

# THE FOURTH KINGDOM

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## **Preface**

The whole earth will soon be plunged into a period of darkness which has never happened before since man was created on earth, and will never happen again even after successive generations. What do you know about it? Where can we find information concerning what is to befall the earth? If this information was presented to you, with solid evidence that it is truth, will you believe it is? Will you employ the time required to investigate to prove if it is so? What will you do?

The vast majority of us today use words and phrases such as the end of age, the end times, Armageddon, the last days, the latter days, without an in-depth grasp of what these words and phrases actually mean, or rather if there is any substance supporting these words and phrases. We currently live in a period of time referred to as the last days, in which drastic changes that will affect all who inhabit the entire earth, will soon hit us head on, but there is a narrow path for those who will heed instructions would escape.

The inhabitants of the earth have set up organisations and governing bodies such as the UN, NATO and many more and similar, to keep peace amongst the nations without success, because they are ignorant of the fact that, we live in a world govern by the spiritual realm, (which is real, even more real than the physical realm we inhabit) and whatever happens in this world is controlled by those who inhabitant of the spiritual realm.

In retrospect, history confirms that, three kingdoms have had dominion over the entire earth. Incidentally, the existence of these kingdoms was prophesied many years before it became reality and the same prophecy also gave information of a fourth kingdom, the dreadful kingdom, which is to come alive within the next few years.

There are many infallible facts to prove that, we are the last generation of this age and there are nations in the world today, working hard to ensure that all events prophesied in the Holy Scripture would come to pass and spoken by the mouth of God, without these nations knowing the reasons for their actions.

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## Chapter one

### INTRODUCTION

The context of this study could be regarded as simple, basic and even foolish to a mind which lacks true wisdom and understanding, but these words are all in truth from roots stemming in a foundation of history written in advance, known as biblical prophecy. Consider, If someone with vital and provable information predicted an event to occur within the next two weeks, for example, proclaiming that the rivers in the United Kingdom will all rise by two meters due to heavy rains, the majority of people in the United Kingdom would not take the necessary precautions to counter this predicted rise in water levels unless they are forced to do so by the authorities, although some in the affected areas might act upon the information. What about if you are told by the One who knew you before you were born and called you by your name that in a matter of a few years there will be calamity upon calamity on the earth; would you take heed? With all diligence, it necessary to begin this study with a verse of Scripture which is also suitable to be the ending;

#### **Proverbs 22:3 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*3 A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, But the simple pass on and are punished.*

In a world full of greed, wickedness, misinformation, deceit, disinformation, disobedience and a distinct lack of respect for anyone and anything, where can we find the truth about our very own existence? Why were you born, or rather why were you born in this generation of people today and not in the future or many generations ago? Have you ever asked yourself the reasons for your existence in this age? There must be somewhere to find information about life and the reasons for our existence. Or are we just a result of a freak accident that happened billions of years ago which resulted in the highly complex human organism which can create the things we see in the world today? Don't be deceived. Obverse your surroundings to realise that there is just too much order which testifies of an awesome creator.

Should we agree with what is commonly accepted today, the fact that everyone has an opinion? Yes, we all have an opinion, but the majority of these opinions have no foundation in the truth, which renders them useless. There is only one truth and one opinion which really matters and that is the opinion of God the Creator, which He has outlined for all mankind in His word; the Bible. If you do not believe in God or have chosen not to seek His truth, well, there are serious consequences. But read on and maybe by the end of this study you might want to reconsider your position.

The bible is the only book on earth today which is truth with undebatable clarity (when you have understanding) but it is astonishing to realise that the majority of people in the world who profess to believe in God do not own one. Furthermore, of those who do own one, many have never studied it to understand what God has said in His word, but they will readily trust in what others, man, has interpreted and with that, they form an opinion contrary to the truth of the word of God. Even more astonishing are those who have a Bible, have never read it, but will foolishly say that everyone has their own beliefs. Is it not folly for anyone in their right mind to try to speak on a subject about which they have no understanding, or to speak of a book based on others' knowledge?

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### WHY IS THE BIBLE THE TRUTH?

To start off with, the Bible contains information found nowhere else in the world. Search and see. Pick up a Bible and go through the pages and if your heart is set on finding the truth, and you are willing and open to be guided by its author, God, you will come to the same revelation. There are many reasons why the Bible is the truth, but the simplest of them all is the fact that the rain falls and the sun shines on everyone alive, be they wicked or righteous, and in addition to this, all of the Laws that govern life on earth apply equally to both the wicked and the righteous. The understanding of this statement is simple; if it isn't God who is full of compassion, is longsuffering, gracious, merciful and full of truth, there is a guarantee that the rain will not fall and the sun will not shine on both the righteous and the wicked because it is not in the hearts of men to do good, hence, the subject of this study. But there is an appointed time for the righteous Judge who is God, to judge the world. If the above examples are not convincing enough for you, then consider the following passage of Scripture in which God the Creator, questions one of His creation. And if you have found someone who can make these claims or similar as are stated in the passage of Scripture below, make them known to me so we can all marvel. Consider:

#### **Job 38:1-30 New King James Version (NKJV)**

**1** Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: **2** "Who is this who darkens counsel By words without knowledge? **3** Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me.

**4** "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. **5** Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? **6** To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, **7** When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy? **8** "Or who shut in the sea with doors, When it burst forth and issued from the womb; **9** When I made the clouds its garment, And thick darkness its swaddling band; **10** When I fixed My limit for it, And set bars and doors; **11** When I said, 'This far you may come, but no farther, And here your proud waves must stop!'

**12** "Have you commanded the morning since your days began, And caused the dawn to know its place, **13** That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, And the wicked be shaken out of it? **14** It takes on form like clay under a seal, And stands out like a garment. **15** From the wicked their light is withheld, And the upraised arm is broken. **16** "Have you entered the springs of the sea? Or have you walked in search of the depths? **17** Have the gates of death been revealed to you? Or have you seen the doors of the shadow of death? **18** Have you comprehended the breadth of the earth? Tell Me, if you know all this. **19** "Where is the way to the dwelling of light? And darkness, where is its place, **20** That you may take it to its territory, That you may know the paths to its home? **21** Do you know it, because you were born then, Or because the number of your days is great? **22** "Have you entered the treasury of snow, Or have you seen the treasury of hail, **23** Which I have reserved for the time of trouble, For the day of battle and war? **24** By what way is light diffused, Or the east wind scattered over the earth?

**25** "Who has divided a channel for the overflowing water, Or a path for the thunderbolt, **26** To cause it to rain on a land where there is no one, A wilderness in which there is no man; **27** To satisfy the desolate waste, And cause to spring forth the growth of tender grass? **28** Has the rain a father? Or who has begotten the drops of dew? **29** From whose womb comes the ice? And the frost of

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heaven, who gives it birth? **30** *The waters harden like stone, And the surface of the deep is frozen.*

Job never knew the answers to these questions and neither do any of us alive today. God knows because it is He who created all things and set the pattern for things to follow. There is no other book on earth today or any other religion which can claim that its god or gods were present at the time when all these wonderful works were being prepared and brought forth. Do any of us alive today or do any of the gods of this world know the number of each hair you have on your head? The following passages of Scripture tell us exactly that:

**Matthew 10:28-30** *New King James Version (NKJV)*

**28** *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. 29* *Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. 30* *But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*

And in the gospel of Luke:

**Luke 12:5-7** *New King James Version (NKJV)*

**5** *But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!*

**6** *"Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. 7* *But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.*

Only one god knows all this, God the Father, the author of the Bible, because He made them and numbered them. But some will still not believe these facts because they have no love for the truth.

God the Creator has issued a challenge to anyone or any god to declare an event and then at the appointed time bring it to pass. If you know of such a declaration, please make it known to us all so we can see when it comes to pass. But the words of God, the Holy Scripture, will all be fulfilled as prophesied at the appointed time, because God will surely bring them to pass. Now that is a promise you can surely rely on.

Furthermore, only in the Bible will you find the greatest of all the promises God has made, which you will not find in any of thousands of other books written about the works of all the so called gods of this present age. No man can ever pay the ransom for his life, let alone that of his family and friends. But God who created everything has already provided a ransom for the lives of all the living who believe in Him, put their trust in Him and obey His commandments. This is the promised Salvation, a guarantee to eternal life and a route to escape judgement.

**John 3:16-21** *New King James Version (NKJV)*

**16** *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17* *For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.*

**18** *"He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19* *And this is the*

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condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. **20** For everyone practising evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. **21** But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

Is it not straightforward? It is straightforward for those who believe and put their trust in God, walking in the commandments given by the Son of God, Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ said He will not judge any man but the words of God which He has spoken will be their judge on the last day;

### **John 12:42-50** New King James Version (NKJV)

**42** Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; **43** for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

**44** Then Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. **45** And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. **46** I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. **47** And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. **48** He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. **49** For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. **50** And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”

Is there anything new under the sun? Is the above description not similar to what we see in our generation today, where many people are more concerned with obtaining the praise of man than the praise of God? If you are contrary to man’s traditional practices then you are considered to be strange and weird and you are certain to be persecuted by those who put the traditions of this present world before those of God.

It should not be surprising when you realise that there are only two types of people living in the world today, the children of God and the children of the evil one and in these two types there are different categories. Understand this passage of Scripture in which the Lord Jesus Christ gave an account of what is happening throughout the ages:

### **Matthew 13:24-30** New King James Version (NKJV)

**24** Another parable He put forth to them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; **25** but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. **26** But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. **27** So the servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?’ **28** He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us then to go and gather them up?’ **29** But he said, ‘No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. **30** Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.””

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The Lord Jesus Christ also gave the interpretation of this parable a few verses later. Consider:

**Matthew 13:36-43** New King James Version (NKJV)

*36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."*

*37 He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. 39 The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. 40 Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. 41 The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practise lawlessness, 42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"*

It is the Lord our God who gives understanding of His word to the wise. There is something profound in this passage of Scripture that can be easily overlooked; the Son of Man, who we know to be the Lord Jesus Christ, is the One who will send His angels to gather out of His kingdom all things that offend. But following is the part which is missed by many, "and those who practise lawlessness". It is not about breaking the laws of a nation or the community in which you live. Such laws are man's laws and not the Laws of God. Lawlessness in this passage of Scripture is disobedience of Laws and Commandments of God. The essence of our lives is to walk in obedience to our creator. But who is willing hear it this if you bring it to their attention? Consider this passage of Scripture in which God is saying:

**Hosea 4:6-10** New King James Version (NKJV)

*6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children. 7 "The more they increased, The more they sinned against Me; I will change their glory into shame. 8 They eat up the sin of My people; They set their heart on their iniquity. 9 And it shall be: like people, like priest. So I will punish them for their ways, And reward them for their deeds. 10 For they shall eat, but not have enough; They shall commit harlotry, but not increase; Because they have ceased obeying the Lord.*

Why are God's people destroyed? For some it is lack of knowledge, but for the vast majority of them it will be because they will reject the truth when it is given to them, so that they can do their own thing. They have ceased obeying the Lord. This is lawlessness. If you did not know, understand now that the reward for obedience to the Laws and Commandments of God in this age is to be kings and priests in the age to come, but most importantly, to be spared from the impending punishment which God will serve on those who choose to walk in disobedience to His Laws and Commandments. We are the generation to see all these prophecies come to pass, which incidentally will happen exactly as the word of God has stipulated. Moreover, stretch your understanding to the fact that God has rejected the generation of His wrath. Have you ears to hear what God has said?

God has outlined in his word through His servants, the prophets, what will happen throughout the ages. We have been given the sure word of prophecy, but do we believe it? We are privileged to be

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able to look back in history and see what God had said and how it has happened exactly as stated in prophecy, but we are not mindful of these things. The vast majority of the Old Testament is written for us to see how God dealt with the children of Israel in two distinct ways;

- (i) when they walk in obedience before Him
- (ii) When their hearts were lifted up because of pride and abundance which cause them to turn away from His commandments.

What will happen in the near future, in our generation is unprecedented and cannot be compared to what has happened in the past, according to the word of God. But since the majority of us today live in prosperity, we do not look to God as the Creator who sustains all things in the heavens and on earth and as our provider, even those who have not do not seek the Creator for help, but chase after vanity which leads to destruction. The majority of us are not thankful to God who gives us life since we have all we need and can get more if we work hard at it, forgetting the fact that it is God who gives us the strength to acquire wealth and sustains our lives. Can anyone retain the spirit in the day of death? Am afraid to say there is no discharge in that war. When the end comes we return to dust until the appointed time of judgement.

Many with very little understanding teach and have written books on prophecies taken from the word of God, which have no foundation in the truth, fulfilling what the apostle Peter said; “they will make merchandise of you” by the sales of their many books. If God seals a book in the Bible, no one can have any understanding of what is written therein until the appointed time when the revelation is given to one who God has chosen to uncover His secret. John the Baptist was the only one on earth at the time, apart from Jesus Christ Himself, who had the revelation of who Christ is and how He will suddenly appear to teach us the truth and fulfil God's will, but ironically it was prophesied hundreds of years before but no one had any understanding of it. If that was the case with John the Baptist, will it not be similar to the Lord's return and is it not well documented for us in advance, as it was for the first coming?

All the prophets were given prophecies on what will happen in the future but certain aspects of these prophecies were sealed until the time of the end, for a good reason. We must understand something profound as we go through this study, which is, it was not only these prophets we now know because we see their writings in the bible, who prophesied at the time of these writings. There were other prophets whose prophecy did not make it into the Bible because the word of God which came to them was for the specific period of time in which they prophesied. Remember, back then they did not have readily at the disposal the written word of God as we do today. We have the Bible. Rest assured the words in the Bible are for our time; some for examples, some for doctrine, more for prophecy, some for education, with all the Precepts, Statutes, Commandments and Laws with their explanation and not forgetting all the promises God the Creator has made to us touching obedience to His voice. Consider this passage of Scripture:

**Psalm 11:4-7 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*4 The Lord is in His holy temple, The Lord's throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men. 5 The Lord tests the righteous, But the wicked and the one who loves violence His soul hates. 6 Upon the wicked He will rain coals; Fire and brimstone and a burning wind Shall be the portion of their cup. 7 For the Lord is righteous, He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds*

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*the upright.*

The eyes of the Lord in this passage of Scripture is the Spirit of God which tests the righteous to develop His character within them. But as for the wicked, which is everyone who does not walk with God, they will have their portion when He will cause it to rain coals of fire and brimstone and a burning wind on them. Jesus also said for what profit will it be to a man if he gains the world and loses his soul?

**Matthew 16:24-28** New King James Version (NKJV)

*24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. 26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. 28 "Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."*

What will a man give in exchange for his soul? The answer to the question is in the above passage of Scripture. The only ransom for our souls is to give up our lives, take up our cross and follow the Lord Jesus Christ who is the giver of life. What does it really mean to follow Christ? Many in the world today have no idea what it means even professing Christians. To follow Christ is simple: walk in the Laws and Commandments of God and the Laws of Christ, in which there is a reward.

## THE DREAM

We have all had dreams, some we remember, others we have only a very vague recollection of. Some dreams are just vain and others carry no great significance to our lives and to those around us. In truth, dreams are a means of communication between man and God, since we live such busy lives that we have no time to sit still and listen to God and we are hard of hearing. God also gives us a line of thought and honestly we cannot control the context of our thoughts but we have the power to control the duration of our thoughts. Nebuchadnezzar, the king of ancient Babylon, which history confirms existed, was given a thought that resulted in a dream which he was troubled to know the meaning of. It is important to understand that it was God who first put the thoughts in the mind of this king and then gave him a dream to let us, those who serve God, know what will happen throughout the ages and most importantly in the latter days, the near future.

Before opening up the dream King Nebuchadnezzar had, it is of profound importance to understand that the book of Daniel has vast sections of prophecies which were sealed until the time of the end of age. Please do not be ignorant of the fact that all that is written in all the other books of the word of God, which refers to that which is sealed in the book of Daniel cannot be clearly understood fully by anyone on earth until the appointed time when it is revealed. Hence, everything man has written about these prophecies has no foundation in the truth. The subject of this study is typical of one of those prophecies in the word of God which was sealed until the time of the end of age. Three times the prophet Daniel was told the words of this book will be sealed until the end.

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### **Daniel 8:26** New King James Version (NKJV)

*26 "And the vision of the evenings and mornings Which was told is true; Therefore seal up the vision, For it refers to many days in the future."*

And

### **Daniel 12:8-9** New King James Version (NKJV)

*8 Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord, what shall be the end of these things?"*

*9 And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.*

Since we are the generation of the end of age, we have been blessed with understanding of what will happen. But who will take heed? It is true to say we are the most blessed of all the generations before us and at the same time the most cursed, depending on if we are walking in obedience to the Commandments of God which is the blessed path, or the path of disobedience which is cursed. You have the option to walk in obedience of God, seeking His ways in truth or to walk in disobedience which ends with the wrath of God. Remember, the book of Hebrews states, "it is a fearful thing to fall in the hands of the living God".

God used the prophet Daniel to declare the interpretation of the dream he had given King Nebuchadnezzar about the governments or kingdoms which were to govern the whole world. First consider the dream God gave Nebuchadnezzar:

### **Daniel 2:27-35** New King James Version (NKJV)

*27 Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, "The secret which the king has demanded, the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king. 28 But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed, were these: 29 As for you, O king, thoughts came to your mind while on your bed, about what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be. 30 But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for our sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart.*

*31 "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendour was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. 32 This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, 33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. 34 You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which 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 were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.*

Here we have an example of the fact that God is true. The gods of the wise men of Babylon, the astrologers, the magicians, and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king his dream but the God of Creation who actually gave the dream to Nebuchadnezzar in order to reveal to His servants what

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will come to pass throughout the ages could. And here is the interpretation of the dream God gave to the prophet Daniel:

**Daniel 2:36-45** New King James Version (NKJV)

**36** *“This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.* **37** *You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; **38** and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold. **39** But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. **40** And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others. **41** Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. **42** And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. **43** As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay. **44** And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. **45** Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.”*

This passage of Scripture is the foundation on which this study is based. As we navigate through the Holy Scripture, which history will confirm, you will come to the revelation that three of these four kingdoms and their kings have already come to pass but the fourth kingdom is yet to come. It is during the period of time of the fourth kingdom that the great God will come and first remove all traces of all four kingdoms and their systems of government and then establish an everlasting kingdom of righteousness which will never be left in the hands of man but which God Himself will reign over on earth forever.

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## Chapter Two

### MISCONCEPTIONS

You will be totally astonished at the number of books published on a weekly basis, conferences held annually, schools opened regularly, letters written daily, people flocking into buildings daily, with the believe that they are worshiping the God of creation and many more such activities about God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, but all these are done in vain because there is no truth in them. In the majority of these cases, the leaders of these people know exactly what they are doing but continue to lead these people astray. There is a distinct difference between what is being said by these people and the words of the Bible. Only when you set out to prove the worth of these materials do you realise those who are held at the very top, providing these materials, are themselves deceived. Many have written on topics of the word of God without understanding. The Lord Jesus Christ has said that, through His Spirit, He Jesus Christ will guide us into all truth and make known to us the things to come and there is a prescribed way in the word of truth to qualify for this position and then stay in the path.

