in their midst the same way.*

These three men emerged from the furnace without a single hair on their heads singed and without the smell of fire or smoke on either them or on their undamaged garments.

This is how the nation itself will fare in the coming Holocaust, exactly as the nation fared in the past Holocaust. But, just as in the past Holocaust, the individual Jew is another matter.

In the past Holocaust, 6,000,000 Jews died, though the nation lived (emerged unscathed, for, exactly as in the type in Daniel, the nation cannot be harmed).

In the future Holocaust, two-thirds of world Jewry will die (about 9,000,000 by today's count [*cf.* Ezek. 5:12; Zech. 13:8, 9]), but the nation will live (emerge unscathed, again, exact as in the type).

Between Now and Then

We're not told how events in the Middle East or the world at large will transpire between now and that future time spoken of by the Prophets. There will have to be a transpiring of events which will allow this man to somehow neutralize or overcome Israel's armed forces, beginning this second Holocaust (when the rider on the red horse appears in the middle of the Tribulation [Rev. 6:3, 4; *ref.* Chapter V in the author's book, *Distant Hoofbeats*]). We're told about his intrigues, among other things, and the covenant that he will make with Israel; but we're not told what part these things might play, if any, in allowing this man to do the things which he will be able to do in that day.

This man — *seemingly unopposed, or not deterred by a military power as seen existing today* — will move against the Jews ("arms

shall stand on his part" [Dan. 11:31a]), beginning in Jerusalem, in a very sudden and what would appear to be a very unexpected manner. The Jews are told that when they see this man desecrating the Holy of Holies in the rebuilt Temple, if outside their homes, to not even take time to go back inside to pick anything up, but *to flee from this man's presence, to run for their lives* (Matt. 24:15ff).

That is how sudden and swift things will transpire when this man's actions begin a three and one-half-year Holocaust, which, after beginning in Jerusalem, will then spread throughout the land and the earth, evidently quite quickly. And *every single Jew — not just in Europe, but worldwide* — will be caught up in it this time.

Following That Future Time...

Following that future time though, matters will be exactly as they existed when the three Hebrews emerged from the furnace in Daniel chapter three.

"Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, who has sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and have yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.

Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speaketh anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.

Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, in the province of Babylon" (Dan. 3:28-30).

A similar ending is seen in the Book of Esther, where another facet of the same matter has been given.

Haman, another type of the man who will sit on Satan's throne during the coming Tribulation, *sought to have all the Jews in the province slain*. But in the end, through circumstances brought about by God's sovereign control over all things, Haman suffered the same fate which he had sought to inflict upon the Jews. *Haman himself was impaled on the same gallows which he had built for Mordecai, a Jew who "sat in the king's gate."*

And, the two prominent Jews dealt with throughout the book — *Esther and Mordecai*, representing, as the three Hebrews in Daniel, *the entire nation* — found themselves, at the close of events seen in the book, in positions comparable to that seen in Daniel.

Esther came into possession of all that Haman had owned; and Mordecai, among other honors, was promoted in the kingdom.

“Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, *because he laid his hand upon the Jews...*

And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea.

And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the declaration of the greatness of Mordecai, whereunto the king advanced him, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?

For Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of the brethren, seeking the wealth of his people, and speaking peace to all his seed” (Esther 8:7; 10:1-3).

The same story is told from yet another perspective in the account of Joseph and his brethren in Genesis chapters thirty-seven through forty-five.

The story begins with *Joseph’s rejection by his brethren* (ch. 37) and it ends with *Joseph’s acceptance by his brethren* (ch. 45). Then, in the latter part of the story, *two seven-year periods* are seen — *a seven-year time of plenty, followed by a seven-year time of famine. And the time of famine would be so severe that the time of plenty would not even be remembered* (Gen. 41:29-32).

Throughout *the time of plenty* (Gen. 41:47-53), Joseph’s brethren continued in the same state as seen back in chapter thirty-seven — *as the ones rejecting him, not even knowing that he was still alive.*

But, once *the time of famine arrived* (Gen. 41:54-57), they were left with no place to turn for help other than to Joseph (who had been elevated to second in command over all Egypt and *one whom they knew NOT*, even later when in his presence [Gen. 42:1ff]).

And, in the end, they were driven to the place where they had to acknowledge, *in Joseph’s presence*, that which they had done years before (resulting from their rejection of him [Gen. 44:16ff]).

Then Joseph, with his brethren brought to this point, was unable to contain himself any longer. *He wept aloud as he revealed himself to his brethren:*

"I am Joseph...whom ye sold into Egypt" (Gen. 45:3a, 4b).

His brethren, understandably, were "troubled at his presence" (v. 4), but Joseph set them at ease, calling attention to *God's reason and purpose for that which had occurred* (v. 5).

And, after certain events had transpired, Joseph's brethren went forth with *a dual message:*

"Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt" (Gen. 45:26).

Placing these types together provides different facets of the complete picture. We are presently living during a time of plenty, *but a time of famine is coming, one like unto Haman is coming, and a furnace heated seven times hotter than normal awaits Israel.*

The nation will be driven to *the SAME place Joseph's brethren were driven;* and the nation, during this time, is going to do *EXACTLY the SAME thing Joseph's brethren did. They will go to their Brother for help; they will go to Jesus for help, One Whom they will NOT know, the One Whom they rejected and crucified in past time.*

They will be brought to the place, *in His presence, where they will be left WITHOUT a choice other than to acknowledge their guilt* (Zech. 12:10-14; 13:6). *And Jesus will then reveal Himself to them, evidently weeping, as Joseph did in the type:*

I am Jesus...Whom ye crucified.

The Jews will, understandably, be troubled, EXACTLY as Joseph's brethren were troubled. But Jesus will set them at ease, calling attention to *God's reason and purpose for that which had occurred* (cf. Luke 24:25-27).

And after certain events transpire (those seen in the Jewish festivals and certain judgments yet to occur [the trumpet and vial judgments]), *the Jewish people will go forth to the nations of the earth with the SAME dual message which Joseph's brethren carried forth:*

Jesus is alive, and He is Governor over the entire earth.