11 Man of Sin: False Christ

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Tagline

"...the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority." | Revelation 13:2b

Synopsis

He goes by many names, the man of sin, the false christ, the beast, the 7/8th head, the little horn, and most commonly, the antichrist. Daniel and John provide a lot of details about this character and his supporter, the false prophet. Many through history have also pointed to many people and places when trying to pin these names to reality, but when we dig into the details about the false prophet and false christ, what relevant information can we glean from scripture? The same Word has been there for thousands of years, what is there new to understand? There is nothing new under the sun, but as with all these studies if we take God at His Word and additionally think about the underlying purpose behind all these efforts of the Dragon, the complete destruction of mankind, I believe a very clear perspective comes into view.

This isn't a new view, but the amount of supporting details that fit into this puzzle that is the last days bring such clarity to this possibility and yet also reveals why it is such a great deception that even Christians in name only may be pulled into it with the blinded Jews. While Israel is blind to Yeshua as their Messiah, the veil of Moses overshadowing their eyes of their hearts and minds, 2 Corinthians 3:12-18, they are not stupid. While they are largely secular as a nation today, the tradition of their fathers is chiseled into their hearts, embedded in their culture. The problem with Israel as a people today is not so much going after other gods, it's believing there is a spiritual world at all, but there are no foxhole atheists and the pressures of the world against them and their enemies surrounding them is now and will continue to change them. This will especially be the case when their enemies are suddenly defeated, their history is validated beyond refutation, there are signs and wonders, and the world suddenly turns around to accept their new king in just the ways the Old Testament prophesied.

This is the same Old Testament of Israel, of the Christians, and that which Islam says was corrupted. Someone is going to appear to offer the proper interpretation with signs and powers and lying wonders to set the record straight for everyone. We've seen cults take parts of the Bible and twist them around, but the mystery of iniquity has been at this since it was first written, watching God's plan to save His creation unfold and trying at every step to eliminate the chosen people through which that salvation would come, then the Messiah born from her, then His followers through history to today. Let's not forget the Dragon does not need to destroy those who reject God, they are already doomed with him of their own free will and they make great pawns to influence and do his bidding. How great a deception to use their own faith system built from God's Word, adjusted here and there in the traditions of men, to cause a great apostasy from the God of their fathers to one who comes in his own name. True, not everyone will accept him when he reveals his true intentions, but who he can't convert to eternal separation from God, he can try to eliminate from his kingdom until there are none left

It's time to examine the possibility that the false christ deception is not centered in Rome or Islam, but in an evil deception the mystery of iniquity has been hard at work building to play into desires of the God-fearing of Israel who are blinded to the Messiah yet desire His arrival so badly. What starts out as truly turning back to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, will be hijacked by the enemy of mankind and just as the unfaithful of Israel played the harlot in the Old Testament time and time again, the Dragon has a couple of pawns to whom will be given supernatural signs and wonders to deceive God's people. And just as the unfaithful and zealous of Israel killed the faithful and prophets of Israel in Jerusalem, so will the harlot following their false christ and riding the Dragon become drunk on the

blood of the faithful saints in their zealous support of their false messiah as they follow him to his ultimate end. This unparalleled tribulation will begin in the family of Jacob, the time of Jacob's trouble, but mankind's enemy desires the whole world.

My prayer is that the pawns of the accuser will not break through the strength of faith you have in knowing the Truth from God's Word. Would that God's people turn back to Him and have the veil removed and not be deceived, but that is not what is written and as much as it breaks my heart, I can't imagine the sense of loss God must feel in their ultimate choices. But there are a remnant that will remain faithful and enter into God's rest and protection in the wilderness where He will speak comfortably to her and provide for her in her wilderness tabernacles. And when she comes out of the wilderness she will enter into the Promised Land in the glory and splendor desired for millennia in the Messianic Kingdom inaugurated at the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Overview

- Introduction
- Deception
 - Allowing Temptation
- Defining the False Christ and False Prophet from Scripture
 - Antichrists
 - The False Christ
 - o The False Prophet
- Where Is He From?
 - o Revived Roman Empire
 - o Islam and the Mahdi
 - Hinduism
 - o Buddhism
 - Judaism and Rabbinic Tradition looking for the Messiah
 - Some of the Oral Law is based in Tanakh, a good deception must have some truth in it (Include Old Testament passages, showing false and true fulfillment)
 - Elijah
 - He will work in reconciling God and Israel, and bringing Israel to repentance
 He will forever break the yoke of all foreign rule in the part Elijah is expected to take in the future wars of Gog and Magog.
 To him God had delegated His three special keys: of birth, of the rainfall, and of waking the dead
 He is the guardian of the interests of Israel and harbinger to the bright Messianic future.
 He will not come on the eve of either a Sabbath or feast-day, in order not to interrupt the festive rest, nor to break the festive laws
 His advent would be close to that of that Messiah.
 He will stand on the mountains of Israel, lamenting the desolateness of the land, his voice being heard from one end of the world to the other, saying peace, good, and Jeshuah (salvation) comes to the world and saying to Zion Thy King cometh!
 The period of Elijah's advent would, according to one opinion, be a time of genuine repentance by Israel