#### **John 16:12-15** New King James Version (NKJV)

*12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.*

God has also said He is the one who gives understanding to those who have wisdom. It is for this reason that all those who claim to be wise in their own minds have no understanding of the word of God, because He has not given them the required understanding of His truth; not even those who claim to have been ordained by God:

#### **Daniel 2:20-22** New King James Version (NKJV)

*20 Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. 21 And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding. 22 He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him.*

We have to come to the understanding that there is a heavenly wisdom and an earthly wisdom. God owns heavenly wisdom and might, understanding and knowledge. Please study the book of Daniel, chapters one and two, to gain further understanding of what is being said here. If the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the fear of the Lord is to depart from evil, consider:

#### **Psalms 34:11-16** New King James Version (NKJV)

*11 Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. 12 Who is the who desires life, And loves many days, that he may see good? 13 Keep your tongue from evil, And your lips from speaking deceit. 14 Depart from evil and do good; Seek peace and pursue it. 15 The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their cry. 16 The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, To cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.*

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And the only way to depart from evil is to live by God's Commandments. Only then can we have a good understanding of the word of God, because God has promised to give understanding to all who do His commandments.

**Psalm 111:10** New King James Version (NKJV)

*10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.*

What does all this mean to us today? We have to go to the books of Mark, Acts and Paul's epistle to the Romans to fully understand what it means to us today and why there is so little understanding amongst professing believers. Jesus Christ started His ministry by preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God.

**Mark 1:14-15** New King James Version (NKJV)

*14 Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."*

The churches of the world today preach a variety of gospels but the one and only true gospel of the kingdom of God has been cast aside. Christ left it to the Apostle Peter to expand on what He meant when He said repent and believe in the gospel.

**Acts 2:37-39** New King James Version (NKJV)

*37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"*

*38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."*

And

**Acts 3:17-21** New King James Version (NKJV)

*17 "Yet now, brethren, I know that you did it in ignorance, as did also your rulers. 18 But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His prophets, that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled. 19 Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, 20 and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, 21 whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.*

There is no other way on earth by which any man, woman or child can qualify to receive the Spirit of God apart from repenting. It is only through repentance that we are given the free gift of the Spirit of God which empowers us to do His Will and keep His Commandments. Hence the reason why it is stated that without the Spirit of God, no-one can be God's and only those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. How can a natural man, whose mind has no intention of keeping the clear and written laws of their nation and community, be subject to the laws and commandments of God who is invisible to them? There is a reason why. Consider:

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### **Romans 8:7-9** New King James Version (NKJV)

*7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

*9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.*

And

### **Romans 8:12-14** New King James Version (NKJV)

*12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*

It is from this position, a repentant soul, that anyone alive today can have the Spirit of God and when we are led by the Spirit of God, we will have understanding which results in the knowledge of the truth. The majority of books have been written by authors who do not have the Spirit of God do not carry the truth of the gospel of the Kingdom of God, hence all the confusion, which leads many astray. We have all been warned not to believe everything we hear, for many are false prophets and apostles:

### **Matthew 7:15-20** New King James Version (NKJV)

*15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.*

If you and I cannot pick pears from an apple tree or figs from a plum tree, so it is that these people cannot teach or write the truth if they do not have the Spirit of truth which is from God. Now understand exactly who the god of these people is. Consider:

### **2 Corinthians 11:13-15** New King James Version (NKJV)

*13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.*

The God of these ministers is Satan who deceives the whole world including you and I, and these ministers who think they are ministers of righteousness. But there is help for us if we would heed it.

### **Psalms 119:9-10** New King James Version (NKJV)

*9 How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. 10 With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!*

There it is. Only by taking heed of the word of God can we clean up our lives. To put what we just read into practice, we have been given a simple instruction to follow, the wisdom to discern:

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### **Acts 17:10-11** New King James Version (NKJV)

*10 Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.*

If you follow the above instruction, you will never go wrong. If you have the Spirit of God, that is. All knowledge of God's truth can only be understood by a repentant mind, hence, the reason for all such confusion about the truth.

The fourth kingdom to rule over the world is never going to be a revived Roman Empire. This study will prove it so. The majority of scholars have seen the parallels between the Roman Empire and this coming kingdom, because of the sheer brutality and then put two and two together, concluding that the fourth kingdom will be a revived Roman Empire, the European Community with Germany as the head. There is a common misconception as from where this kingdom will originate and which nations will form the composition of the fourth kingdom to rule the entire earth. Looking back at history, most scholars have assumed the Roman Empire, which surfaced after the Greek Empire, was the fourth kingdom on earth, not realising there is a great amount of time before the fourth kingdom will appear because this part of the Holy Scriptures was sealed until now;

### **Daniel 8:26** New King James Version (NKJV)

*26 "And the vision of the evenings and mornings Which was told is true; Therefore seal up the vision, For it refers to many days in the future."*

And

### **Daniel 12:8-9** New King James Version (NKJV)

*8 Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord, what shall be the end of these things?" 9 And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.*

If this part of the Holy Scriptures was sealed then no one could have gained understanding of its true interpretation. There are many flaws in all that has been written about the fourth kingdom on earth, which breaks the sequence of Scripture based on the understanding that Scripture cannot be broken.

The fourth kingdom has its origin from a confederacy between ten horns or leaders or nations. Some assume that since the European Union is a union of member states, then it is the European Union, forgetting the fact that other prophecies must have come to pass before the formation of this confederacy. These ten leaders have it in their hearts to bring down the most powerful systems in the world we live in today; the world governing system and the nations which host the world economy. Do you think the European Union is capable of destroying most of its own member states? Consider this passage of Scripture:

### **Revelation 17:12-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

*12 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they*

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*receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. 13 These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.14 These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.”*

*15 Then he said to me, “The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. 16 And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. 17 For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. 18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.”*

As you can see from the passage of Scripture above, these ten leaders have not received power yet, but at the appointed time they will be given power to be able to fulfill this prophecy.

Many scholars have interpreted the ten horns as the various leaders of the then Roman Empire through the ages. It cannot be, because all these leaders will only exist according to Scripture at the time they form a confederacy to carry out what is in their hearts.

There is absolutely no chance the Roman Empire could be a type of the fourth kingdom on earth. The fourth kingdom will destroy without mercy. The Romans colonised and set rulers over the people, but this coming kingdom is not out for economic gain because gold and silver is not in their hearts, but to kill and destroy is. This kingdom has been set for punishment of all disobedience against God, not to befriend and colonise. Consider:

**Revelation 13:9-10 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear. 10 He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.*

That will be the consequence of the leadership of the fourth kingdom on earth. The Romans built infrastructures which lasted decades, some of which are still in use today. The people of the coming kingdom will destroy everything in their path, because they know they only have a short time.

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## Chapter Three

### THE FIRST KINGDOM: THE HEAD OF GOLD

To fully understand the prophecies of the fourth kingdom, it is to our advantage to first gain valuable knowledge from the Holy Scripture as to how the word of God came to these prophets; what they were told, and how these prophecies of the first three kingdoms came to pass. History confirms the existence of these three kingdoms, which cements the fact that the fourth kingdom is on its way. We understand that God gave the prophecy of the kingdoms which will rule over the entire world to King Nebuchadnezzar, by showing him in a dream an image of a giant man made of different metals. God then gave the interpretation of the dream to us through the prophet Daniel, who God had earlier put in the King's palace in Babylon, fulfilling another prophecy He had earlier given to King Hezekiah of Judah through His servant, the prophet Isaiah. Consider:

**Isaiah 39:1-8** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 At that time Merodach-Baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that he had been sick and had recovered. 2 And Hezekiah was pleased with them, and showed them the house of his treasures—the silver and gold, the spices and precious ointment, and all his armoury—all that was found among his treasures. There was nothing in his house or in all his dominion that Hezekiah did not show them.*

*3 Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah, and said to him, “What did these men say, and from where did they come to you?”*

*So Hezekiah said, “They came to me from a far country, from Babylon.”*

*4 And he said, “What have they seen in your house?”*

*So Hezekiah answered, “They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them.”*

*5 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear the word of the Lord of hosts: 6 ‘Behold, the days are coming when all that is in your house, and what your fathers have accumulated until this day, shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be left,’ says the Lord. 7 ‘And they shall take away some of your sons who will descend from you, whom you will beget; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.’”*

*8 So Hezekiah said to Isaiah, “The word of the Lord which you have spoken is good!” For he said, “At least there will be peace and truth in my days.”*

It is of profound importance to notice that the prophets of God do not speak their own words but say what God has put in their mouth in the first person. In other words, God is using their mouths to speak. Keep this in mind and as you go through this study, you will encounter it more and more. The prophet Daniel was one of the captives from Judah, a descendant of King Hezekiah, who became a eunuch in the King's palace, fulfilling what God had prophesied through the prophet Isaiah, 100 years before it happened. When King Nebuchadnezzar had the dream which troubled him and none of the trusted magicians in his realm could tell him what he had dreamt and then

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give the interpretation of it, he was indignant and sought to put them all to death. He sent out one of his men to destroy all the wise men of Babylon, which included Daniel, but Daniel, through wisdom and counsel, sought the God of Creation Who not only showed him the dream in a night vision, but also gave its interpretation. It will be beneficial to read through the book of Daniel at this stage to keep up with this study. Here is the dream which King Nebuchadnezzar had:

### **Daniel 2:31-36** New King James Version (NKJV)

**31** *"You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendour was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. **32** This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, **33** its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. **34** You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which 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 were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.*

**36** *"This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.*

Here is the interpretation of the dream given to us by God through the prophet Daniel. Notice that it is God Who gave Nebuchadnezzar the kingdom, power, strength and glory. He did not acquire the kingdom of Babylon through his own strength:

### **Daniel 2:37-39** New King James Version (NKJV)

**37** *You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; **38** and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold. **39** But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.*

God said that Nebuchadnezzar is the image's head of gold. His kingdom comprised of everywhere on earth where the children of men dwell, including the beasts of the field and the birds of the air. So Nebuchadnezzar was king over the entire world where there were people. This means the Babylonian Empire of King Nebuchadnezzar was the first ever empire that ruled the entire world. Every person alive at that time was subject to the authority of the Babylonian empire under the leadership of King Nebuchadnezzar and history can certainly prove it to be so.

God gave this prophecy during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonian empire, so the first kingdom on earth was not prophesied as such, but during the reign of this empire we are given the revelation that it was the very first empire to rule the whole world. Here is King Nebuchadnezzar's own story of what happened to him, expressing the fact that God hates all the proud and unmerciful:

### **Daniel 4:1-37** New King James Version (NKJV)

**1** *Nebuchadnezzar the king, To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you. **2** I thought it good to declare the signs and wonders that the Most High God has worked for me. **3** How great are His signs, And how mighty His wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And His dominion is from generation to generation.*

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**4** I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at rest in my house, and flourishing in my palace. **5** I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts on my bed and the visions of my head troubled me. **6** Therefore I issued a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known to me the interpretation of the dream. **7** Then the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers came in, and I told them the dream; but they did not make known to me its interpretation. **8** But at last Daniel came before me (his name is Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god; in him is the Spirit of the Holy God), and I told the dream before him, saying: **9** "Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, because I know that the Spirit of the Holy God is in you, and no secret troubles you, explain to me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and its interpretation.

**10** "These were the visions of my head while on my bed: I was looking, and behold, A tree in the midst of the earth, And its height was great. **11** The tree grew and became strong; Its height reached to the heavens, And it could be seen to the ends of all the earth. **12** Its leaves were lovely, Its fruit abundant, And in it was food for all. The beasts of the field found shade under it, The birds of the heavens dwelt in its branches, And all flesh was fed from it.

**13** "I saw in the visions of my head while on my bed, and there was a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven.

**14** He cried aloud and said thus: 'Chop down the tree and cut off its branches, Strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit. Let the beasts get out from under it, And the birds from its branches. **15** Nevertheless leave the stump and roots in the earth, Bound with a band of iron and bronze, In the tender grass of the field. Let it be wet with the dew of heaven, And let him graze with the beasts On the grass of the earth. **16** Let his heart be changed from that of a man, Let him be given the heart of a beast, And let seven times pass over him.

**17** 'This decision is by the decree of the watchers, And the sentence by the word of the holy ones, In order that the living may know That the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, Gives it to whomever He will, And sets over it the lowest of men.'

**8** "This dream I, King Nebuchadnezzar, have seen. Now you, Belteshazzar, declare its interpretation, since all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known to me the interpretation; but you are able, for the Spirit of the Holy God is in you."

**19** Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonished for a time, and his thoughts troubled him. So the king spoke, and said, "Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its interpretation trouble you." Belteshazzar answered and said, "My lord, may the dream concern those who hate you, and its interpretation concern your enemies!

**20** "The tree that you saw, which grew and became strong, whose height reached to the heavens and which could be seen by all the earth, **21** whose leaves were lovely and its fruit abundant, in which was food for all, under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and in whose branches the birds of the heaven had their home— **22** it is you, O king, who have grown and become strong; for your greatness has grown and reaches to the heavens, and your dominion to the end of the earth.

**23** "And inasmuch as the king saw a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying,

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*'Chop down the tree and destroy it, but leave its stump and roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze in the tender grass of the field; let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let him graze with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him'; 24 this is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king: 25 They shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen. They shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you, till you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.*

*26 "And inasmuch as they gave the command to leave the stump and roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be assured to you, after you come to know that Heaven rules. 27 Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by being righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity."*

*28 All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar. 29 At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. 30 The king spoke, saying, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honour of my majesty?"*

*31 While the word was still in the king's mouth, a voice fell from heaven: "King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has departed from you! 32 And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. They shall make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses."*

*33 That very hour the word was fulfilled concerning Nebuchadnezzar; he was driven from men and ate grass like oxen; his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws.*

*34 And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honoured Him who lives forever:*

*For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom is from generation to generation. 35 All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, "What have You done?"*

*36 At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my honour and splendour returned to me. My counsellors and nobles resorted to me, I was restored to my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added to me. 37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down.*

We have to understand that God rules over the world and will give it to whoever He pleases, but on top of that there is a lesson here for us all to heed; If we are unmerciful, and not in right standing with God, then from King Nebuchadnezzar's example, we should now understand, the most Holy records everything we do and knows even the thoughts of our hearts.

Daniel and His companion were in the King's palace in Babylon for specific reasons which the vast majority of scholars have yet to realise. These children, from the household of the King of Judah,

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were strategically placed by God in the King's palace to teach his nobles the way of righteousness.

### **Daniel 3:28-30** New King James Version (NKJV)

*28* Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God! *29* Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this."

*30* Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in the province of Babylon.

And

### **Daniel 2:46-49** New King James Version (NKJV)

*46* Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel, and commanded that they should present an offering and incense to him. *47* The king answered Daniel, and said, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret." *48* Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon. *49* Also Daniel petitioned the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego over the affairs of the province of Babylon; but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

Have you ever had such a humbling experience and just put it down to life? The vast majority of us today will take it for just that, saying it is what life has thrown on us without diligently seeking to know the root cause of what happened and the truth. We are a generation of people with absolutely no wisdom and understanding, thinking that what we see and learn from our teachers and those close to us, including our wicked hearts is truth. In fact it cannot be any further from the truth. An unrepentant heart, a heart which is not subject to the laws and commandment of God, is deceitful above all things.

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## Chapter Four

### THE SECOND KINGDOM: THE CHEST AND ARMS OF SILVER

From the interpretation which God gave Daniel of the image in the dream which Nebuchadnezzar had, we recognise that the second kingdom to rule the earth was the image's chest and arms which was made of silver and that this was inferior to the first kingdom, which was the image's head of gold. During the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, all that was known of the second kingdom at that time was that after the Babylonian Empire, another kingdom will arise. After Nebuchadnezzar died, Belshazzar his son became King of Babylon, and during his reign, the prophet Daniel had a dream which he wrote down, telling the main facts:

#### **Daniel 7:2-5** New King James Version (NKJV)

*2 Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. 3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other. 4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it.*

*5 "And suddenly another beast, a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!'*

It is be appropriate at this point to give some explanation of the context of the above passage of Scripture. First, "the four winds of heaven" refers to the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit. Consider:

#### **Ezekiel 37:9-14** New King James Version (NKJV)

*9 Also He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.'"" 10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.*

*11 Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!' 12 Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. 13 Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. 14 I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken it and performed it," says the Lord.'"*

As you can see from these verses of Scripture, the prophet Ezekiel was told by God to prophesy to His Spirit to breathe into the slain to bring them back to life. In verse 14, God is saying that He will put His Spirit in the dead and they shall live and He will place them into the land of Israel. It will be done by His Spirit. Secondly, the Great Sea is in reference to the multitude of people, the children of men. Consider:

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### **Revelation 17:15** New King James Version (NKJV)

*15 Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.*

From the above passage of Scripture the Bible interprets the sea or waters as people, multitudes, nations and tongues. Back to the passage of Scripture from the book of Daniel, we understand the first kingdom on earth; the Lion, was Nebuchadnezzar's Babylonian Empire. The second beast that the prophet Daniel saw was a Bear that had three ribs in its mouth. The ribs were the three leaders of the Babylonian Empire. At this stage, all Daniel had been shown was a bear. Daniel wanted understanding of what he was being shown so he asked one of those who stood by him in his dream, for the truth. All the prophet Daniel was given concerning the second beast was:

### **Daniel 7:17-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

*17 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth. 18 But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'*

The interpretation the prophet Daniel was given was that the bear will be a kingdom which will rule the earth. The description of that kingdom came three years later to Daniel in another vision. We can see that these prophecies are not given to these prophets all at once but pieced together over a period of time.

### **Daniel 8:1-4** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me—to me, Daniel—after the one that appeared to me the first time. 2 I saw in the vision, and it so happened while I was looking, that I was in Shushan, the citadel, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in the vision that I was by the River Ulai. 3 Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and there, standing beside the river, was a ram which had two horns, and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last. 4 I saw the ram pushing westward, northward, and southward, so that no animal could withstand him; nor was there any that could deliver from his hand, but he did according to his will and became great.*

The Prophet Daniel clearly stipulates that this vision was part of the vision in the previous chapter which he had seen three years earlier. We have to take hold of every single detail as we go along and come to the revelation of just how specific God is with His word. Here there were two horns and the highest horn came second. What does it mean to us? We know from history that the second kingdom to rule the world had two kings and the second was greater in majesty and glory than the first. Daniel did not understand the vision and as all wise men should do, Daniel went seeking the meaning of what he had seen and was given the interpretation of the vision.

### **Daniel 8:15-20** New King James Version (NKJV)

*15 Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. 16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision." 17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but*

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*he said to me, "Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end."*

**18** *Now, as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me, and stood me upright. 19* *And he said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be. 20* *The ram which you saw, having the two horns—they are the kings of Media and Persia.*

The man Gabriel, who gave the interpretation of this vision, is no other than the angel Gabriel. He said something interesting. The vision was to make the prophet Daniel understand and us today to know what will happen in the latter time of indignation and that the end is at an appointed time. Then he went on to explain that, the ram which was the kingdom of Media and Persia and the two horns as we know today were no other than the kings who ruled over the kingdom, Darius and Cyrus.

Then In the third year of Cyrus King of Persia, Daniel was given more revelation about the Median and Persian Empire:

**Daniel 11:1-2** **New King James Version (NKJV)**

**1** *"Also in the first year of Darius the Mede, I, even I, stood up to confirm and strengthen him.) 2* *And now I will tell you the truth: Behold, three more kings will arise in Persia, and the fourth shall be far richer than them all; by his strength, through his riches, he shall stir up all against the realm of Greece.*

Now we understand that the chest and arms of silver of the image in Nebuchadnezzar's dream was the kingdom of Media and Persia.