He would come around Pesach, as some traditions leave a cup of wine for him.
 He would also restore to Israel the things which had been lost: the golden pot of Manna, the vessel containing the anointing oil, and that with the waters of purification - according to some, also Aaron's rod that budded and bore fruit

Restore Ark of the CovenantIkvot Meshicha "The heels of Moshiach"

- Mashiach □ Before the time of the mashiach, there shall be war and suffering ☐ A great political leader descended from King David □ Well-versed in Jewish law, and observant of its commandments □ A charismatic leader, inspiring others to follow his example He will be a human being, not a god, demi-god or other supernatural being ☐ He will bring about the political and spiritual redemption of the Jewish people, bringing them back to Israel and restoring Jerusalem ☐ He will establish a government in Israel that will be the center of all world government, both for Jews and gentiles
 - ☐ He will rebuild the Temple and re-establish its worship
 - ☐ He will restore the religious court system of Israel and establish Jewish law as the law of the land
 - □ All on earth shall worship him
 - He shall rule the earth and destroy the wicked
- Faithful and Unfaithful Israel: Time of Jacob's Trouble
 - The Mosaic Covenant
 - The Faithful Woman of Revelation 12
 - o The Unfaithful Woman of Revelation 17-18
 - Division of the Natural Branches
 - The Time of Jacob's Trouble
 - o Isn't this Antisemitic?
- Rise of the False Christ Kingdom
 - Birth Pangs of Messiah
 - Arrival of Elijah
 - Return of the Mosaic Covenant
 - Wars of the False Christ
 - o Temple Rededication
 - False Gog and Magog
 - o Resurrection of the False Christ
 - Purge of the Blasphemers
 - o Establishment of Jerusalem
 - Conversion of the World
 - Enforcement with a Rod of Iron
- False Christ for All Religions?
- Conclusion

Details

- Introduction
 - The visions of Daniel and John about the false christ have conjured dystopic imaginations in the minds of Christians for millennia. Coming from a place of alignment with God, his actions toward God's people hits us personally, understanding that we would be the focus of his hatred.
 - What Christians have tended not to do is look at this period of time from the perspective of those who are deceived. We sometimes forget that few are chosen and wide is the gate that leads to destruction and many choose that gate. They exchange gifts when the two witnesses are killed, they turn in their neighbors, friends, and family. From their perspective, followers of God are an impediment to a utopia they have accepted, outcasts who refuse to get with the program of making the world perfect under someone who appears to be able to make it possible. Those who accept this false christ are not under any threat of death, but are under his wing, his hands and feet, reaping the benefits of his rule.
 - How could anyone look at the false christ's kingdom as a good thing? Why would anyone

- choose to follow this man?
- We've already covered a lot of Bible prophecy referring to the man of sin, the false christ, up to this point. A lot of the definition is already done, but I think it's good to focus a study on defining what the Bible says the defining characteristics of both the false christ and false prophet are.
- In addition, a lot of the reasons to connect the great deception to Israel in the land have been pointed out. I think it is also good to focus on defining what the Rabbinical tradition says about the expectations of the Messiah and the one that will prepare the way for him according to the Oral Law and tradition.
- Overview Timeline
 - In the overview of the timeline, this topic really covers just about the whole timeline but is manifest differently at different times. There will be a point where the false christ is alive on the earth yet nobody really knows it yet. He will then come to power and ultimately rule the world for a short time. The timeline will adjust as we discuss these different periods within the timeline.