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## Chapter Five

### THE THIRD KINGDOM: THE BELLY AND THIGHS OF BRONZE

Once again we have to revisit the image Nebuchadnezzar saw in the dream, recalling the third kingdom to be the image's belly and thighs made of bronze.

**Daniel 2:39** New King James Version (NKJV)

*39 But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.*

This is the interpretation God gave Nebuchadnezzar. As we now know, the prophet Daniel was shown two further visions concerning the kingdoms to rule all the earth. In the first year of Belshazzar, Daniel had dreams and visions on his bed and he told the main facts, which as we saw earlier, identify the second kingdom on earth as the kingdom of Media and Persia. There was a third kingdom which Daniel saw.

**Daniel 7:6** New King James Version (NKJV)

*6 "After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.*

At this point, the identity of the third beast was not revealed to Daniel, who was more concerned of the dreadful fourth beast. Then in the third year of Belshazzar the identity of the third beast was revealed as a male goat.

**Daniel 8:5-8** New King James Version (NKJV)

*5 And as I was considering, suddenly a male goat came from the west, across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground; and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. 6 Then he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing beside the river, and ran at him with furious power. 7 And I saw him confronting the ram; he was moved with rage against him, attacked the ram, and broke his two horns. There was no power in the ram to withstand him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled him; and there was no one that could deliver the ram from his hand.*

*8 Therefore the male goat grew very great; but when he became strong, the large horn was broken, and in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven.*

And here is the interpretation Daniel was given about the male goat;

**Daniel 8:21-22** New King James Version (NKJV)

*21 And the male goat is the kingdom of Greece. The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king. 22 As for the broken horn and the four that stood up in its place, four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but not with its power.*

Once again as you can clearly see, the interpretation of all prophecies, dreams and visions in the Bible is found in the Bible. In other words the Bible interprets itself. The third kingdom which had rule over all the earth was the kingdom of Greece. The prophet Daniel lived through the

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Babylonian and the Median and Persian kingdoms, but not the kingdom of Greece. We have to understand that the interpretation of the period of time which we live in today will only come when it is at hand. Daniel did not understand anything about the future but understood what was to happen in his time. In most cases, he was told to seal up the prophecies until the appointed time. Consider this passage of Scripture:

**Daniel 10:1-3 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision. 2 In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. 3 I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.*

Daniel was given precise information of what was to come immediately after the Median and Persian kingdom. The reign of the kingdom of Greece was documented for us throughout chapter eleven, as well as what will happen in the near future in our times. This is because of the similarities that lie between the leader of the fourth and dreadful kingdom, and a king who arose from one of the four parts which was a result of the dissembling of the kingdom of Greece after the death of the first prominent horn, which history tells us to be Alexander the Great.

Please study Daniel chapter eleven to gain further insight into just how precisely this prophecy was fulfilled in its time with regards to what information was given by God compared to how it actually came to pass in reality, as recorded in history.

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## Chapter Six

### THE FOURTH KINGDOM:

#### THE LEGS AND FEET OF IRON AND CLAY

If one could run throughout the world today into every nation and tongue, warning every single person alive of a kingdom to come which will have dominion over the entire earth, the majority of people will look at that person as one who is out of their mind. Furthermore, if you say to them that, the mighty God, the creator of the heavens and the earth, has said that there is a kingdom coming which will have rule over the world and it will exist at the appointed time, they will most definitely laugh you to scorn. The majority of people in the world we live in today do not believe that there is a God, let alone a God who created the heavens and the earth, being ignorant of the fact that the God they refuse to acknowledge has already spoken and His words will not return to him unless they have accomplished the intent of His heart.

According to the image in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, the fourth kingdom was the image's legs of iron and feet partly of iron and partly of clay;

**Daniel 2:33** New King James Version (NKJV)

**33** *its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.*

As we now know, God also gave the interpretation of all four parts of the image including the legs and feet;

**Daniel 2:40-43** New King James Version (NKJV)

**40** *And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others. 41* *Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. 42* *And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. 43* *As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.*

A casual glance at this passage of Scripture tells us that the fourth kingdom to rule the earth is depicted by two materials, iron and clay. Then, there is an explanation of how the kingdom shall be as strong as iron and the iron will break into pieces and shatter, crushing all the other kingdoms. But there is more to this fourth kingdom:

1. The iron element.
2. The clay element.
3. The iron mixed with ceramic clay element.

We have this strange statement of iron mixed with ceramic clay. What is does this mean? We know that clay from the book of Genesis and Job refers to man, since God made man from the earth

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(dust). In the book of the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah, we come to understand that God is the Master Potter and we are the clay, but here in the book of Daniel, it is not clay, but ceramic clay. Could it be that man has been tampered with by the spirits of wickedness?

The iron element in this passage of Scripture is the influence and involvement of the spiritual realm, as on later in the passage, we come to understand that the iron mixed with ceramic clay will mingle with the seed of men which is saying that these hybrids will co-exist with men during this period of time.

We have to go back to the book of Genesis to understand what happened then, because the days at the end of age were compared to the days of Noah by the Lord Jesus Christ. And in the days of Noah, there were giants on the earth as a result of fallen angels, spirit beings, procreating with humans and their off-spring were these mighty people.

### **Genesis 6:1-7 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*1 Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, 2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.*

*3 And the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." 4 There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.*

*5 Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. 7 So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them."*

In this passage of Scripture, the sons of God are the fallen angels and the daughters of men are women which these fallen angels took for themselves, meaning that the women had no choice in what was happening. If you missed it, these evil activities were not limited to the days before the floods of Noah. After the flood, the same mischief occurred, hence, the reason why Moses, Joshua, Saul, the first king of Israel, and King David were told by God to wipe out every trace of these giants. If we are told there are these types of hybrids on the earth at the end of age, we will not believe it, because they have perfected the appearance of their off-spring to resemble man. Since we are the generation at the end of age, it therefore means these hybrids beings do exist now. Moreover, today think of the state of the world we live in; violence is at the highest level ever and is still growing. The intent of the thoughts of our hearts today is evil continually. Only the repentant heart is not continually bent on evil. Why, because anything that falls short of obedience to the Laws and Commandments of God is evil, and it is for this reason we have all been called by God to repentance.

There is no other influence on earth except that from the spiritual realm, which we do not see, but if you have your breath you would know there is something out there greater than us and far more

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superior. The majority of people are not willing to accept this, yet people will accept other theories which take a lot more faith to believe in than the truth. The majority of what happens on earth must first be passed in the spiritual realm, be it good or evil. For example if a bird cannot fall from the sky without God the Father knowing, what about the precious lives of men, made in the image of God, which are far more important than birds? God knows what is happening with the lives of men.

As for the visions and dreams which God showed the prophet Daniel in the first year of Belshazzar, the fourth beast to rule all the earth was described as dreadful and terrible and exceedingly strong. No animal could be used to describe just how strong and terrible this kingdom will be.

### **Daniel 7:7-8 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*7 "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 8 I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.*

What Daniel saw troubled him much. It wasn't about the first three beasts or the joy of seeing the one like the Son of man coming from the clouds of heaven. Daniel was more troubled by the fourth beast which will come to live in our generation. Consider this passage of Scripture:

### **Daniel 7:15-20 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*15 "I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within my body, and the visions of my head troubled me. 16 I came near to one of those who stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things: 17 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth. 18 But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'*

*19 "Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, which devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet; 20 and the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance was greater than his fellows.*

There in verse eighteen we have the reward of all who should answer the call to repentance and walk in their lives now, according to the Laws and Commandments of God. Those who are obedient to God will receive ruler ship over the earth and possess the earth forever and ever. Now if you did not know, that is the will of God.

This is the interpretation the prophet Daniel was given about the fourth beast:

### **Daniel 7:23-25 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*23 "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be A fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces. 24 The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He*

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*shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings. 25 He shall*

*Speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.*

At this point it will be of paramount interest to diligently sieve through the Holy Scriptures to find out the realities of the fourth kingdom, since we are the generation to see it spring to life. The symptoms of this kingdom are very apparent for everyone to see and it is growing, but the majority of people are blind to it or have chosen to bury their heads in the sand. Ironically, there is nothing anyone on earth can do to stop it from happening, unless you are capable of changing the hearts and mindsets of all the inhabitants on earth alive in this generation of people. But if we have a bit of wisdom, we will search for the truth and obey instructions to understand with is coming in the near future and how to escape the devastation of this kingdom. The world was slowly drifting, but is now accelerating to the fulfilment of the prophecies of this kingdom. If this kingdom is called dreadful and terrible and actually grieved the spirit of the Prophet Daniel, then it is in our interest to investigate:

1. What were the effects on the prophets of the visions of this kingdom?
2. What is the description of this kingdom?
3. What is the composition of this kingdom?
4. What is the identity of this kingdom?
5. Who are the rulers of this kingdom?
6. Who is the power or powers behind this kingdom?
7. What is the reason for this kingdom?
8. When will this kingdom appear on earth?
9. What will be the end of this kingdom?
10. How to escape this kingdom?
11. What will happen thereafter?

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## Chapter Seven

### THE EFFECTS OF THE VISIONS ON THE PROPHETS

If you are not one who takes God's word seriously, I beseege you to seek the truth diligently while there is still time and the Lord can still be found, for there is an appointed time when the Lord will not answer all who call on Him for the simple reason that they are calling only due to the severity of punishment this kingdom is inflicting on them. We must understand that the same words that God used to call the world to existence are the same words He has used to speak of what is to come. Consider:

#### **Psalm 33:6-7** New King James Version (NKJV)

*6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. 7 He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deep in storehouses.*

God has said He will bring the counsel of man to nothing, which means that regardless of what man will attempt to do to foil God's purpose, it will result in nothing and His counsel will stand.

#### **Psalm 33:10-17** New King James Version (NKJV)

*10 The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect. 11 The counsel of the Lord stands forever, The plans of His heart to all generations. 12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, The people He has chosen as His own inheritance. 13 The Lord looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men. 14 From the place of His dwelling He looks On all the inhabitants of the earth; 15 He fashions their hearts individually; He considers all their works. 16 No king is saved by the multitude of an army; A mighty man is not delivered by great strength. 17 A horse is a vain hope for safety; Neither shall it deliver any by its great strength.*

This is the word of the Lord God. God has said in His word that He will do nothing unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets:

#### **Amos 3:7-8** New King James Version (NKJV)

*7 Surely the Lord God does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets. 8 A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord God has spoken! Who can but prophesy?*

Every prophet who saw a vision, or was given words of the impact that the fourth kingdom will have on all the earth, felt sick and was astonished by the violence and evil this kingdom will commit on the inhabitants of all the earth. First, let's consider the effects on the prophets who saw these dreams and visions of the devastation that this dreadful fourth kingdom will have on earth, before proceeding to identify this kingdom. The prophet Habakkuk trembled and rottenness entered his bones and he was glad to be in rest, dead during the days of this kingdom:

#### **Habakkuk 3:16** New King James Version (NKJV)

*16 When I heard, my body trembled; My lips quivered at the voice; Rottenness entered my bones;*

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*And I trembled in myself, That I might rest in the day of trouble. When he comes up to the people, He will invade them with his troops.*

Habakkuk was not the only one to have suffered after he heard the words of God about this dreaded kingdom. The prophet Daniel was troubled by the visions of this kingdom:

### **Daniel 7:15** New King James Version (NKJV)

*15 "I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.*

Daniel was grieved in his spirit the first time he saw visions of the calamities our generation will shortly face. The second time was even worse. Daniel was astonished and literally sick for days but he had to gather himself up and went back to work.

### **Daniel 8:27** New King James Version (NKJV)

*27 And I, Daniel, fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it.*

Daniel had the visions but neither he nor anyone else in his generation understood what it was because the visions were not for his time. Since we are the generation at the end of age, we have been given the understanding of what is to come.

The prophet Isaiah was distressed and had birth pains. He was dismayed by what he saw and his heart became like wax. Fearfulness griped him and he became afraid of the darkness.

### **Isaiah 21:3-4** New King James Version (NKJV)

*3 Therefore my loins are filled with pain; Pangs have taken hold of me, like the pangs of a woman in labour. I was distressed when I heard it; I was dismayed when I saw it. 4 My heart wavered, fearfulness frightened me; The night for which I longed He turned into fear for me.*

The prophet Jeremiah did not have enough tears to cry and he vomited his bile.

### **Lamentations 2:11** New King James Version (NKJV)

*11 My eyes fail with tears, My heart is troubled; My bile is poured on the ground Because of the destruction of the daughter of my people, Because the children and the infants Faint in the streets of the city.*

When the prophet Ezekiel saw what was to come to our generation, he sat astonished for seven days;

### **Ezekiel 3:14-15** New King James Version (NKJV)

*14 So the Spirit lifted me up and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the Lord was strong upon me. 15 Then I came to the captives at Tel Abib, who dwelt by the River Chebar; and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days.*

We cannot begin to comprehend the lengths to which God has gone to ensure we understand the

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gravity of the situation we are to face at the end of age, if we do not walk according to His Laws and Commandments. But who will heed all these warnings? Who on earth today has an ear to hear? Consider this passage of Scripture:

**Lamentations 4:4-6** New King James Version (NKJV)

*4 The tongue of the infant clings To the roof of its mouth for thirst; The young children ask for bread, But no one breaks it for them. 5 Those who ate delicacies Are desolate in the streets; Those who were brought up in scarlet Embrace ash heaps. 6 The punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people Is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, Which was overthrown in a moment, With no hand to help her!*

What a sobering thought. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed in an instant when the inhabitants of these cities were buried under brimstone, but at the end of age, the inhabitants of the world and those who will be left in the present land of Israel will pine away in hunger. Remember what Jesus Christ said about the stone that the builders rejected which became the chief cornerstone:

**Matthew 21:42-44** New King James Version (NKJV)

*42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord's doing, And it is marvellous in our eyes'?*  
*43 "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it. 44 And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."*

Whoever falls on this stone, with the stone being Christ, will be broken and converted into the kingdom of God, but on whomever the stone should fall, it will grind them to powder and they will become as the dust of the earth.

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## Chapter Eight

### THE DESCRIPTION OF THE FOURTH KINGDOM

Are your ears opened to hear? If they are, not seek diligently to get them opened for it is of paramount importance that you can hear instruction first and then obey what you have heard. Only then will you find peace. It is not the instructions of man but those of God, since God is the only one with the power to open your ears to hear and your eyes to see. Would you believe if you were told what will happen to what we call civilized human beings within the next few years? It is really astonishing to think that man will be capable of such evil. This is what God told the prophet Habakkuk about just how dreadful this kingdom will be. This is God speaking:

#### **Habakkuk 1:5-11** New King James Version (NKJV)

*5 "Look among the nations and watch— Be utterly astounded! For I will work a work in your days Which you would not believe, though it were told you. 6 For indeed I am raising up the Chaldeans, A bitter and hasty nation Which marches through the breadth of the earth, To possess dwelling places that are not theirs. 7 They are terrible and dreadful; Their judgment and their dignity proceed from themselves. 8 Their horses also are swifter than leopards, And more fierce than evening wolves. Their chargers charge ahead; Their cavalry comes from afar; They fly as the eagle that hastens to eat. 9 "They all come for violence; Their faces are set like the east wind. They gather captives like sand. 10 They scoff at kings, And princes are scorned by them. They deride every stronghold, For they heap up earthen mounds and seize it. 11 Then his mind changes, and he transgresses; He commits offense, Ascribing this power to his god."*

The prophet Habakkuk was shown trouble, violence, strife, plundering and contention in the land. And with such atrocities prevailing, the law of God is powerless and justice never goes forth. So he asked the Lord how long should he cry and the Lord will not hear. Then the Lord told the prophet Habakkuk to write down the vision so that anyone who reads it will run. It is that bad. But do we run when we read it and since we are the generation of the end of age, do we have any understanding of what is coming? We talk of the Antichrist, Armageddon, the Great Tribulation and more, with no understanding of what they mean and the steps to take to escape it all.

#### **Habakkuk 2:2-3** New King James Version (NKJV)

*2 Then the Lord answered me and said:*

*"Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. 3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry."*

Then prophet Ezekiel was told by the Lord that, He the Lord will bring the worst of the Gentiles to possess the houses of God's children because of their disobedience to God. Destruction will come and those who seek peace will not find it.

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### **Ezekiel 7:23-25 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*23 'Make a chain, For the land is filled with crimes of blood, And the city is full of violence. 24 Therefore I will bring the worst of the Gentiles, And they will possess their houses; I will cause the pomp of the strong to cease, And their holy places shall be defiled. 25 Destruction comes; They will seek peace, but there shall be none.*

The Lord calls the fourth kingdom, “the worst of the Gentiles” and in another place through the prophet Joel, the Lord calls them, “a nation with teeth like a lion with fangs of a fierce lion”.

### **Joel 1:5-7 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*5 Awake, you drunkards, and weep; And wail, all you drinkers of wine, Because of the new wine, For it has been cut off from your mouth. 6 For a nation has come up against My land, Strong, and without number; His teeth are the teeth of a lion, And he has the fangs of a fierce lion. 7 He has laid waste My vine, And ruined My fig tree; He has stripped it bare and thrown it away; Its branches are made white.*

There is a further description of just how brutal this kingdom will be and nothing shall escape it. Recall at this stage what the prophet Daniel was given as interpretation of the image's legs and toes that consist of iron mixed with ceramic clay:

### **Joel 2:2-9 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*2 A day of darkness and gloominess, A day of clouds and thick darkness, Like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. A people come, great and strong, The like of whom has never been; Nor will there ever be any such after them, Even for many successive generations. 3 A fire devours before them, And behind them a flame burns; The land is like the Garden of Eden before them, And behind them a desolate wilderness; Surely nothing shall escape them. 4 Their appearance is like the appearance of horses; And like swift steeds, so they run. 5 With a noise like chariots Over mountaintops they leap, Like the noise of a flaming fire that devours the stubble, Like a strong people set in battle array. 6 Before them the people writhe in pain; All faces are drained of colour. 7 They run like mighty men, They climb the wall like men of war; Every one marches in formation, And they do not break ranks. 8 They do not push one another; Every one marches in his own column. Though they lunge between the weapons, They are not cut down. 9 They run to and fro in the city, They run on the wall; They climb into the houses, They enter at the windows like a thief.*

This describes a people upon which weapons will have no effect. Another translation of the Bible says that when they fall on a sword, it will not kill them. Why would that be? It is not something from Hollywood but from the word of God. We are dealing with spirit beings, not man. If you think that was not bad enough or if it was not scary enough in your eyes then read this:

### **Ezekiel 23:25-26 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*25 I will set My jealousy against you, And they shall deal furiously with you; They shall remove your*

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*nose and your ears, And your remnant shall fall by the sword; They shall take your sons and your daughters, And your remnant shall be devoured by fire. 26 They shall also strip you of your clothes And take away your beautiful jewellery.*

When you read from the Bible about the evil this kingdom is capable of inflicting, you do not really get the real impact of the wickedness but these prophets had visions of what the people of this kingdom are going to do and they were all sick, astonished, dismayed, and suffer from birth pains, with rottenness entering their bones. The prophet Habakkuk was glad he will be dead at the time of this kingdom.