• Deception

- As mentioned in the <u>Olivet Discourse: Vision of the Future</u> study and others, when the
 disciples responded to Yeshua stating the temple would be destroyed, they asked several
 questions. "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming,
 and of the end of the world?" Yeshua's answer to the questions started with a warning
 about deception.
 - <u>Luke 21:8</u> "And he said, Take heed that ye be not deceived G4105: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am [Christ]; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them."
 - Mark 13:5-6, 20-22 "And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed lest any [man] deceiveG4105 you: For many shall come in my name, saying, I am [Christ]; and shall deceiveG4105 many. ... And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect'sG1588 sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days. And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here [is] Christ; or, lo, [he is] there; believe [him] not: For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if [it were] possible, even the electG1588."
 - Matthew 24:4-5, 23-24 "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceiveG4105 you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceiveG4105 many. ... Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here [is] Christ, or there; believe [it] not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if [it were] possible, they shall deceiveG4105 the very electG1588."
 - G4105 plan-ah'-o to cause to stray, to lead astray, to be led into error, to sever or fall away from the truth
 - □ <u>G1588</u> ek-lek-tos' picked out, chosen by God.
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:6-10 "And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth [will let], until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: [Even him], whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved."
 - Merriam-Webster defines "deceive" as: to cause to accept as true or valid what is false or invalid, to be false to, to give a false impression.
- I wanted to bring this to remembrance to make this point up-front. The whole point of deception, in the context of Bible prophecy, is to lead as many in the world as is possible to worship the Dragon through his proxies, the false christ and false prophet. The mystery of

iniquity has been at work for thousands of years setting things up to that end. Those who refuse will be actively sought out and eliminated in an attempt to leave only those that worship him in the world. There are two groups that need to be deceived.

- The first would be those who have not already accepted the true God of creation, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The world already rejects the truth, the Dragon just desires their compliance and worship. While some have strong beliefs in other gods, the introduction of signs and wonders unheard of in other religions, those with no belief system, or active rejection of the spiritual, will certainly bolster his power as a supernatural authority to be accepted by the world. Even those who don't will be more willing to go along just to stay alive.
- But it is the leading of the elect into apostasy that is at the heart of the deception. If he can lead those who accept truth away from that truth to a lie and to fall away from the truth, apostasy, then he can steal God's people. What should be clear is that this deception is something that would be effective in deceiving the chosen of God if they did not already believe the truth according to God's Word. In other words, the deception is based off some truth they already believe.
- As with everything prophetic, it starts with deceiving God's chosen people, Israel. This is why the deception is wrapped up in replacing the true Messiah with the false messiah. Since Israel has been blinded, this deception will be great and very effective. And in the realm of Hebrew and Gentile believers, those who do not know what God says about the future have a higher chance of also falling into the deception. Those who fall for the deception were never written in the Lamb's book of life and were therefore not the elect, or chosen.
- It's not really possible for those who believe in Yeshua now and know the Word of God to be deceived because Yeshua was clear how He would return, in the clouds with great power and glory. The testing for these is their trust in the promise to the extent of giving up their lives in the face of persecution. He also sufficiently warned of false christs coming before His return. It may seem an obvious statement, but it seems that sometimes this point is glossed over when looking at the origins of the false christ that puts himself in place of the true anointed Messiah.
- o In the <u>Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel</u> study, it was clarified that God's chosen people are Israel through whom the Messiah, the Christ, the anointed was born. He was born from and part of that family, while also existing eternally as God who created the world, made a covenant with Abraham, and led Israel out of Egypt as His chosen people, His elect. When He was rejected by His own people the Gospel went to the Gentiles, and as will be detailed more in the <u>Harpazo: The Blessed Hope</u> study, He has brought in the Gentiles that believe in Him into the chosen family of Abraham by faith, the elect and chosen of God. And as symbolized in the idea of a marriage, has adopted the elect Gentiles into the family. And so spiritual Israel, those who believe God by faith in their diverse times, are the elect who walk in Spirit and truth.
- That being said, I ask you to think about this question. If the elect from our perspective before the end are those who remain faithful to God, whether blinded Jews sincerely seeking relationship with God, or those who have accepted Christ comprised of both Jew and Gentile, then what is the most effective deception that the Dragon could perpetrate to lead the elect away from truth?
- We all have experience deceiving others or ourselves in life, whether big or small. How effective is a lie with no basis in the reality of the person being targeted for deception? If you were being charged with theft and your response was that you weren't there because you had an alibi somewhere else, when you know you were on camera at the scene, the deception wouldn't get you very far. But if you could use that truth that you were on camera and twist it in such a way that there was a valid reason for you to be on camera at that place and time, the deception has a greater chance of success.
- And what is our best protection against deception? Know the whole truth as much as