No one can say that they did not know about what is to come because it has been written for us and is readily available to us throughout our generation, but the vast majority of our generation have scoffed at it. It is coming. Wait for it although it tarries, it will surely come at the appointed time.

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## Chapter Nine

### THE COMPOSITION OF THE FOURTH KINGDOM

To understand the composition of the fourth kingdom which will rule over all the earth, we have to put aside all presuppositions and instead assemble together extracts of Scripture pertaining to the same topic in order to have absolute clarity about which people on earth today will make up this dreadful kingdom. It is frightening to know that these people or rather the people of these nations are spread all over the world today, just as the people of God are spread throughout the entire earth. From the book of the prophet Daniel, we learn the fourth beast to rule the earth will have ten horns. Recall:

#### **Daniel 7:7-8** New King James Version (NKJV)

*7 "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 8 I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.*

Here is the interpretation of this passage of Scripture given through the prophet Daniel of the fourth beast:

#### **Daniel 7:23-25** New King James Version (NKJV)

*23 "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be A fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces. 24 The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings.*

*25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.*

First we have to understand the meaning of the horns. As you can clearly see from this passage of Scripture, the fourth beast, which is the fourth kingdom, has ten horns to start with and then another horn came up among them before which three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. What does it mean? Consider:

#### **Daniel 8:18-22** New King James Version (NKJV)

*18 Now, as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me, and stood me upright. 19 And he said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be. 20 The ram which you saw, having the two horns—they are the kings of Media and Persia. 21 And the male goat is the kingdom Greece. The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king. 22 As for the broken horn and the four that stood up in its place, four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but*

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*not with its power.*

From this passage of Scripture, the large horn is the first king. Earlier in the passage, the two horns were referred to as the kings of Media and Persia, which means a horn in this context represents a king or ruler. Back to the topic of our study, the fourth kingdom as we have seen will compose of ten kings who shall come together to form a confederate. The book of Revelation gives another insight into the purpose of these ten horns:

### **Revelation 17:16-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

*16 And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. 17 For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. 18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."*

It is critical to understand that a king always has a kingdom which he rules over. These ten kings will have their own kingdoms (equivalent to nations or countries in our time), which are made of the people they rule over. Initially, these kings shall come together to form the main body of the fourth kingdom and will rule over the entire earth, not parts of it. First they will form a league of nations which will have to eliminate the current world ruling bodies, which is not the Roman Empire, but a system of government and religion which God calls 'Babylon'. Looking back in history, each of the first three beasts had to overthrow the previous empire, hence, it will be the same procedure to follow in order to establish the fourth kingdom on earth. The question now is which people on earth today will form the composition of this kingdom? Let Scripture reveal these nations:

### **Revelation 13:1-2** New King James Version (NKJV)

*13 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. 2 Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.*

From this passage of Scripture we see that the beast rising up out of the sea has seven heads and ten horns. The beast looked like a leopard with his feet like the feet of a bear and his mouth like the mouth of a lion, which means this beast is a combination of three different beasts, the lion head, the leopard body and the feet of a bear. From the book of Daniel we understand

- The Lion is the Babylonian kingdom.
- The Leopard is the Greek kingdom.
- The Bear is the kingdom of Media and Persia.

This therefore means the fourth kingdom will be a combination of all three of these kingdoms. To break it down even further, consider this passage of Scripture:

### **Hosea 13:7-8** New King James Version (NKJV)

*7 "So I will be to them like a lion; Like a leopard by the road I will lurk; 8 I will meet them like a bear deprived of her cubs I will tear open their rib cage, And there I will devour them like a lion. The wild beast shall tear them.*

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If you have understanding of the period of time this passage of Scripture is referring to and who is speaking, it should send shivers down your spine. Consider the Lord and the instruments of His indignation; the Lord will not do it Himself but will use these people to carry out His judgment. Here we have a lion, a bear, a leopard, and the wild beast with the same purpose of tearing apart. Who these wild beasts are going to tear apart will be discussed later in this study. Through the prophet Jeremiah, the Lord said:

### **Jeremiah 50:41-46** New King James Version (NKJV)

**41** *“Behold, a people shall come from the north, And a great nation and many kings Shall be raised up from the ends of the earth. 42 They shall hold the bow and the lance; They are cruel and shall not show mercy. Their voice shall roar like the sea; They shall ride on horses, Set in array, like a man for the battle, Against you, O daughter of Babylon. 43 “The king of Babylon has heard the report about them, And his hands grow feeble; Anguish has taken hold of him, Pangs as of a woman in childbirth. 44 “Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the floodplain of the Jordan Against the dwelling place of the strong; But I will make them suddenly run away from her. And who is a chosen man that I may appoint over her? For who is like Me? Who will arraign Me? And who is that shepherd Who will withstand Me?” 45 Therefore hear the counsel of the Lord that He has taken against Babylon, And His purposes that He has proposed against the land of the Chaldeans: Surely the least of the flock shall draw them out; Surely He will make their dwelling place desolate with them. 46 At the noise of the taking of Babylon The earth trembles, And the cry is heard among the nations.*

These people are all over the world and at the appointed time they will all come together to fight for the same cause. In the book of the prophet Ezekiel, the Lord gives more insight of the composition of the fourth kingdom:

### **Ezekiel 23:22-27** New King James Version (NKJV)

**22** *“Therefore, Oholibah, thus says the Lord God: ‘Behold, I will stir up your lovers against you, From whom you have alienated yourself, And I will bring them against you from every side: 23 The Babylonians, All the Chaldeans, Pekod, Shoa, Koa, All the Assyrians with them, All of them desirable young men, Governors and rulers, Captains and men of renown, All of them riding on horses. 24 And they shall come against you With chariots, wagons, and war-horses, With a horde of people. They shall array against you Buckler, shield, and helmet all around. ‘I will delegate judgment to them, And they shall judge you according to their judgments. 25 I will set My jealousy against you, And they shall deal furiously with you; They shall remove your nose and your ears, And your remnant shall fall by the sword; They shall take your sons and your daughters, And your remnant shall be devoured by fire. 26 They shall also strip you of your clothes And take away your beautiful jewellery. 27 ‘Thus I will make you cease your lewdness and your harlotry Brought from the land of Egypt, So that you will not lift your eyes to them, Nor remember Egypt anymore.’*

From the above passage of Scripture, you can see the main parties from the prior passage of Scripture in the book of Revelation are all included here. It is of profound importance to understand that this judgment from the Lord will be in two phases, with the first being when the Lord returns the captivity of His people from the four corners of the world and the second will be at the great tribulation which is a subject of another study.

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The fourth kingdom to rule all the earth will be composed of the haters of God. Yes, those who form the foundation of this kingdom will hate God and will try to cut off from the earth all those who love God.

**Psalm 83:1-5 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*1 Do not keep silent, O God! Do not hold Your peace, And do not be still, O God! 2 For behold, Your enemies make a tumult; And those who hate You have lifted up their head. 3 They have taken crafty counsel against Your people, And consulted together against Your sheltered ones. 4 They have said, "Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, That the name of Israel may be remembered no more." 5 For they have consulted together with one consent; They form a confederacy against You:*

If you hate God's people it means you hate God, period. The identity of these nations which will form the confederacy against God and His sheltered ones is not hidden from us. It is revealed in the Bible.

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## Chapter Ten

### THE IDENTITY OF THE FOURTH KINGDOM

The fourth kingdom to rule all the earth will not comprise of a single nation, but a confederacy of nations which at first will come together to carry out what God has set in the hearts of its leaders. If we probe even deeper, we come to realise the fourth kingdom will not only be nations, but principal people of these nations who each hold the same beliefs. The nations of the world today are made of people from all different origins, but in most cases, the majority of the population of the host nation is there not by immigration, but by birth. At the appointed time everyone will return to the nation of their origin. Consider what God has said:

**Isaiah 13:13-15** New King James Version (NKJV)

*13 Therefore I will shake the heavens, And the earth will move out of her place, In the wrath of the Lord of hosts And in the day of His fierce anger. 14 It shall be as the hunted gazelle, And as a sheep that no man takes up; Every man will turn to his own people, And everyone will flee to his own land. 15 Everyone who is found will be thrust through, And everyone who is captured will fall by the sword.*

Reading this passage of Scripture always brings a sobering feeling to the soul. If the earth is moved out of its place, just imagine the commotion it will cause. Can you imagine the earth being moved out of its place? At the moment, the earth is finely balanced to precision and moving at a constant speed around the sun. If for any reason the earth is moved out of its place, then there will going to be all kinds of commotions on the earth. For example, most of the infrastructures on earth today cannot withstand tremors of a particular magnitude, let alone when it will be such a devastating quake that everything on the earth will be moved. As a result, everyone will return to their own land since there will be nothing in the prosperous parts of the world to keep them in a foreign land which as a result will bring the people of these nations together. In one sense, it will be a trigger for the people of the fourth kingdom nations to know it is the appointed time for them to get together in preparation to rule the earth.

The names of these nations will never be found in a particular place, but in accordance with Scripture, this information will be found a little here and there a little there. It is now up to those with understanding to pull together all the passages of Scripture touching this topic, to shed light on what God has said, just as with all other subjects of study in the Bible.

So far we have come to understand that fourth kingdom shall be full of wickedness and the source of this wickedness has its base in a certain place. God has proposed to bring a bird of prey from the east:

**Isaiah 46:11** New King James Version (NKJV)

*11 Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it.*

This passage of Scripture narrows down our search to the east. But where is the line from which we have to look east to find out from where the bird of prey will be called to execute the counsel of the Lord? There is a place on earth in which the Lord has chosen to be His dwelling place for

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ever.

### **Joel 3:17** New King James Version (NKJV)

*17 "So you shall know that I am the Lord your God, Dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, And no aliens shall ever pass through her again."*

And

### **Psalm 132:13-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

*13 For the Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His dwelling place: 14 "This is My resting place forever; Here I will dwell, for I have desired it. 15 I will abundantly bless her provision; I will satisfy her poor with bread. 16 I will also clothe her priests with salvation, And her saints shall shout aloud for joy. 17 There I will make the horn of David grow; I will prepare a lamp for My Anointed. 18 His enemies I will clothe with shame, But upon Himself His crown shall flourish."*

As it stands, Mount Zion is the dwelling place of the Lord our God and Jerusalem is the city of our God, hence the line is drawn, which means the bird of prey will come from the east of Jerusalem to execute the counsel of the Lord our God. The prophet Zechariah was told by the Lord where wickedness has its base on earth:

### **Zechariah 5:5-11** New King James Version (NKJV)

*5 Then the angel who talked with me came out and said to me, "Lift your eyes now, and see what this is that goes forth." 6 So I asked, "What is it?" And he said, "It is a basket that is going forth." He also said, "This is their resemblance throughout the earth: 7 Here is a lead disc lifted up, and this is a woman sitting inside the basket"; 8 then he said, "This is Wickedness!" And he thrust her down into the basket, and threw the lead cover over its mouth. 9 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were two women, coming with the wind in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven.*

*10 So I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are they carrying the basket?"*

*11 And he said to me, "To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base."*

If wickedness has its base in the land of Shinar, it therefore means one part of the fourth kingdom to rule the earth will be from the land of Shinar, since wickedness forms the foundation of this fourth kingdom. As we know, the land of Shinar is found in Persia. We have to understand from the biblical days to this day, the names of many places, cities and countries have been changed but you will be surprised to know that many have also stayed the same. From this passage of Scripture we realise Persia, the present day Iran, will be an integral part of this kingdom.

### **Micah 5:5-6** New King James Version (NKJV)

*5 And this One shall be peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land, And when he treads in our palaces, Then we will raise against him Seven shepherds and eight princely men. 6 They shall waste with the sword the land of Assyria, And the land of Nimrod at its entrances; Thus He shall deliver us from the Assyrian, When he comes into our land And when he treads within our borders.*

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A study of the context of the whole chapter reveals something completely different from what a casual glance unveils. It is the Assyrian who is going to raise up seven shepherds and eight princely men. Remember the ten horns, the ten leaders, which form the confederacy to carry out what God has put in their hearts. If we fast forward to the period of time when the king of Assyria, the Assyrian, Satan the devil, will be thrown out of heaven; three of the ten horns will be broken by the little horn, the anti-Christ, leaving seven. The seven remain horns plus the little horn will now makes the eight princely men, who will devour and destroy the earth. But He, the Lord, will deliver His people from the Assyrian. Please understand the people of the land of Nimrod which is Assyria will from an integral part of this fourth kingdom on earth. Study the whole of Micah chapter five.

Consider the next passage of Scripture. If you do not know what people constitute Israel is today, it will be best to find out, for the end of age is at hand. The word of God also speaks much about Ephraim and Samaria. These two words Ephraim and Samaria refer to something much more profound in Scripture than is understood by the majority of biblical scholars today. Go back in time to understand what happened to the children of Israel in the Promised Land. It is much the same today; the head of Judah, is it not Jerusalem and the head of Ephraim or Israel, is it not Samaria? This is a topic for another study.

### **Isaiah 9:8-16** New King James Version (NKJV)

**8** *The Lord sent a word against Jacob, And it has fallen on Israel. 9 All the people will know— Ephraim and the inhabitant of Samaria— Who say in pride and arrogance of heart: 10 “The bricks have fallen down, But we will rebuild with hewn stones; The sycamores are cut down, But we will replace them with cedars.”*

**11** *Therefore the Lord shall set up The adversaries of Rezin against him, And spur his enemies on, 12 The Syrians before and the Philistines behind; And they shall devour Israel with an open mouth. For all this His anger is not turned away, But His hand is stretched out still. 13 For the people do not turn to Him who strikes them, Nor do they seek the Lord of hosts. 14 Therefore the Lord will cut off head and tail from Israel, Palm branch and bulrush in one day. 15 The elder and honourable, he is the head; The prophet who teaches lies, he is the tail. 16 For the leaders of this people cause them to err, And those who are led by them are destroyed.*

This passage of Scripture gives a snap shot of what will happen at the appointed time to the children of Israel in their habitations throughout the entire earth. On the subject of our study we can clearly see that part of the fourth kingdom will comprise of the Syrians and the Philistines. But there is more. Who are the adversaries of the Syrians? Don't forget at the appointed time all these people will come together in one accord for the same purpose. Consider:

### **Isaiah 13:17-22** New King James Version (NKJV)

**17** *“Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them, Who will not regard silver; And as for gold, they will not delight in it. 18 Also their bows will dash the young men to pieces, And they will have no pity on the fruit of the womb; Their eye will not spare children. 19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, The beauty of the Chaldeans’ pride, Will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. 20 It will never be inhabited, Nor will it be settled from generation to generation; Nor will the Arabian pitch tents there, Nor will the shepherds make their sheepfolds there. 21 But wild*

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*beasts of the desert will lie there, And their houses will be full of owls; Ostriches will dwell there, And wild goats will caper there. 22 The hyenas will howl in their citadels, And jackals in their pleasant palaces. Her time is near to come, And her days will not be prolonged."*

Here the identity of one of the nations of people which will form the fourth kingdom is as clear as it can be for all to see. The Medes will form part of the fourth kingdom. Some with little understanding may say this prophecy has already been fulfilled when the Medes and Persians captured the kingdom of Babylon in the days of the prophet Daniel. A close look into the context of the whole chapter reveals this prophecy is about the day of the Lord, which is yet to happen, but which is now eminent. This word is confirmed by the prophet Jeremiah, consider:

### **Jeremiah 51:11** New King James Version (NKJV)

*11 Make the arrows bright! Gather the shields! The Lord has raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes. For His plan is against Babylon to destroy it, Because it is the vengeance of the Lord, The vengeance for His temple.*

It was the Babylonians who destroyed the Temple of God in Jerusalem when they took captivity of the Jews to Babylon. When the Medes and Persians conquered Babylon, there was no war, the prophet Daniel was there and it was on the same night that he interpreted what the hand sent by God had written on the wall. It was not in vengeance like the vengeance proposed at the end of age. Here is more clarity:

### **Jeremiah 51:27-30** New King James Version (NKJV)

*27 Set up a banner in the land, Blow the trumpet among the nations! Prepare the nations against her, Call the kingdoms together against her: Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz. Appoint a general against her; Cause the horses to come up like the bristling locusts. 28 Prepare against her the nations, With the kings of the Medes, Its governors and all its rulers, All the land of his dominion. 29 And the land will tremble and sorrow; For every purpose of the Lord shall be performed against Babylon, To make the land of Babylon a desolation without inhabitant. 30 The mighty men of Babylon have ceased fighting, They have remained in their strongholds; Their might has failed, They became like women; They have burned her dwelling places, The bars of her gate are broken.*

Here we see clearly that this prophecy is not about the Medes only but it is a call to a number of nations. There is a nation that has yet to be mentioned. Consider:

### **Jeremiah 25:8-13** New King James Version (NKJV)

*8 "Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts: 'Because you have not heard My words, 9 behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' says the Lord, 'and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, against its inhabitants, and against these nations all around, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, a hissing, and perpetual desolations. 10 Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp. 11 And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.*

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**12** *'Then it will come to pass, when seventy years are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity,' says the Lord; 'and I will make it a perpetual desolation. 13 So I will bring on that land all My words which I have pronounced against it, all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah has prophesied concerning all the nations.*

When you understand the prophecy in chapter twenty five of the book of Jeremiah, many other prophecies of the end of age will become clearer. This chapter speaks of the time of the end. In the beginning of the chapter we learn that King Nebuchadnezzar will be used to utterly destroy many nations.

### **Jeremiah 25:14-29** New King James Version (NKJV)

**14** *(For many nations and great kings shall be served by them also; and I will repay them according to their deeds and according to the works of their own hands.)'***15** *For thus says the Lord God of Israel to me: "Take this wine cup of fury from My hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send you, to drink it. 16 And they will drink and stagger and go mad because of the sword that I will send among them."*

**17** *Then I took the cup from the Lord's hand, and made all the nations drink, to whom the Lord had sent me: 18 Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, its kings and its princes, to make them a desolation, an astonishment, a hissing, and a curse, as it is this day; 19 Pharaoh king of Egypt, his servants, his princes, and all his people; 20 all the mixed multitude, all the kings of the land of Uz, all the kings of the land of the Philistines (namely, Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod); 21 Edom, Moab, and the people of Ammon; 22 all the kings of Tyre, all the kings of Sidon, and the kings of the coastlands which are across the sea; 23 Dedan, Tema, Buz, and all who are in the farthest corners; 24 all the kings of Arabia and all the kings of the mixed multitude who dwell in the desert; 25 all the kings of Zimri, all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes; 26 all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another; and all the kingdoms of the world which are on the face of the earth. Also the king of Sheshach shall drink after them.*

**27** *"Therefore you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: "Drink, be drunk, and vomit! Fall and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you.'" 28 And it shall be, if they refuse to take the cup from your hand to drink, then you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts: "You shall certainly drink! 29 For behold, I begin to bring calamity on the city which is called by My name, and should you be utterly unpunished? You shall not be unpunished, for I will call for a sword on all the inhabitants of the earth," says the Lord of hosts.'*

Here we have the king of Babylon; Nebuchadnezzar did not and cannot destroy his own people. This is a prophecy for the end time as stated earlier, which means the Babylonians will form an integral part of the fourth kingdom to rule the earth. Babylon was the head of gold which King Nebuchadnezzar saw in his dream. The apostle John saw a beast that had the mouth of a lion as stated in the book of Revelation which draws to the fact that Babylon will be part of the fourth kingdom according to the visions the prophet Daniel had.

Consider this passage of Scripture from the book of Daniel:

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### **Daniel 8:20-24** New King James Version (NKJV)

**20** *The ram which you saw, having the two horns—they are the kings of Media and Persia. 21 And the male goat is the kingdom of Greece. The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king. 22 As for the broken horn and the four that stood up in its place, four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but not with its power.*

**23** *“And in the latter time of their kingdom, When the transgressors have reached their fullness, A king shall arise, Having fierce features, Who understands sinister schemes. 24 His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.*

We should know by now the three kingdoms of the Babylonians, the Medes and Persians, and the kingdom of Greece will form the foundation of the fourth kingdom. We also know the kingdom of Greece was broken into four parts after the death of Alexander the Great. It is from one of the four broken parts of this kingdom where a king with fierce features shall arise, who understands sinister schemes. It will not be from Europe, contrary to popular understanding, because at that stage, the European Union would have been severely weakened by wars, famine, pestilence and earthquakes, which will be only the beginning of sorrows.

To sum up the identity of the fourth kingdom to rule the entire earth, we now know that the foundation of this kingdom will be comprised of the nations of people who are the Assyrians, the Medes, the Persians, the Babylonians, the Syrians, and the Philistines. Now you get the complete picture that the fourth kingdom to rule the earth in its entirety will arise from the heart of the Middle East.

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## Chapter Eleven

### THE REASON FOR THE FOURTH KINGDOM

From the passage of Scripture which is the foundation of this study, we learn that at the appointed time, a stone which is not cut by hand came and struck the image of the giant man made of different metals at its feet and it became like chaff and was carried away by the wind. The stone then became a mountain and filled the whole earth.

**Daniel 2:34-35** New King James Version (NKJV)

*34 You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which 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 were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.*

The image of the giant man in the dream represents the different nations and government systems which have ruled over the entire earth. The stone which is not cut by hand is our very own Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. At the time of this fourth kingdom, the Lord Jesus Christ will return to earth and establish the Kingdom of God, His government of peace and righteousness filling the whole earth, depicted as the great mountain. But why the fourth kingdom? Why such destruction and evil after so many years of man's reign on earth? We have seen the fourth kingdom is all for destruction and not peace. If anyone should prophesise peace to you then they are not of the Lord. There is trouble on the way even for the elect of God, but in all this, God will protect all those who put their trust in Him and are called by His name.

We have to understand this period is the time of the restoration of all things. The earth has been under a curse since the day Adam and Eve fell. Jesus Christ came and qualified to be ruler of the earth because when He was tempted by Satan the devil, He did not fall short of the glory of God, as we all have and still do till this day, since there is none of us who is without sin. Jesus Christ on His first coming magnified the Laws and Commandments of God. He also made available to us the power to be able to keep God's Laws and Commandments and opened to, us the way to the kingdom of God. But have we heeded His instructions? Consider this passage of Scripture in which the Lord Jesus Christ is speaking directly to you:

**Proverbs 1:20-33** New King James Version (NKJV)

*20 Wisdom calls aloud outside; She raises her voice in the open squares. 21 She cries out in the chief concourses, At the openings of the gates in the city She speaks her words: 22 "How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For scorners delight in their scorning, And fools hate knowledge. 23 Turn at my rebuke; Surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you. 24 Because I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded, 25 Because you disdained all my counsel, And would have none of my rebuke, 26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your terror comes, 27 When your terror comes like a storm, And your destruction comes like a whirlwind, When distress and anguish come upon you. 28 "Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me. 29 Because they hated knowledge And did not choose the fear of the Lord, 30 They would have none of my counsel And despised my every rebuke. 31 Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way, And be filled to the full with their own fancies. 32 For the turning away of the simple*

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*will slay them, And the complacency of fools will destroy them; 33 But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, And will be secure, without fear of evil."*

We all have the tendency to assume what is done in secret which no one sees is hidden forever, but we forget that we live in a very spiritual world. Since the world we live in was created by a God who is a Spirit and He fills the world, everything that happens on earth is well documented for the day of Judgment, hence, anyone who thinks that they are getting away with something because man did not see their evil works, are in great error. As the previous passage of Scripture states, there is an appointed time for destruction, which is one of the reasons for the fourth kingdom. The Lord Jesus Christ also stated that whoever hates Him loves death. Consider:

### **Proverbs 8:32-36** New King James Version (NKJV)

*32 "Now therefore, listen to me, my children, For blessed are those who keep my ways. 33 Hear instruction and be wise, And do not disdain it. 34 Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors. 35 For whoever finds me finds life, And obtains favour from the Lord; 36 But he who sins against me wrongs his own soul; All those who hate me love death."*

It has been made plain for all to see. We all know God created the heavens and the earth and He sent His only Son to save the world, but because men love darkness, they do not want to walk in obedience to anyone let alone in the way of their very own saviour. If you hate the Lord Jesus Christ you love death. At the appointed time, the Lord Jesus Christ will return to redeem those who love Him and have chosen to live by His commandments. Please do not be ignorant of the fact that today we live in the acceptable year of the Lord our God. The acceptable year of the Lord is the period of time in which God is giving every living soul the chance to repent from their evil ways and walk according to His commandments and laws without being punished or judged. Consider this prophecy from the book of the prophet Isaiah:

### **Isaiah 61:1-2** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn,*

When the Lord Jesus Christ walked the earth the first time, He fulfilled this prophecy but in part; all of verse one was fulfilled and only the first part of verse two. Consider:

### **Luke 4:18-20** New King James Version (NKJV)

*18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." 20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him.*

We all know Jesus died on the cross and was resurrected on the third day, seventy two hours after his death (contrary to the popularly believed one and a half days in the belly of the earth) and He

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now lives forever. It is because He lives that we, those who believe and worship in Spirit and in Truth, will live too. But there is something that the vast majority of professing believers misunderstand. The prophecy from the book of the prophet Isaiah has not been completely fulfilled. Jesus Christ stopped at a comma and not at a full stop. He stopped at the acceptable year of the Lord. Why?

The answer is simple. Because God is merciful, compassionate, gracious, longsuffering, and full of tender love, and has no pleasure in a soul that perishes, He has given mankind the time to repent from all its evil ways just as He did in the days of Noah. It took Noah over a hundred years of preaching about the coming destruction of the earth by water and building the ark, but only eight souls heeded his warning and they were his family. You can even say God gave Noah his family, because after the flood, one of his sons committed what can only be termed as an abomination.

### **Ezekiel 33:11** New King James Version (NKJV)

*11 Say to them: 'As I live,' says the Lord God, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?'*

There is something very clear in the above passage of Scripture which shows that God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked. God is talking to the house of Israel which today is the body of Christ and not to the world at large. Like everything that has a beginning in this age, it also has an end. We are coming to the end of the acceptable year of the Lord and the next chapter in God's prophetic plan is to first, He has promised, give us a prophet who will advise us on what to do and secondly, it will be the year of vengeance, yes one of vengeance according to the passage of Scripture in the book of the prophet Isaiah. Chapter sixty one of the book of the prophet Isaiah, verses one through to four details the duty of our Saviour and it will be fulfilled as it is written, to the letter. The Lord also said through the prophet Amos that He will punish the children of Israel who do not walk accord to His commandments, since they are the only families on earth which He has known:

### **Amos 3:1-6** New King James Version (NKJV)

*3 Hear this word that the Lord has spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying: 2 "You only have I known of all the families of the earth; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities." 3 Can two walk together, unless they are agreed? 4 Will a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey? Will a young lion cry out of his den, if he has caught nothing? 5 Will a bird fall into a snare on the earth, where there is no trap for it? Will a snare spring up from the earth, if it has caught nothing at all? 6 If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid? If there is calamity in a city, will not the Lord have done it?*

The majority of nations of the west, predominantly the English speaking nations of the world; Western Europe, America, Australia and a few others, form the core of the children of Israel today, but there are some in every nation of the world. Anyone who professes to believe in the God of creation is part of the house of Israel, but in varying degrees (which is a subject of another study). The Lord will punish the whole family of Israel for their iniquities. Why? Here are some of the reasons God has given:

### **Ezekiel 7:23-27** New King James Version (NKJV)

*23 'Make a chain, For the land is filled with crimes of blood, And the city is full of violence.*

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**24** Therefore I will bring the worst of the Gentiles, And they will possess their houses; I will cause the pomp of the strong to cease, And their holy places shall be defiled. **25** Destruction comes; They will seek peace, but there shall be none. **26** Disaster will come upon disaster, And rumour will be upon rumour. Then they will seek a vision from a prophet; But the law will perish from the priest, And counsel from the elders. **27** 'The king will mourn, The prince will be clothed with desolation, And the hands of the common people will tremble. I will do to them according to their way, And according to what they deserve I will judge them; Then they shall know that I am the Lord!'"

God is merciful and He has given the reasons why He will be bringing punishment on us so that we can see where we are falling short and amend our ways. One of the reasons for the fourth kingdom will be because of blood crimes and violence. As we now know, the worse of the gentile will form the foundation of the fourth kingdom which the Lord will bring against His people. Another reason for the fourth kingdom will be because the poor of the land are sold for a pair of shoes, not just that but a man and his son will have sex with the same woman and think it is fun:

### **Amos 2:6-8** New King James Version (NKJV)

**6** Thus says the Lord: "For three transgressions of Israel, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, Because they sell the righteous for silver, And the poor for a pair of sandals. **7** They pant after the dust of the earth which is on the head of the poor, And pervert the way of the humble.

A man and his father go in to the same girl, To defile My holy name. **8** They lie down by every altar on clothes taken in pledge, And drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their god.

We have here a few reasons for punishment. Take a look again at the list to see just how disrespectful it is for a man and his son to go into the same girl, but in this shameless generation, some will think it is fashionable. Is every church in the world a church of God? If that was the case, God will not punish those who claim to know God but lie down by every altar, drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their gods with clothes taken on credit. When we seek first the kingdom of God what we wear, eat and drink is added on to us according to the word of God.

Is it not ironic; today if you try to point someone in the right direction because you have been shown what will become of all unrighteousness, they will take you for a fool, forgetting the fact that God is a jealous God who will not acquit the wicked.

### **Nahum 1:2-10** New King James Version (NKJV)

**2** God is jealous, and the Lord avenges; The Lord avenges and is furious. The Lord will take vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserves wrath for His enemies; **3** The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, And will not at all acquit the wicked. The Lord has His way In the whirlwind and in the storm, And the clouds are the dust of His feet. **4** He rebukes the sea and makes it dry, And dries up all the rivers. Bashan and Carmel wither, And the flower of Lebanon wilts. **5** The mountains quake before Him, The hills melt, And the earth heaves at His presence, Yes, the world and all who dwell in it. **6** Who can stand before His indignation? And who can endure the fierceness of His anger? His fury is poured out like fire, And the rocks are thrown down by Him. **7** The Lord is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him. **8** But with an overflowing flood He will make an utter end of its place, And darkness will pursue His enemies. **9** What do you conspire against the Lord? He will make an utter end of it. Affliction will not rise up a second time.

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*10 For while tangled like thorns, And while drunken like drunkards, They shall be devoured like stubble fully dried.*

It really is a fearful thing to fall in the hands of the living God. The enemies of God will all have their portion at the time of His indignation. Rest assured, what has been written will surely come to pass. The prophet Malachi was inspired to write:

**Malachi 3:5** New King James Version (NKJV)

*5 And I will come near you for judgment; I will be a swift witness Against sorcerers, Against adulterers, Against perjurers, Against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans, And against those who turn away an alien— Because they do not fear Me,” Says the Lord of hosts.*

There is no hiding place for all who drag their iniquity along with them on cords. All who practise what God hates will be punished. Oh, there is no place to plead ignorance. The truth has been out for thousands of years. There will be no, “I did not know,” in this instance because it is our duty to find out. Consider this further passage of Scripture:

**Zephaniah 1:14-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

*14 The great day of the Lord is near; It is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the Lord is bitter; There the mighty men shall cry out. 15 That day is a day of wrath, A day of trouble and distress, A day of devastation and desolation, A day of darkness and gloominess, A day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 A day of trumpet and alarm Against the fortified cities And against the high towers. 17 “I will bring distress upon men, And they shall walk like blind men, Because they have sinned against the Lord; Their blood shall be poured out like dust, And their flesh like refuse.” 18 Neither their silver nor their gold Shall be able to deliver them In the day of the Lord’s wrath; But the whole land shall be devoured By the fire of His jealousy, For He will make speedy riddance Of all those who dwell in the land.*

If you think what you have seen so far is bad enough, then consider this passage of Scripture:

**Ezekiel 5:7-17** New King James Version (NKJV)

*7 Therefore thus says the Lord God: ‘Because you have multiplied disobedience more than the nations that are all around you, have not walked in My statutes nor kept My judgments, nor even done according to the judgments of the nations that are all around you’—8 therefore thus says the Lord God: ‘Indeed I, even I, am against you and will execute judgments in your midst in the sight of the nations.9 And I will do among you what I have never done, and the like of which I will never do again, because of all your abominations. 10 Therefore fathers shall eat their sons in your midst, and sons shall eat their fathers; and I will execute judgments among you, and all of you who remain I will scatter to all the winds.*

*11 ‘Therefore, as I live,’ says the Lord God, ‘surely, because you have defiled My sanctuary with all your detestable things and with all your abominations, therefore I will also diminish you; My eye will not spare, nor will I have any pity. 12 One-third of you shall die of the pestilence, and be consumed with famine in your midst; and one-third shall fall by the sword all around you; and I will scatter another third to all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.*

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**13** *'Thus shall My anger be spent, and I will cause My fury to rest upon them, and I will be avenged; and they shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken it in My zeal, when I have spent My fury upon them. 14 Moreover I will make you a waste and a reproach among the nations that are all around you, in the sight of all who pass by.*

**15** *'So it shall be a reproach, a taunt, a lesson, and an astonishment to the nations that are all around you, when I execute judgments among you in anger and in fury and in furious rebukes. I, the Lord, have spoken. 16 When I send against them the terrible arrows of famine which shall be for destruction, which I will send to destroy you, I will increase the famine upon you and cut off your supply of bread. 17 So I will send against you famine and wild beasts, and they will bereave you. Pestilence and blood shall pass through you, and I will bring the sword against you. I, the Lord, have spoken.'*

All these and many more prophecies await us all in the coming few years, all because we cannot be told what to do since we know it all. The nations today have all changed the Laws and Commandments of God to make it easy for everyone to walk according to the imagination of the wicked hearts and we all think it is the way forward. Consider:

### **Isaiah 24:1-6** New King James Version (NKJV)

**1** *Behold, the Lord makes the earth empty and makes it waste, Distorts its surface And scatters abroad its inhabitants. 2 And it shall be: As with the people, so with the priest; As with the servant, so with his master; As with the maid, so with her mistress; As with the buyer, so with the seller; As with the lender, so with the borrower; As with the creditor, so with the debtor. 3 The land shall be entirely emptied and utterly plundered, For the Lord has spoken this word. 4 The earth mourns and fades away, The world languishes and fades away; The haughty people of the earth languish. 5 The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, Because they have transgressed the laws, Changed the ordinance, Broken the everlasting covenant. 6 Therefore the curse has devoured the earth, And those who dwell in it are desolate. Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, And few men are left.*

What is the everlasting covenant? In the first three books of Genesis, God made holy the Sabbath day and established the covenant between a man and a woman. What do we do today especially in the affluent parts of the world; Make a mockery of Gods covenants? Do you think God will continue to turn a blind eye at all our mischievous acts and disrespectful behaviours?

It is all there for us to diligently consider. Our God is a God of vengeance but we, in our limited minds are trying to reduce the awesome God of creation to be like men. This is foolishness because at the appointed time we shall all see the power of the great God. Everyone who does not seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness will surely be doomed.

### **Psalms 94:1-7** New King James Version (NKJV)

**1** *O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongs— O God, to whom vengeance belongs, shine forth! 2 Rise up, O Judge of the earth; Render punishment to the proud. 3 Lord, how long will the wicked, How long will the wicked triumph? 4 They utter speech, and speak insolent things; All the workers of iniquity boast in themselves. 5 They break in pieces Your people, O Lord, And afflict Your heritage. 6 They slay the widow and the stranger, And murder the fatherless. 7 Yet they say, "The Lord does*

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*not see, Nor does the God of Jacob understand.”*

And God said:

**Psalm 94:8-15** New King James Version (NKJV)

***8** Understand, you senseless among the people; And you fools, when will you be wise? **9** He who planted the ear, shall He not hear? He who formed the eye, shall He not see? **10** He who instructs the nations, shall He not correct, He who teaches man knowledge? **11** The Lord knows the thoughts of man, That they are futile. **12** Blessed is the man whom You instruct, O Lord, And teach out of Your law, **13** That You may give him rest from the days of adversity, Until the pit is dug for the wicked. **14** For the Lord will not cast off His people, Nor will He forsake His inheritance. **15** But judgment will return to righteousness, And all the upright in heart will follow it.*

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## Chapter Twelve

### THE RULERS OF THE FOURTH KINGDOM

We must not be ignorant of the simple fact that to what is commonly accepted in the world today may not be the truth, which as a result has led many people astray because they have not been diligent to go and seek the truth for themselves, but have trusted in teachers who themselves are a product of deception. If everyone in the world today is doing something that is wrong except a handful of people, does it make what they are doing right? Of course not. What is wrong is wrong and what is right is right, regardless of the majority. The ruler of this kingdom is commonly known in the world today as the Antichrist, but many are unaware of the fact that there have been and there are many Antichrists running around freely in the world today, including many preachers, pastors, so called priests, self-proclaimed prophets and more, because this is their world since God is not judging the sins of men at this instant. Consider this passage of Scripture:

**Isaiah 8:19-20** New King James Version (NKJV)

*19 And when they say to you, "Seek those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter," should not a people seek their God? Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living? 20 To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.*

This was written even before Jesus Christ walked the earth. Anyone today who seeks the dead on behalf of the living is an Antichrist. Moreover, if anyone claims to be sent by God but does not speak according to the testimony of Jesus Christ which is the spirit of prophecy, it means they having no understanding of the truth and of what is to come to our generation. If they do not teach in accordance with the Laws and Commandments, of God it means they are an Antichrist. Since the creation of the church of God, the apostles who spent time with Christ, even as early as that period, were noising the warning of many Antichrists who have gone out into the world, but they were not apostles of Christ.

**1 John 2:18-22** New King James Version (NKJV)

*18 Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.*

*20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. 21 I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth.*

*22 Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrists who denies the Father and the Son.*

But do we know the truth? Many in the world are chasing after these individuals including those who profess to believe in the true God, ignorantly, because they have no love of the truth and they will not listen to nor obey instruction.