- possible. The mystery of iniquity has been at work for millennia deceiving the world with supernatural ability. Mankind lives but a short time, but God's Word is forever. God's Word is also truth, and in order to deceive the elect, the truth must be twisted to be made into a lie with enough skill to deceive those who believe it, but don't fully understand it. This is not possible to do for the elect, but the goal of the Dragon is to pull any away from the truth by pretending to fulfill the truth with lies and deception.
- If God's Word is the truth, then it will be twisted with the goal of deception. This is our best determining factor on understanding where the false christ, who will come in the false identity of the anointed Messiah, will come from. This deception will revolve around the attempt to deceive those looking for the Messiah to come.
- So as we delve into this study I would ask, are those who trust in God's Word going to be effectively deceived by a Messiah from Rome, Islam, or somewhere else? Or is the most effective deception to pull truth from the Old Testament about a Jewish Messiah and twist that to deceive a people blinded by Yeshua at the triumphal entry who have been building their belief system not on the Word of God, but Rabbinical tradition and the Oral Law, the professional interpretations of the Tanakh?
- I understand this will be taken the wrong way and labeled and railed against, but I would just remind the listener that the true Christian has no hatred in them, just the love of God and therefore the truth. We have a supernatural enemy that hates all mankind and seeks our eternal destruction with such a fervor that it is his only focus through time. It is the Dragon that has hated God's people and persecuted them through the men and women that have been aligned with him in hatred through time.
- My desire is that nobody be deceived and led to eternal destruction, that is part of the torment they will have for eternity, understanding they were duped to exist where they are for time without end, and I want that for none of my fellow human beings. We are all one family of the first Adam, offered redemption by the last Adam, Yeshua. He is the Jewish Messiah that is sought out, and His title will be used to deceive God's chosen people, those who are not written in the book of life.
- Ephesians 6:10-20 "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high [places]. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak."
- Allowing Temptation
 - As will be covered in greater detail in the <u>Hour of Temptation: Left Behind</u> study, the Devil tempted Christ in the wilderness with temporary sustenance, mortal safety, and worldly power. In each case, the Word of God was used to counter those temptations with Truth, rebuking the Devil. God has given us His Word, preserved through the millennia to give us the sword of the Spirit to battle against deception. It is up to us to know and use it.
 - When Yeshua came the first time to become sin for us, that it would be nailed to a tree and give us His righteousness and eternal life if we believe in Him, His people did not know the hour of His visitation. They were expected to know, according to His Word given by Daniel the prophet, that the Messiah would come after 483 years,

- which He did. This was covered in greater detail in the <u>Daniel's 70 Weeks</u> study.
- This led to blindness being imposed on them at the triumphal entry that I believe can be seen in the interpretations that came later in the Oral Law after 70 AD when the scepter had departed from Judah and Messiah hadn't appeared to have come in the eyes of the religious leaders.
- And so God has timed His return to allow the enemy of mankind to lay out his best deception to prove His people and refine them. God will even send a strong delusion that those who have no love for the truth in them would believe this lie. 2
 Thessalonians 2:11
 While they await the coming of Mashiach according to the interpretations of Tanach by their wisest Rabbis through history, the Dragon will be allowed to present just what they're looking for at just the time they feel they need the Mashiach the most. While it will appear to be inspired by God, it will only be allowed by Him.
- While some will be fooled by his ruse, the faithful remnant will not. And so all of Israel that is not cut off in unbelief from the root, which is Christ, will be saved. For God has a remnant that will not bow down to worship false idols and will remain faithful through great tribulation. But Yeshua will return to save His people from spiritual Egypt, swallowing their enemies in the earth, and taking them to a place prepared for them in the wilderness where their eyes will be opened and they will say blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.
- It is at this time of salvation for the faithful remnant of Israel from great tribulation, that those who called themselves believers, yet lived for the world, will be cast into great tribulation that they will be proven in the hour of temptation.
- With the context of deception in mind, what does the Bible say about the false christ and false prophet?
- Defining the False Christ and False Prophet From Scripture
 - Read each chapter parts in their entirety, then present the shorthand points for each chapter. Finally, all the points will be brought together to paint the whole picture.
 - Antichrists
 - Before focusing on the false christ, I think we can derive a couple of important details from the common word used to define him, antichrist.
 - 2 John 1:5-8 "And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it. For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichristG500. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward."
 - 1 John 4:1-6 "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that [spirit] of antichristG500, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error."
 - 1 John 2:18-24 "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichristG500 shall come, even now are there many antichristsG500; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would [no doubt] have continued with us: but [they went out], that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. But ye have an

unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichristG500, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: [(but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also]. Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father."