**2 John 7** New King James Version (NKJV)

*7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the*

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*flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.*

The word Antichrist means an antagonist of the true Christ, which means anyone who is against Christ is an Antichrist. The above passages of Scripture illustrate the point that there are many out in the world today who are against Christ, which makes them Antichrists and liars. They do not have to say directly that Jesus has not come in the flesh. If anyone should say that Jesus Christ was not fully man, so He was not tempted as we are, they are a liar and an Antichrist. Then these go on deceiving others and they are deceived themselves. They cannot be mistaken because of the works they do. Consider:

**Titus 1:12-16** New King James Version (NKJV)

*12 One of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." 13 This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, 14 not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth. 15 To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. 16 They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.*

These people profess to know God but their actions are as far away from God as can be. But the irony is that some will still put their trust in such people because they themselves have not taken the time to seek the truth by studying the same words these false teachers distort to deceive them. You will be astonished to know that some people do not want to know the truth and will readily accept and believe a lie because it keeps them in their comfort zone, which they are not willing to change, hence, destroying their own souls. Jesus said:

**Matthew 5:17-19** New King James Version (NKJV)

*17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. 18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. 19 Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.*

Jesus is saying that until all the prophecies in the books of Moses and the books of the prophets are fulfilled, not a single word will change from them. Now that is a very scary prospect if you understand Bible prophecy. In essence, it means that the fourth kingdom is certainly going to come to pass as per these prophecies. Yet again Jesus said whoever breaks and teaches men to break the Commandments will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does and teaches men to do the Commandments will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. Why can't these teachers and these professing believers see these clear passages of Scripture literally littered throughout the entire Bible?

To fully grasp the truth about this world and the mind set of God, we need to understand certain facts. Consider:

**Ecclesiastes 12:9-14** New King James Version (NKJV)

*9 And moreover, because the Preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yes, he pondered and sought out and set in order many proverbs. 10 The Preacher sought to find acceptable words; and what was written was upright—words of truth. 11 The words of the wise*

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*are like goads, and the words of scholars are like well-driven nails, given by one Shepherd. 12 And further, my son, be admonished by these. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is wearisome to the flesh.*

**13** *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.*

**14** *For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.*

The words of the wise are to provoke others to seek the truth because they have understanding of the requirement to be in right standing with God. One of the wisest men to walk the earth, Solomon the King of Israel concluded in the above passage of Scripture that, the whole duty of man is to keep God's Commandments and everything we do will be judged at the appointed time, be it good or bad. When we comprehend the meaning of this passage of Scripture we have to realise that God has also made the wicked for a reason. Consider:

**Proverbs 16:4** New King James Version (NKJV)

**4** *The Lord has made all for Himself, Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.*

Would you still consider this world in the same light as you did yesterday, knowing God that will bring everything to judgment and that He has already made the wicked for the day of His indignation? What a scary prospect.

The fourth kingdom on earth will not start with just one ruler because it first comes together as a confederacy of ten kings or leaders of nations, to fulfil what God has put in their hearts to do.

**Revelation 17:12-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

**12** *"The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. 13 These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. 14 These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful."*

**15** *Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. 16 And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. 17 For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. 18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."*

This passage of Scripture is self-explanatory and should be taken literally. These ten horns or leaders are of one mind to hate the world's favourite harlot and they come together to destroy her. There is a city or nation in the world today which, when destroyed will affect the world's economy and hence, religious system. This is the Babylonian system which governs the world with all its wickedness.

**Daniel 7:7-8** New King James Version (NKJV)

**7** *"After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly*

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*strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 8 I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.*

In this passage of Scripture, we see the ten horns coming together first before the little horn came up among them after a while. This was interpreted to the prophet Daniel:

**Daniel 7:24** *New King James Version (NKJV)*

*24 The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings.*

It is imperative to understand that the little horn did not, if it could be stressed again, did not come to power at the beginning of the confederacy. He is not even one of the original leaders who formed the foundation of the confederacy. This leader, the little horn, came up afterwards and his entrance coincides with three of the original leaders being subdued or killed after they must have carried out what they set out to do as of the first, the destruction of Babylon.

**Zechariah 11:8-11** *New King James Version (NKJV)*

*8 I dismissed the three shepherds in one month. My soul loathed them, and their soul also abhorred me. 9 Then I said, "I will not feed you. Let what is dying die, and what is perishing perish. Let those that are left eat each other's flesh." 10 And I took my staff, Beauty, and cut it in two, that I might break the covenant which I had made with all the peoples. 11 So it was broken on that day. Thus the poor of the flock, who were watching me, knew that it was the word of the Lord.*

From this passage of Scripture, what is sobering is that it is the Lord who cuts off the three horns or leaders but it is carried out by the little horn. This is going to be the time of great distress in the land. To fully understand the implications of these few verses of Scripture, we have to study the whole of chapter eleven of the book of Zechariah.

**Zechariah 11:4-7** *New King James Version (NKJV)*

*4 Thus says the Lord my God, "Feed the flock for slaughter, 5 whose owners slaughter them and feel no guilt; those who sell them say, 'Blessed be the Lord, for I am rich'; and their shepherds do not pity them. 6 For I will no longer pity the inhabitants of the land," says the Lord. "But indeed I will give everyone into his neighbour's hand and into the hand of his king. They shall attack the land, and I will not deliver them from their hand."*

*7 So I fed the flock for slaughter, in particular the poor of the flock. I took for myself two staves: the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bonds; and I fed the flock.*

This is the prophecy which describes the fourth kingdom in a nutshell. At the appointed time, God will stop restraining the principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world and spiritual wickedness in heavenly places and as you read, God will give every man, woman and child, the inhabitants of the world into their neighbour's hand and the hand of these evil rulers. When these evil rulers attack, God will not deliver a soul because they have been disobedient to Him. They professed to be wise and did not follow God's instructions through His servants and as a result these calamities will befall them.

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Would you believe it if you were told that people will eat each other because of severe famine? Yes we know there are people who eat the flesh of man today because they are greatly disturbed but this will happen in a large scale and it will be because of the lack of food. This prophecy was given in the days of Moses to our generation. Now, consider Moses walked the earth over four thousand years ago, proof of the fact that the words of God do not return to Him unless they have accomplished the intent of His heart. Please carefully consider this passage of Scripture:

### **Deuteronomy 28:49-57** New King James Version (NKJV)

**49** *The Lord will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flies, a nation whose language you will not understand, 50 a nation of fierce countenance, which does not respect the elderly nor show favour to the young. 51 And they shall eat the increase of your livestock and the produce of your land, until you are destroyed; they shall not leave you grain or new wine or oil, or the increase of your cattle or the offspring of your flocks, until they have destroyed you.*

**52** *“They shall besiege you at all your gates until your high and fortified walls, in which you trust, come down throughout all your land; and they shall besiege you at all your gates throughout all your land which the Lord your God has given you. 53 You shall eat the fruit of your own body, the flesh of your sons and your daughters whom the Lord your God has given you, in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you. 54 The sensitive and very refined man among you will be hostile toward his brother, toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the rest of his children whom he leaves behind, 55 so that he will not give any of them the flesh of his children whom he will eat, because he has nothing left in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you at all your gates. 56 The tender and delicate woman among you, who would not venture to set the sole of her foot on the ground because of her delicateness and sensitivity, will refuse to the husband of her bosom, and to her son and her daughter, 57 her placenta which comes out from between her feet and her children whom she bears; for she will eat them secretly for lack of everything in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you at all your gates.*

It is coming; it will not tarry any longer. The prophet Isaiah was inspired to describe the same event, but he started with the fact that the righteous in this period of time will be glorified.

### **Isaiah 24:16-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

**16** *From the ends of the earth we have heard songs: “Glory to the righteous!” But I said, “I am ruined, ruined! Woe to me! The treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously, Indeed, the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously.” 17 Fear and the pit and the snare Are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth. 18 And it shall be That he who flees from the noise of the fear Shall fall into the pit, And he who comes up from the midst of the pit Shall be caught in the snare; For the windows from on high are open, And the foundations of the earth are shaken.*

The leaders of this kingdom will deal very treacherously. While the righteous will be taken to a place of safety (which is not in heaven, contrary to popular belief) these leaders will deal very treacherously with the inhabitants of the world led by the little horn. There are many other names for this particular leader.

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### **Nahum 1:9-11** New King James Version (NKJV)

*9 What do you conspire against the Lord? He will make an utter end of it. Affliction will not rise up a second time. 10 For while tangled like thorns, And while drunken like drunkards, They shall be devoured like stubble fully dried. 11 From you comes forth one Who plots evil against the Lord, A wicked counsellor.*

The prophet Nahum received the word from God to call he who devises an evil plot against the Lord a wicked counsellor. In the book of the prophet Habakkuk, he is called the proud man who heaps up to himself all nations.

### **Habakkuk 2:4-5** New King James Version (NKJV)

*4 "Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith. 5 "Indeed, because he transgresses by wine, He is a proud man, And he does not stay at home. Because he enlarges his desire as hell, And he is like death, and cannot be satisfied, He gathers to himself all nations And heaps up for himself all peoples.*

Because of the achievements of the confederacy from its beginning, this leader is going to be a proud man, thinking he achieved what was done by his own strength and his desire will become as large as hell which can never be satisfied, forgetting that it is God's desire to destroy, not this leader's strength to gather. All who have understanding at that time will know the identity of this leader who is an Antichrist. The Bible has made it clear for the servants of God to be able to pick out who this leader is. The book of Ezekiel tells us that this leader will not be able to handle a sword because the Lord has broken his arm, which is quite distinctive for the servants of God to recognise.

### **Ezekiel 30:21-22** New King James Version (NKJV)

*21 "Son of man, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and see, it has not been bandaged for healing, nor a splint put on to bind it, to make it strong enough to hold a sword. 22 Therefore thus says the Lord God: 'Surely I am against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and will break his arms, both the strong one and the one that was broken; and I will make the sword fall out of his hand.*

The prophet Zechariah is told it will not be his arm only but his eye also will be severely injured.

### **Zechariah 11:15-17** New King James Version (NKJV)

*15 And the Lord said to me, "Next, take for yourself the implements of a foolish shepherd. 16 For indeed I will raise up a shepherd in the land who will not care for those who are cut off, nor seek the young, nor heal those that are broken, nor feed those that still stand. But he will eat the flesh of the fat and tear their hooves in pieces.*

*17 "Woe to the worthless shepherd, Who leaves the flock! A sword shall be against his arm And against his right eye; His arm shall completely wither, And his right eye shall be totally blinded."*

Here he is called the worthless shepherd because he is all for mischief since he will not care for those who are cut off from the Lord especially the young and the sick. He will not care for anyone. We are given more description to identify him since his hand will be completely withered and his right eye will be totally blind because he will be almost killed but recovered from the injuries.

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Consider:

### **Revelation 13:3** New King James Version (NKJV)

*3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marvelled and followed the beast.*

This leader will not be alone at the top of this confederacy. He will have a prominent sidekick called the false prophet. It is important to understand that Satan will always counterfeit what God is doing, to deceive professing believers who do not understand the truth, but who have seen or heard of certain of these events in the Bible, but who have no wisdom or understanding to differentiate the truth from a lie.

### **Revelation 13:11-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

*11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. 12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. 13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. 14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. 15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. 16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, 17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.*

*18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.*

There isn't a lot said about this false prophet, but he is the one who is going to be by the side of the little horn, the leader of the fourth kingdom. He will be the one performing all the miracles and he will be able to make an image of the little horn to be able to breathe and speak.

To conclude, there are going to be two prominent leaders of the fourth kingdom who will not care about the inhabitants of the world but will destroy as many as they wish. One of the leaders, the false prophet, will have the power to call fire from heaven and to cause as many who do not take the mark of the leader, the mark of the beast, to be killed.

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## Chapter Thirteen

### THE POWERS BEHIND THE FOURTH KINGDOM

Only our lack of understanding keeps us from the true light and the truth. God the Creator of the heavens and the earth is the most transparent of all life. Forget the misconception which states that no one knows the day and hour of the return of Christ.

**Matthew 24:36** New King James Version (NKJV)

*36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.*

People use the above passage of Scripture to hide behind their ignorance and disobedience, choosing to close their minds to awesome knowledge. God has even broken it down to days for His servants to count down;

**Daniel 12:7-13** New King James Version (NKJV)

*7 Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.8 Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord, what shall be the end of these things?"*

*9 And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. 10 Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.*

*11 "And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. 12 Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days.13 "But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days."*

You can see for yourself that there is a point from which you can count and it will be exact as the word of God has stated. In your study, you might have stumbled across the fact that Christ's first coming was well documented in the Holy Scriptures. If that is the case, what about His second and third coming? Yes, His third coming. It is not an error. This is the beauty; God has also given us the understanding of His counsel to all who seek to know the truth. First we have to understand God is the beginning and the end. There is not a thing He does not know, including our thoughts.

**Revelation 1:8** New King James Version (NKJV)

*8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."*

The Lord our God is the First and the Last, the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. In other words, the Lord started all things and the Lord is the end of all things, which means not a thing happens in the heavens or on earth without the knowledge of the Lord.

**1 John 3:20** New King James Version (NKJV)

*20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.*

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And

**Acts 1:24** New King James Version (NKJV)

*24 And they prayed and said, "You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen*

These passages of Scripture may read at a casual glance, simplistic but they carry profound implications when read with understanding and in the truth. God knows all things and God knows the hearts of men. This was written by man but it is God who inspired these men to write these words about Him so that we should not be deceived. Consider this passage of Scripture:

**Psalm 139:1-12** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 O Lord, You have searched me and known me. 2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. 3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. 4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O Lord, You know it altogether. 5 You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it. 7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; 12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You.*

There is no hiding place from our God. There are words we could use to describe things on earth, but when you come across passages of Scripture like this, words to describe the awesomeness of God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth become very limited. The majority of people who cannot see beyond the little world they live in, because of their darkened minds, they turn to limit God to the size of their very small minds. In some quarters, their God is the image they have made with their hands, which stays in the same position forever unless it is moved. It speaks not, hears not and there is no breath in its nose, yet they fall and worship before it. What ignorance.

Our Lord and God is almighty and He is a consuming fire who will not acquit the wicked. We saw earlier in this study that God has also created the wicked for the day of His indignation, which means that the fourth kingdom to rule the earth will not come into power without the empowerment of God. First we have to understand it is a period of vengeance:

**Isaiah 61:2** New King James Version (NKJV)

*2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn,*

As stated earlier, we live in the period of time called the acceptable year of the Lord, in which all men, women and children are given the chance to move away from their evil ways, to repent and to believe in God. But after this period comes the vengeance of our God. It is only after vengeance that the Lord comfort all who mourn for family and friends who did not repent but had the opportunity and scorned it. Consider this passage of Scripture:

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### **Joel 1:15** New King James Version (NKJV)

*15 Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is at hand; It shall come as destruction from the Almighty.*

And from the book of the prophet Isaiah:

### **Isaiah 10:5-14** New King James Version (NKJV)

*5 "Woe to Assyria, the rod of My anger And the staff in whose hand is My indignation. 6 I will send him against an ungodly nation, And against the people of My wrath I will give him charge, To seize the spoil, to take the prey, And to tread them down like the mire of the streets. 7 Yet he does not mean so, Nor does his heart think so; But it is in his heart to destroy, And cut off not a few nations.*

*8 For he says, 'Are not my princes altogether kings? 9 Is not Calno like Carchemish? Is not Hamath like Arpad? Is not Samaria like Damascus? 10 As my hand has found the kingdoms of the idols, Whose carved images excelled those of Jerusalem and Samaria, 11 As I have done to Samaria and her idols, Shall I not do also to Jerusalem and her idols?'"*

*12 Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Lord has performed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, that He will say, "I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his haughty looks." 13 For he says: "By the strength of my hand I have done it, And by my wisdom, for I am prudent; Also I have removed the boundaries of the people, And have robbed their treasuries; So I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man. 14 My hand has found like a nest the riches of the people, And as one gathers eggs that are left, I have gathered all the earth; And there was no one who moved his wing, Nor opened his mouth with even a peep."*

What a sobering thought. It will be the Lord who will send Assyria, the rod of His indignation against the people of His wrath. As we have already established, it will not only be Assyria but a confederacy of nations. The Lord will give them charge to do whatever they want; take the people into captivity, kill as many as they please. Their heart is set for destruction.

### **Isaiah 13:5-6** New King James Version (NKJV)

*5 They come from a far country, From the end of heaven— The Lord and His weapons of indignation, To destroy the whole land. 6 Wail, for the day of the Lord is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty.*

The leaders of this kingdom will be of the mind-set that it is by their power and wisdom that they can do all these things, forgetting that it is the Lord who has come near the people of His wrath for judgment.

### **Malachi 3:5-6** New King James Version (NKJV)

*5 And I will come near you for judgment; I will be a swift witness Against sorcerers, Against adulterers, Against perjurers, Against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans, And against those who turn away an alien— Because they do not fear Me," Says the Lord of hosts. 6 "For I am the Lord, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.*

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We are not consumed, but alive today because the Lord is the same yesterday, today and forever. What the Lord has said will happen at the appointed time, we have been warned. But who will take heed of the warning? We have heaped up for ourselves teachers with no understanding, but the fact is we are just too busy with vain things to listen and question these teachers about the truth and how they have derived the information that they teach. Because we have plenty, we do not seek the Lord for anything and those who have not are too busy looking for ways to gather vain things for themselves, forgetting the Lord. The consequences for such disobedience are:

### **Jeremiah 50:30-34** New King James Version (NKJV)

**30** *Therefore her young men shall fall in the streets, And all her men of war shall be cut off in that day," says the Lord. 31 "Behold, I am against you, O most haughty one!" says the Lord God of hosts; "For your day has come, The time that I will punish you. 32 The most proud shall stumble and fall, And no one will raise him up; I will kindle a fire in his cities, And it will devour all around him." 33 Thus says the Lord of hosts: "The children of Israel were oppressed, Along with the children of Judah; All who took them captive have held them fast; They have refused to let them go. 34 Their Redeemer is strong; The Lord of hosts is His name. He will thoroughly plead their case, That He may give rest to the land, And disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon.*

The above passage of Scripture will be the beginning of the time of the vengeance of our God. After this, there are the great signs of the heavens to endure during this period of time as stated by the prophet Joel:

### **Joel 2:2-10** New King James Version (NKJV)

**2** *A day of darkness and gloominess, A day of clouds and thick darkness, Like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. A people come, great and strong, The like of whom has never been; Nor will there ever be any such after them, Even for many successive generations. 3 A fire devours before them, And behind them a flame burns; The land is like the Garden of Eden before them, And behind them a desolate wilderness; Surely nothing shall escape them. 4 Their appearance is like the appearance of horses; And like swift steeds, so they run. 5 With a noise like chariots Over mountaintops they leap, Like the noise of a flaming fire that devours the stubble, Like a strong people set in battle array. 6 Before them the people writhe in pain; All faces are drained of colour. 7 They run like mighty men, They climb the wall like men of war; Every one marches in formation, And they do not break ranks. 8 They do not push one another; Every one marches in his own column. Though they lunge between the weapons, They are not cut down. 9 They run to and fro in the city, They run on the wall; They climb into the houses, They enter at the windows like a thief. 10 The earth quakes before them, The heavens tremble; The sun and moon grow dark, And the stars diminish their brightness.*

An even more comprehensive account was given to the prophet Isaiah which states that the Lord will shake the heavens. Here we can see that the Medes will be involved in inflicting these judgments which will include the earth being moved out of its place.

### **Isaiah 13:7-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

**7** *Therefore all hands will be limp, Every man's heart will melt, 8 And they will be afraid. Pangs and*

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sorrows will take hold of them; They will be in pain as a woman in childbirth; They will be amazed at one another; Their faces will be like flames. **9** Behold, the day of the Lord comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it. **10** For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not give their light; The sun will be darkened in its going forth, And the moon will not cause its light to shine.

**11** "I will punish the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud, And will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. **12** I will make a mortal more rare than fine gold, A man more than the golden wedge of Ophir. **13** Therefore I will shake the heavens, And the earth will move out of her place, In the wrath of the Lord of hosts And in the day of His fierce anger.

**14** It shall be as the hunted gazelle, And as a sheep that no man takes up; Every man will turn to his own people, And everyone will flee to his own land. **15** Everyone who is found will be thrust through, And everyone who is captured will fall by the sword. **16** Their children also will be dashed to pieces before their eyes; Their houses will be plundered And their wives ravished. **17** "Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them, Who will not regard silver; And as for gold, they will not delight in it. **18** Also their bows will dash the young men to pieces, And they will have no pity on the fruit of the womb; Their eye will not spare children.

This will not be the end of it. There is an even greater twist to come when the god of this present world will be thrown out of heaven.

### **Revelation 12:3-9** New King James Version (NKJV)

**3** And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. **4** His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. **5** She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. **6** Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

**7** And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, **8** but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. **9** So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

The vast majority of the population of this world does not believe that Satan exists. He has convinced them to think that whatever is said about him is a lie. Satan is the father of liars and as it is mentioned in this passage of Scripture, Satan deceives the whole world including you and I. We have all been deceived at some point in our lives but we are no wiser to it because we know no different. This world system is of the devil, not of God. When God establishes His world after the fourth kingdom, there will be peace and abundant prosperity for all. Even the animals will be changed and all will be restored to their original glory.

Satan is a powerful being, more so than what many are led to believe. When he is thrown out of heaven onto the earth, he will give his power to the leaders of the fourth kingdom.

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### **Revelation 13:3-9** New King James Version (NKJV)

**3** And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marvelled and followed the beast. **4** So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

**5** And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. **6** Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. **7** It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. **8** All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. **9** If anyone has an ear, let him hear.

Just imagine for forty two months, three and a half years, this world will undergo the worst atrocities it has ever seen:

### **Revelation 12:12-17** New King James Version (NKJV)

**12** Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

**13** Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child. **14** But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. **15** So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. **16** But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. **17** And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

As we can see, the dragon, Satan is cast to the earth because no place is found for him and the rest of the fallen angels in heaven because their reign over the earth is almost at an end. They know they have only a short time, three and a half years. Consider for a moment what these evil spirits will do if they know their end is near! They will commit the worst destruction ever since there will be no restraints on them. Satan will give his power and seat to the leader of the confederacy to rule over the whole world.

### **Daniel 8:23-25** New King James Version (NKJV)

**23** "And in the latter time of their kingdom, When the transgressors have reached their fullness, A king shall arise, Having fierce features, Who understands sinister schemes. **24** His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people. **25** "Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; But he shall be broken without human means.

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To conclude who empowers the fourth kingdom is in two parts. First, God is angry because of the wickedness of the inhabitants of the whole earth. This is the time of God's vengeance in which He punishes first, the children of Israel for their abominable acts, since in all the earth only they has He known. Beware, because the phrase 'the children of Israel' includes you and I. This is a subject of another study.

Secondly, at the same period of time, since the reign of the god of this world, Satan the devil is at an end, he is thrown out of heaven onto the earth. He is very furious and attempts to wipe away those who believe and put their trust in God. There is a massive gulf between believing in God and believing and trusting in God. The earth opens up and swallows the flood the devil sends after the believers. He then gives his power and seat to the leader of the confederacy to carry out the worst atrocities this world has ever never seen before and will ever see again.

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## Chapter Fourteen

### THE BEGINNING OF THE FOURTH KINGDOM

A lot has been said in all quarters with respect to the end of age, but there is only one place to find the truth, and this place is within the Holy Scriptures. Why? This is the simple and single source truth. Men have said so many things, what they want do and what they are doing, but they can never keep their promises. We must understand it is the most High God who allows things to happen in both the heavens and on earth and no one can stop the counsel of His will. Only God can tell the end from the beginning and He has already spoken. Ironically, the vast majority of the inhabitants on earth are not listening and will not hear. There is a challenge which the Lord has given to those who thinks that they are someone, while they are nothing and to the gods of this world. God has said if you know of any another god, tell them to do something so we can all see and at the appointed time bring it to pass. Here is the challenge from God:

#### **Isaiah 41:21-23** New King James Version (NKJV)

**21** *“Present your case,” says the Lord. “Bring forth your strong reasons,” says the King of Jacob.*  
**22** *“Let them bring forth and show us what will happen; Let them show the former things, what they were, That we may consider them, And know the latter end of them; Or declare to us things to come.* **23** *Show the things that are to come hereafter, That we may know that you are gods; Yes, do good or do evil, That we may be dismayed and see it together.*

The religions and all the different denominations of mainstream Christianity have created different gods in the minds of their followers. Anything in contrast to the words of the God of Creation is from another god but these people have alienated themselves from the truth and their hearts have been darkened to believe a lie. Now if you are a believer of one of these gods, which ironically is one person hiding behind all these different gods, tell these gods to declare something and then bring it to pass. That is the challenge from the God of Creation, the Holy One of Israel. I too will like to hear what they have declared and see them fulfil it at the appointed time. Here is what the God of Creation has said:

#### **Isaiah 46:8-10** New King James Version (NKJV)

**8** *“Remember this, and show yourselves men; Recall to mind, O you transgressors.* **9** *Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me,*  
**10** *Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,’*

We have all seen the first three kingdoms come to pass in great detail. We now await the fourth and final kingdom to come. God the Creator has said it and He will bring it to pass. Consider the visions all the prophets of the only living God had; this is what God has said about the fulfilling of these visions:

#### **Habakkuk 2:2-3** New King James Version (NKJV)

**2** *Then the Lord answered me and said: “Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it.* **3** *For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it*

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*will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.*

Incidentally, these visions in question include the fourth kingdom which the Lord will use to execute his judgment. If you are one who has seen violence on earth and are wondering what will become of it all, then here is your answer. The prophet Habakkuk was granted an audience with the God of Creation. He questioned God about what was happening on earth and God gave him an answer. Consider:

### **Habakkuk 1:1-11 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*1 The burden which the prophet Habakkuk saw.*

#### **The Prophet's Question**

*2 O Lord, how long shall I cry, And You will not hear? Even cry out to You, "Violence!" And You will not save. 3 Why do You show me iniquity, And cause me to see trouble? For plundering and violence are before me; There is strife, and contention arises. 4 Therefore the law is powerless, And justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; Therefore perverse judgment proceeds.*

#### **The Lord's Reply**

*5 "Look among the nations and watch— Be utterly astounded! For I will work a work in your days Which you would not believe, though it were told you. 6 For indeed I am raising up the Chaldeans, A bitter and hasty nation Which marches through the breadth of the earth, To possess dwelling places that are not theirs. 7 They are terrible and dreadful; Their judgment and their dignity proceed from themselves. 8 Their horses also are swifter than leopards, And more fierce than evening wolves. Their chargers charge ahead; Their cavalry comes from afar; They fly as the eagle that hastens to eat. 9 "They all come for violence; Their faces are set like the east wind. They gather captives like sand. 10 They scoff at kings, And princes are scorned by them. They deride every stronghold, For they heap up earthen mounds and seize it. 11 Then his mind changes, and he transgresses; He commits offense, Ascribing this power to his god."*

The questions which many in our generation would like to ask the Lord were asked through the prophets thousands of years ago. Today we see violence and strife; on top of that there is no justice. The Laws of God have been eroded from all the nations of the world and many today are after their own lusts. Very few seek the truth and when it is presented to them, they mock and scorn at it. In the previous passage of Scripture, we have the answer that judgment is on the way and it will wait for nothing. At the appointed time it will come to pass and we are the generation to see it happen. Where is the proof of it? Here it is:

1. All the nations of the world today, especially those of the western world, have broken the everlasting covenant. None of these nations keep the Commandments of God.
2. The bloodshed in all nations is at the highest levels since creation and the earth will reject the inhabitants because of the bloodshed.
3. There is no justice in the world because the hearts of the majority of the inhabitants of the world today are full of violence. We are all going backwards like in the days of Noah.

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4. Like in the days of Noah, there are Nephilim on the earth. This time round they have been perfected to look like man, not giants as it was in the past. Remember we touched on this subject at the beginning of this study, the iron mixed with ceramic clay.

When will it all come to a head? We have to understand one passage of Scripture from the New Testament to shed some light on when this coming fourth kingdom will rule the earth.

### **2 Thessalonians 2:1-12** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, 2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. 3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.*

*5 Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? 6 And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. 9 The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, 12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*

We have to dissect this passage of Scripture line by line to fully understand its implications:

1. We are warned to let no one deceive us and not to be troubled by what is commonly said, but seek the truth and only when you study for yourself will you find the truth. This study is only a guide to help you understand. You have to see it in the word for yourself.
2. The day of the Lord's coming in glory and power will only happen after a particular point, which is the 'falling away', also known as the great apostasy, which incidentally is not the so called rapture. We will discuss this point a little later.
3. Only after the apostasy, the falling away, will it be that He who restrains will be taken away. In other words, the Lord who is keeping order in the world today will remove His restraint over all things.
4. When He who restrains is taken away, then the man of sin, the leader of this fourth kingdom, will be revealed.

What is the falling away, the great apostasy? Contrary to popular belief, the great apostasy or falling away is not the rapture or the great defection for believing in God. At this point, it is critical to define the true meaning of the so called rapture, which is not even in the Bible. It is true that God made man perfect, but man has invented so many things. The rapture is just one of man's inventions. The Bible, which is the word of God, speaks of the resurrection of the dead. Throughout scripture you find the word resurrection, not rapture and that will come not before but after the man of sin has been revealed. Consider Martha's answer to the Lord Jesus and what

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the Lord Jesus said about the dead:

**John 11:20-24** New King James Version (NKJV)

*20 Now Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. 21 Now Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."*

*23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."*

*24 Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."*

As you can see Jesus Christ who is the resurrection and the light did not correct Martha for saying the resurrection of the dead is on the last day, but here too is hidden a statement of faith. Martha was saying in faith to God that whatever His Son should ask Him, God will give to His Son, which was the life of Martha's brother. Jesus Himself was her teacher. The Lord had said before, that at the last day, the dead will hear His voice and live:

**John 5:24-29** New King James Version (NKJV)

*24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. 25 Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, 27 and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. 28 Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.*

There is an appointed time for everyone to hear the voice of the Son of God, Jesus Christ and no matter when or how they die, they will come back to life and be judged according to their works while they were alive. Everything we do while we are alive will be judged. And when will it happen?

**John 6:36-40** New King James Version (NKJV)

*36 But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39 This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. 40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."*

Verses thirty nine and forty are as clear as can be that the resurrection will be on the last day of this age, period; not before as some will profess and not after. The apostasy, or the falling away, could be the stumbling block over which most of these so called rapture teachers fall in error because of their lack of understanding of the Holy Scripture. Everything has already been done as a fore shadow for what is ahead and we are to learn from these prior events. Now in Scripture, Moses, by the hand of God was instructed to bring the children of Israel out of Egypt. This was the for runner of what is to come because God has promised to bring the captivity of His people back to the land He promised to Abraham and His seed, which we all know is Jesus Christ and if you are

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Christ's, then you will surely have to move to the land of Judea in the near future. Notice I said if you are Christ's, not a Jew or an Israelite, but if you are Christ's you are in the commonwealth of Israel.

### **Jeremiah 30:1-3** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying, 2 "Thus speaks the Lord God of Israel, saying: 'Write in a book for yourself all the words that I have spoken to you. 3 For behold, the days are coming,' says the Lord, 'that I will bring back from captivity My people Israel and Judah,' says the Lord. 'And I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.'"*

Study the book of Jeremiah chapters thirty and thirty one to gain more understanding. The Lord has said He will bring back the captivity of his people to the land He gave to their fathers, but when will that be? Something has to happen first. Remember the land of Israel today is the promised land, but the King of Israel is not glorified in the Land. Mount Zion is not in the hand of God. In the land of Israel, Judea, the gentiles have lifted up their banners in the Lord's holy mount. It will happen after the gentiles have been driven from Mount Zion by the Lord and then there will be the falling away in other the apostasy. Consider:

### **Psalm 14:7** New King James Version (NKJV)

*7 Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord brings back the captivity of His people, Let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.*

We all speak of the salvation of God. Some say they are already saved, making statements out of ignorance. Salvation is the Lord's and is of the Lord. Here we can clearly see that the salvation of God's people, Israel, will come out of Zion when the Lord brings back the captivity of His people and it is repeated to make sure we understand what has been said:

### **Psalm 53:6** New King James Version (NKJV)

*6 Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When God brings back the captivity of His people, Let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.*

Previously, we understood that the man of sin will be revealed only after the falling away, which means that the fourth kingdom to rule over the entire earth will only come to existence when the Lord has taken His people out of harm's way. Therefore take heed to the word of God and remember to walk in obedience to His Commandments. Remember, of all who left Egypt in the days of Moses the prophet of God, only two actually entered the Promised Land. After the Lord has brought back the captivity of His people to the land He promised to their fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, then the restrainer will be taken away and then the confederacy of those ten horns will proceed to perform what the Lord has put in their hearts to do, which is to burn the whore (the Babylonian system) who deceives the nations;

### **Revelation 18:1-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. 2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon*

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*the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! 3 For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.”*

*4 And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.5 For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. 6 Render to her just as she rendered to you and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. 7 In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, ‘I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.’ 8 Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.*

*9 “The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning, 10 standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.’*

*11 “And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore: 12 merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble; 13 and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies and souls of men. 14 The fruit that your soul longed for has gone from you, and all the things which are rich and splendid have gone from you, and you shall find them no more at all. 15 The merchants of these things, who became rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, 16 and saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls! 17 For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.’ Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance 18 and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, ‘What is like this great city?’*

When Babylon falls, the world will completely fall apart. The world economic system, the monetary system, the religions of this world will completely disappear, paving the way for the introduction of the fourth kingdom. Money will be worthless, just a piece of paper which has no value. All faces will be full of anxiety because no one will have any idea why these things are happening but the wise will know exactly why and what to do.

At this stage of the end of this age, the four seals of the book of Revelation will be opened. This coming confederacy, responsible for the destruction of Babylon, will proceed to destroy as many lives as possible up to a quarter of the inhabitants on earth.

**Revelation 6:7-8 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*7 When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, “Come and*

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*see.” 8 So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.*

Can you imagine a fourth of the population of the earth will be killed by this kingdom over a very short period of time!

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## Chapter Fifteen

### THE END OF THE FOURTH KINGDOM

There is a life span for everything put together by man in this age, it has a start date when it is first put together and an end date when it ceases to perform the functions for which it was put together. This includes organisations, religions, cars, governments, companies, estates, kingdoms and more. Likewise, the people who make these things also have a beginning, the day they were born and an end, the appointment we all have with death when they fall asleep until the appointed time of resurrection. But there are a few people alive today who will not taste death, but instead will be transformed from this life into the next at the time of the first resurrection of the dead. Consider this passage of Scripture of comforting words:

**Matthew 16:27-28** New King James Version (NKJV)

*27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. 28 "Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."*

As you can see we are each going to be rewarded according to our works, be it in wickedness or in righteousness. The rewarder, Jesus Christ, knows all our works, be they good or bad. As Jesus said in this passage of Scripture, some of us alive today will see Him return in great glory and power. The Apostle Paul was inspired by God to record these words to comfort us about those who have passed away, died, or fallen asleep. Consider:

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** New King James Version (NKJV)

*13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.*

*15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.*

We have to understand there is qualification for this reward, which is whether we believe that Jesus died and was resurrected from the dead and we have repented from our evil works and now walking according to the prescribed path righteousness set before us. If you believe, then there is hope that in His return all who had the same belief will be resurrected according to the Holy Scriptures. With that established, we have to go back to the dream Nebuchadnezzar had and the interpretation of the dream which God gave Daniel for us, to open our understanding of what will happen in our days.

**Daniel 2:31-35** New King James Version (NKJV)

*31 "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendour was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. 32 This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, 33 its legs of iron, its feet partly*

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*of iron and partly of clay. 34 You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which 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 were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.*

Here is the interpretation of the dream touching the relevant part of this study:

### **Daniel 2:40-45** New King James Version (NKJV)

*40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others. 41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. 43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay. 44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. 45 Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."*

The dream is certain and the interpretation is sure. In the days of these kings which is when the fourth kingdom will have dominion over the entire earth, this kingdom will have the element of iron in it (the powerful spiritual beings thrown out of heaven) and the element of iron mixed with ceramic clay, (the hybrids of these spirit beings) and the clay (mankind), God the Creator will set up His own kingdom which shall have dominion over the entire earth and shall never be destroyed. The stone that was cut out of the mountain without hands is Jesus Christ who will return and set up his kingdom.

History tells us three of these kingdoms, the Babylonian, the Medes and Persian, and the Grecian empires existed and all had dominion over the entire earth. Forget about the British Empire, the French under Napoleon, the Romans and others who ruled over vast areas of the earth but did not have dominion over the entire earth as these three former kingdoms did. These nations were just taking their turn to rule over the current world systems which started with the Babylonians, then the Medes and Persians, the Greeks and the four kingdoms which were formed after Alexander the Great, before moving westwards to Rome, Germany, Spain, France, Great Britain and the United States of America, not forgetting the Dutch who at one stage did have dominion over vast areas of the world. Now that power is shifting eastwards, making a full cycle back to where it started.

History also tells us that no kingdom has ever taken the reins of the world without war and fighting, except when the Medes and Persians took over Babylon in the days of Belshazzar the grandson of Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon. As we know, the Kingdom of God led by our Lord Jesus Christ will replace the fourth kingdom to rule the earth. King David of Israel, a prophet of God, was inspired by God to record God's words about this period of time:

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### **Psalm 9:3-10** New King James Version (NKJV)

*3 When my enemies turn back, They shall fall and perish at Your presence. 4 For You have maintained my right and my cause; You sat on the throne judging in righteousness. 5 You have rebuked the nations, You have destroyed the wicked; You have blotted out their name forever and ever. 6 O enemy, destructions are finished forever! And you have destroyed cities; Even their memory has perished. 7 But the Lord shall endure forever; He has prepared His throne for judgment. 8 He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness. 9 The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed, A refuge in times of trouble. 10 And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You.*

There are so many truths in this passage of Scripture, which if we can take hold of, will give us understanding of the end of age. It is the Lord who will punish all the wicked of the earth. While in this same period of time, the Lord will be a refuge for the righteous. There is a hiding place for all the righteous of the Lord. When the Lord destroys all the wicked of the earth, which will include the cities of the wicked, even the memory of them will also be blotted out and there will be no more destruction on earth after the fourth kingdom. Nations will not learn to fight wars anymore. The Lord confirmed His intentions through the prophet Zephaniah when He said:

### **Zephaniah 3:8** New King James Version (NKJV)

*8 "Therefore wait for Me," says the Lord, "Until the day I rise up for plunder; My determination is to gather the nations To My assembly of kingdoms, To pour on them My indignation, All My fierce anger; All the earth shall be devoured With the fire of My jealousy.*

That day has already been set, when the Lord will rise up to pour the fierceness of His anger on the nations. It is these same nations that the Lord will use to punish His people for their disobedience towards Him. Those who are used for punishment will themselves be punished because the Lord is determined to eliminate from the earth anything that offends.

### **Joel 3:1-3** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 "For behold, in those days and at that time, When I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem,  
2 I will also gather all nations, And bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; And I will enter into judgment with them there On account of My people, My heritage Israel, Whom they have scattered among the nations; They have also divided up My land. 3 They have cast lots for My people, Have given a boy as payment for a harlot, And sold a girl for wine, that they may drink.*

It will be bad enough to be alive during the time of this kingdom, let alone to be a woman, because these people will have no respect for women, not even for children if they would sell a boy as payment for a harlot and a girl for wine. Their judgment will proceed from themselves and will regard no laws whatsoever.

### **Joel 3:9-14** New King James Version (NKJV)

*9 Proclaim this among the nations: "Prepare for war! Wake up the mighty men, Let all the men of*

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*war draw near, Let them come up. 10 Beat your ploughshares into swords And your pruning hooks into spears; Let the weak say, 'I am strong.'" 11 Assemble and come, all you nations, And gather together all around. Cause Your mighty ones to go down there, O Lord. 12 "Let the nations be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; For there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. 13 Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; For the winepress is full, The vats overflow— For their wickedness is great." 14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.*

Two things will be happening simultaneously; the righteous will be taken to heaven where they will be rewarded for their obedience to the Laws and Commandments of God and for doing God's will, which is the first resurrection of the dead, commonly known as the rapture, while the wicked will be punished on earth in the valley of Jehoshaphat commonly known as the battle of Armageddon. This is the call for all the wicked of the earth to come up against the Lord to receive their reward. But they will not understand the purpose for their calling. In their minds, they are going to fight against a common enemy. The prophet Daniel recorded what he was shown concerning this period of time. The beast and the false prophet under the directives of their king, Satan the devil, will assemble the world to fight against the Lord Jesus Christ. Consider:

### **Daniel 8:25 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*25 "Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; But he shall be broken without human means.*

The Antichrist, the false prophet and all the wicked will be broken not by war but by the returning Jesus Christ with His Saints. This will be at the time when man's reign on the earth will finally come to an end. In other words, the spirits that rule over the entire world as it is today, the spirit of good, and evil will be removed and replaced by the spirit of life.

### **Daniel 7:26-28 New King James Version (NKJV)**

*26 'But the court shall be seated, And they shall take away his dominion, To consume and destroy it forever. 27 Then the kingdom and dominion, And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.' 28 "This is the end of the account. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly troubled me, and my countenance changed; but I kept the matter in my heart."*

In the days of Moses, when God removed His people, the children of Israel, from the land of Egypt, God punished the Pharaoh and the rest of Egypt by the hand of Moses with a great number of plagues. Since what has happened in the past is an example for us today to keep in mind, the Lord has already spoken through His prophets what He will do in the future. The Lord will punish the people of the fourth kingdom just as He did with the Pharaoh and Egypt. The book of Exodus chapters seven through to eleven carry an account of how God punished the Egyptians for what they did to His people, Israel. The fourth kingdom will be no different. God will use His two

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witnesses as He used Moses and Aaron to punish them for their works on earth. Consider this passage of Scripture:

**Revelation 11:3-10 New King James Version (NKJV)**

**3** *And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."*

**4** *These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. **5** And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. **6** These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.*

**7** *When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. **8** And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. **9** Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. **10** And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.*

Those who dwell on earth will rejoice not knowing that there is more punishment to come from God. Unlike the Egyptians who were plagued by God through Moses and Aaron, the fourth kingdom will be plagued for three-and-a-half years by the two witnesses and then directly by God through the hands of His angels. Consider:

**Revelation 16:1-21 New King James Version (NKJV)**

**1** *Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth."*

**2** *So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.*

**3** *Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died.*

**4** *Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. **5** And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things. **6** For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due." **7** And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."*

**8** *Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. **9** And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.*

**10** *Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. **11** They blasphemed the God*

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*of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.*

**12** *Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared. 13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.*

**15** *“Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.”*

**16** *And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.*

**17** *Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, “It is done!” 18 And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. 19 Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. 20 Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.*

After these plagues is the final destruction of the fourth kingdom, the end. As the prophet Isaiah was inspired to say:

### **Isaiah 14:3-7** New King James Version (NKJV)

**3** *It shall come to pass in the day the Lord gives you rest from your sorrow, and from your fear and the hard bondage in which you were made to serve, 4 that you will take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say: “How the oppressor has ceased, The golden city ceased! 5 The Lord has broken the staff of the wicked, The scepter of the rulers; 6 He who struck the people in wrath with a continual stroke, He who ruled the nations in anger, Is persecuted and no one hinders. 7 The whole earth is at rest and quiet; They break forth into singing.*

And

### **Isaiah 14:24-27** New King James Version (NKJV)

**24** *The Lord of hosts has sworn, saying, “Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, And as I have purposed, so it shall stand: 25 That I will break the Assyrian in My land, And on My mountains tread him underfoot. Then his yoke shall be removed from them, And his burden removed from their shoulders. 26 This is the purpose that is purposed against the whole earth, And this is the hand that is stretched out over all the nations.*

**27** *For the Lord of hosts has purposed, And who will annul it? His hand is stretched out, And who will turn it back?”*

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The very end of this kingdom and of all the kingdoms which have ever existed will come at the return of Jesus Christ in great glory. The bodies of the inhabitants of the fourth kingdom will be given to the birds of the air as food while the beast, the leader of this kingdom and the false prophet, will be thrown alive into the lake of fire.

### **Revelation 19:17-21** New King James Version (NKJV)

*17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God 18 that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great."*

*19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. 20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21 And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.*

Thereafter, this will be the time of the restoration of all things. Would you believe cats, dogs, lions, all animals will have their diet changed and they will all eat grass like cows and goats? The earth itself will be changed and most of the mountains such as Everest, the Alps and many more will become flat land with gentle hills and will all become habitable.

There will be peace throughout the entire earth. Wars will be a thing of the past. No nation will lift up a sword against another nation. Consider:

### **Isaiah 54:1-17** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 "Sing, O barren, You who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, You who have not laboured with child! For more are the children of the desolate Than the children of the married woman," says the Lord. 2 "Enlarge the place of your tent, And let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; Do not spare; Lengthen your cords, And strengthen your stakes. 3 For you shall expand to the right and to the left, And your descendants will inherit the nations, And make the desolate cities inhabited. 4 "Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; Neither be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame; For you will forget the shame of your youth, And will not remember the reproach of your widowhood anymore. 5 For your Maker is your husband, The Lord of hosts is His name; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth. 6 For the Lord has called you Like a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, Like a youthful wife when you were refused," Says your God. 7 "For a mere moment I have forsaken you, But with great mercies I will gather you. 8 With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment; But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you," Says the Lord, your Redeemer.*

*9 "For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn That the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, So have I sworn That I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you.*

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**10** *For the mountains shall depart And the hills be removed, But My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed,” Says the Lord, who has mercy on you.*

**11** *“O you afflicted one, Tossed with tempest, and not comforted, Behold, I will lay your stones with colourful gems, And lay your foundations with sapphires. 12 I will make your pinnacles of rubies, Your gates of crystal, And all your walls of precious stones. 13 All your children shall be taught by the Lord, And great shall be the peace of your children.*

**14** *In righteousness you shall be established; You shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; And from terror, for it shall not come near you. 15 Indeed they shall surely assemble, but not because of Me. Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake. 16 “Behold, I have created the blacksmith Who blows the coals in the fire, Who brings forth an instrument for his work; And I have created the spoiler to destroy. 17 No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their righteousness is from Me,” Says the Lord.*

## Chapter Sixteen

### HOW TO ESCAPE THE FOURTH KINGDOM

A good understanding of the truth and the willingness to walk in obedience to the laws and commandments of God are the essential requirements that will keep us from the claws of the fourth kingdom. If we do not know the truth, how are we expected to know what to do at the appointed time? During the days before the fourth kingdom, which will have rule over the entire earth, many will be thinking, things are just a bit strange at the moment but as usual it will get better again as it always does. Many will put their trust in others; the leaders of the nations of the world, believing they will come together and work things out for the better as usual, but the reality will be far from their thoughts. This period of time is destruction from the almighty God because of wickedness amongst men on earth. Consider this passage of Scripture by the apostle Paul in which he was inspired to foretell our days:

#### **2 Timothy 3:1-9** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! 6 For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. 8 Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith; 9 but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was.*

If the Bible was not put together a long time ago, you would think this passage of Scripture was written last year. Paul was also inspired to give the reason for these characteristics in the people of our generation. Consider:

#### **Romans 1:28-32** New King James Version (NKJV)

*28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, 30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; 32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.*

The world we live in is decaying at an alarming rate because the majority of its inhabitants have not retained the knowledge of God, hence, God has given them over to a debased, a reprobate mind, which leads to these characteristics listed in both passages of Scripture above. Ironically, those who are disobedient to parents are classified in the same category as murderers, so too are those who are proud, are classified in the same field as the hates of God. God had earlier said by the prophet Hosea that His people are destroyed for lack of knowledge and when they should

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come across knowledge they reject it so they can continue living according to their own lusts.

### **Hosea 4:4-6** New King James Version (NKJV)

*4 “Now let no man contend, or rebuke another; For your people are like those who contend with the priest. 5 Therefore you shall stumble in the day; The prophet also shall stumble with you in the night; And I will destroy your mother. 6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.*

The reason why the majority of people alive today will come face to face with destruction is due to the fact that, they have no knowledge of God and the truth. They will not believe when the truth is presented up to them since they have not retained the knowledge of God which therefore means obedience is alien to the majority of people alive today. They will scorn and deride instructions, which on application would save their lives. Wisdom is not stratified by the level of education you have attained or having much experience in life. On the contrary, departing from all evil ways is the beginning of wisdom. Wisdom is to keep instructions, hear corrections, to love the truth, to keep the Commandments and Laws of God and the faith of Christ. Consider this passage of Scripture highlights the foundation of wisdom from our Lord Jesus Christ to us through King Solomon:

### **Proverbs 1:1-33** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel: 2 To know wisdom and instruction, To perceive the words of understanding, 3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, Justice, judgment, and equity; 4 To give prudence to the simple, To the young man knowledge and discretion— 5 A wise man will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel, 6 To understand a proverb and an enigma, The words of the wise and their riddles.*

*7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction. 8 My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; 9 For they will be a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck.*

*10 My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent. 11 If they say, “Come with us, Let us lie in wait to shed blood; Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause; 12 Let us swallow them alive like Sheol, And whole, like those who go down to the Pit; 13 We shall find all kinds of precious possessions, We shall fill our houses with spoil; 14 Cast in your lot among us, Let us all have one purse”— 15 My son, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path; 16 For their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed blood. 17 Surely, in vain the net is spread In the sight of any bird; 18 But they lie in wait for their own blood, They lurk secretly for their own lives. 19 So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain; It takes away the life of its owners.*

*20 Wisdom calls aloud outside; She raises her voice in the open squares. 21 She cries out in the chief concourses, At the openings of the gates in the city She speaks her words: 22 “How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For scorners delight in their scorning, And fools hate knowledge.*

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**23** Turn at my rebuke; Surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you. **24** Because I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded, **25** Because you disdained all my counsel, And would have none of my rebuke, **26** I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your terror comes, **27** When your terror comes like a storm, And your destruction comes like a whirlwind, When distress and anguish come upon you. **28** "Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me. **29** Because they hated knowledge And did not choose the fear of the Lord, **30** They would have none of my counsel And despised my every rebuke. **31** Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way, And be filled to the full with their own fancies. **32** For the turning away of the simple will slay them, And the complacency of fools will destroy them; **33** But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, And will be secure, without fear of evil."

The Lord our God has given us His word. If we follow His instructions, we will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil, but if we don't take heed of His instructions, then, calamity waits at the door. What are the instructions of wisdom? The entire word of God contains the instructions of wisdom which as we grow in the knowledge of God, it will save us from the dreadful fourth kingdom. We have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. The first thing to do is to acknowledge that we have sinned against God. If we do not acknowledge the fact that we have sinned against God, then what ever we do with our lives will mean absolutely nothing. Consider this passage of Scripture:

### **Jeremiah 3:11-15** New King James Version (NKJV)

**11** Then the Lord said to me, "Backsliding Israel has shown herself more righteous than treacherous Judah. **12** Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say: 'Return, backsliding Israel,' says the Lord; 'I will not cause My anger to fall on you. For I am merciful,' says the Lord; 'I will not remain angry forever. **13** Only acknowledge your iniquity, That you have transgressed against the Lord your God, And have scattered your charms To alien deities under every green tree, And you have not obeyed My voice,' says the Lord.

**14** "Return, O backsliding children," says the Lord; "for I am married to you. I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion. **15** And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

This present age comprises of two kinds of people who exists for a particular purposes, the children of God and the children of the evil one. The house of God is divided into two camps:

- The Israelites, who have knowledge of God but walk according to the commandments and precepts of men and their own hearts.
- The Spiritual Jews, who walk according to the commandments and laws of God and worship God in Spirit and in truth.

The call is to all of us to acknowledge our iniquity that we have transgressed against the Lord our

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God and have not obeyed His instructions, the voice of the Lord, since there is no man alive today who has not sinned against the Lord.

Some consider those who follow after the truth to being brain washed, which is just a fabrication and complete ignorance. When you hear words, be it the truth or a lie, it is up to you to identify with what you have heard and then take action in accordance with what has been said. Where there is a belief, there is also the necessity to take action. When no action is taken, then there is only a profession to believe because no effort has been made to show for the belief, which makes whoever it is an unbeliever. The majority of those who profess to believe in the God of Creation fall under the umbrella of unbelievers because they cannot prove their belief with actions.

Escaping the coming fourth kingdom starts with following instructions. The first of these instructions is to repent which changes the lives of all who dare to obey for the better. We all have a purpose for our existence and it is up to us to find out what it is, be it in the Kingdom of God which is in light or the kingdom of darkness which ends with death. The very first step to the kingdom of God is to answer God's call to repentance:

### **Zechariah 1:1-6** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying, 2 "The Lord has been very angry with your fathers. 3 Therefore say to them, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Return to Me," says the Lord of hosts, "and I will return to you," says the Lord of hosts. 4 "Do not be like your fathers, to whom the former prophets preached, saying, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Turn now from your evil ways and your evil deeds.'" But they did not hear nor heed Me," says the Lord. 5 "Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live forever? 6 Yet surely My words and My statutes, Which I commanded My servants the prophets, Did they not overtake your fathers? "So they returned and said: 'Just as the Lord of hosts determined to do to us, According to our ways and according to our deeds, So He has dealt with us.'""*

We have been given the choice to return to the Lord, when we come to the knowledge of God, but who is going to take hold of it? We have all at particular time in our lives come across the truth, regardless of how, but nevertheless, we have stumbled in the path of the truth and have not taken the time to investigate. Occasionally, when we come to a point that requires us to amend our ways, we turn around and scorn at it. There is a great call for all to come to eat and drink from the hands of the Lord and it is free of charge:

### **Isaiah 55:1-7** New King James Version (NKJV)

*1 "Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters; And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price. 2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in abundance. 3 Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you— The sure mercies of David. 4 Indeed I have given him as a witness to the people, A leader and commander for the people. 5 Surely you shall call a nation you do not know, And nations who do not know you shall run to you, Because of the Lord your God, And the Holy One of Israel; For He has glorified you." 6 Seek the Lord while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the Lord, And He will have mercy on*

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*him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.*

Take some time to ponder on this passage of Scripture until you have drawn out all the goodness from those gracious words and let them stay at the forefront of your mind. Why do we fill our minds with things that add no value to your life? Would you believe the God who created the heavens and the earth will make an everlasting covenant with you, show you His mercy, abundantly forgive all your sins and then glorify you? Do you think these words are not for us today? We have seen that the words of God do not return to Him void unless they have completed the intent of His heart. It means these words do also apply to us today.

### **Joel 2:12-13** New King James Version (NKJV)

*12 "Now, therefore," says the Lord, "Turn to Me with all your heart, With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning." 13 So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the Lord your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.*

This passage of Scripture carries a profound instruction which many professing believers fail to understand since the majority have been led to believe that, the Old Testament has been made redundant, forgetting the fact that the Bible is one book which runs progressively from one cover to the other cover. The instruction here is to rent our hearts and not our garments, which means that, returning to the Lord our God is something spiritual and not carnal. When Jesus Christ walked the earth, His message was that of the kingdom of God, in which He said repent and believe the Gospel.

### **Mark 1:14-15** New King James Version (NKJV)

*14 Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."*

We know that we have to repent, which is to turn to God with all our hearts, moving away from the life of disobedience to the voice and Commandments of God, to a life of obedience to the Commandments of God. But another element has been added here which is to believe the gospel of the kingdom of God of, which in a nutshell is at the appointed time, God is going to set up His kingdom on earth after removing everything that offends from the earth and those who qualify will serve in His kingdom as lords and kings forever. This was made possible by the love of God and the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. This was expanded further by the apostle Peter on the day of Pentecost:

### **Acts 2:29-39** New King James Version (NKJV)

*29 "Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, 31 he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and*

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*having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.*

**34** *“For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, 35 Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”’ 36 “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” 37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” 38 Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”*

What God foretold through His servant the prophet and David, King of Israel, was fulfilled during the days of the apostle, which included the resurrection of Christ from the dead rendering the power of death to no effect. The promise of resurrection is to all whom the Lord our God will call, but first we have to repent and be baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of our sins. It is the blood of Christ that cleanses us from our sins. Thereafter we will receive the free gift of life, the Spirit of God.

### **Acts 3:17-21 New King James Version (NKJV)**

**17** *“Yet now, brethren, I know that you did it in ignorance, as did also your rulers. 18 But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His prophets, that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled. 19 Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, 20 and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, 21 whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.*

What God foretold by the mouth of His prophets that Christ will suffer, He has fulfilled. Now if we repent, we will be converted into the kingdom of God and our sins will be blotted out and that, at the time of the restoration of all things, we will be restored and glorified with Christ. As you can see, this was foretold hundreds of years ago and it will come to pass at the appointed time.

After repentance, we must be willing to grow in the knowledge of the truth, abiding in the word so we will be able to stand, and not being tossed around by all manner of doctrine by deceitful worker from the kingdom of darkness pretending to be apostles of light.

To conclude this study we have to go back to one of the Scriptures we have seen before in this study, which King Solomon was inspired to record about our existence:

### **Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 New King James Version (NKJV)**

**13** *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man’s all.*

**14** *For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.*

If you are in doubt, thinking this cannot be and believing it is a fabrication, then you are in serious error. No one wants to fall into the hands of the living God; just the thought of it is scary, for God

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has said:

**Isaiah 46:9-13** New King James Version (NKJV)

*9 Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,' 11 Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it. 12 "Listen to Me, you stubborn-hearted, Who are far from righteousness: 13 I bring My righteousness near, it shall not be far off; My salvation shall not linger. And I will place salvation in Zion, For Israel My glory.*

Notice God is speaking in first person terms. God's counsel shall stand and at the appointed time God will do His pleasure. The reason for the fourth kingdom is to eliminate everything that offends from the earth in the sight of God. At the end, all the participants of the fourth kingdom will themselves be punished when Christ returns with His Saints to rule the earth with a rod of iron.