- Strongs defines <u>G500</u>, antichristos, as an adversary or opponent of the Messiah. If we look at <u>G473</u>, anti, it is used as over, against, opposite to, but it is also instead of or in place of something.
- First and Second John speak of both a spirit of antichrist that is tied to deception, denial of Yeshua as the Son of God, denial that Yeshua came in the flesh, denial of the Father, and denial of the Son, basically denial of the Gospel. What deception and denial of Yeshua doesn't have some alternative attached to it?
 - In the case of Christ's ministry to the Jews, they denied these things expecting their Messiah would arrive to conquer their enemies and setup His kingdom in a material way. Not seeing the spiritual kingdom that was established, they denied and deceived themselves and others to wait for another Messiah to come.
 - ☐ In the ministry to the Gentiles, there were a plethora of gods that were worshipped and when word of Yeshua and His sacrifice came along, many denied the truth in favor of keeping the lie.
 - □ It seems to me that the spirit of antichirst is both opposition to, and replacement of the truth for a lie, apostasy in the event of one who believes the truth but then gives that up to follow after a lie.
 - □ Since the spirit of antichrist is denial of Christ, I would posit that the majority of the world's population today is already primed and ready, in opposition to the truth. Now for the control of the Dragon over the world to be complete, that spirit of antichrist must be harnessed through deception to unite all those with this spirit against God together under the Dragon's authority. As we will see, the lying signs and wonders that will be coming will have a strong influence on what people will accept.
- We saw the warning in the Olivet Discourse about deception and that many would come saying they are the Christ, the anointed one. However, this spirit of antichrist and historical antichrists are epitomized in the ultimate fulfillment of the Dragon's messiah, who by his very nature is in opposition to the Father and the Son and who will speak blasphemies against them while denying that truth. In addition, he will offer a great deception of lies built on parts of truth so that the poison pill will be swallowed by those who are aligned with and have the spirit of antichrist. They will deny Yeshua is the Son of God who was born of the flesh and died for mankind and opt for their own version of reality that will ultimately crumble around them and leave them destitute and eternally separated from the presence of God and all that flow from Him. And so this great deception will see the false christ not only oppose God, but insert himself in place of God so that the world will worship him as such.
- So as we see the spirit of deception in the world and soon to be manifest prophetically, let's examine the personal manifestation of the man of sin, the beast, the antichrist, the false christ.

False Christ

We've seen in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> how mirrors and foreshadows highlight Daniel's visions of both Antiochus IV Epiphanes and the future false christ in terms of the <u>abomination of desolation</u> that will be studied next. For now the focus will be on some of the defining characteristics of this future man of sin.

- <u>Daniel 11:36-39</u> "And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all. But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge [and] increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain."
 - ☐ He will not regard or consider the God of his fathers or any god because he exalts and magnifies himself above every god
 - ◆ Antiochus IV Epiphanes did not do this
 - ◆ We see this portrayed in **2 Thessalonians 2:1-11** regarding the man of sin
 - □ Speaks marvelous things against the God of gods
 - He will prosper until the indignation is accomplished, what is determined will be done
 - We will see this in the end of his reign after the wrath of God is poured out and Yeshua returns to establish the Messianic Kingdom.
 - ☐ He will not regard or consider the desire(H2532 delight, desire) of women
 - He will not be influenced by sexual desire for women unlike other men of power, he will be single-minded in his focus on his goals. Perhaps regarding sexual purity.
 - Or He will not consider what women want, a kind of return to the patriarchal traditions of women's roles.
 - ☐ In his rule he will honor the God of forces(<u>H4581</u> strength, fortification, stronghold)
 - We are told the world will wonder at him because nobody can defeat him
 - ☐ He will honor a god his fathers didn't know with gold, silver, precious stones, and pleasant things
 - Having declared himself to be god, he will not have been known before, and even the Dragon from whom he gets his power and authority was never known in this way previously.
 - ☐ He will accomplish his plans in the fortified stronghold with a strange(H5236 foreign, alien) god who he will acknowledge(H5234 know, acknowledge, respect, discern) and increase(H7235 multiply, become many) with glory(H3519 glory, honor)
 - This would seem to imply a fairly literal replacement of Christ in that Yeshua glorified His Father in heaven as the false christ will glorify his Dragon.
 - ☐ He will divide(<u>H2505</u> divide, flatter) the land for gain(<u>H4242</u> wages, reward of labor)
 - ◆ The dividing of the land could be for the purpose of initial peace (ie: the covenant with many for one week) This could begin with an Abraham Accord style agreement between the Jewish and Islamic nations to coexist on the Temple Mount, dividing the land to accomplish his goal of rebuilding the temple.
 - This could be flattery of the people with money, gifts, etc. like Antiochus IV to gain followers.
 - Or it could be tied to dividing the land according to that allotted for the tribes of Israel in scripture in order to increase the faith he is the messiah.
 Numbers 34:1-12, Ezekiel 47:13-48:29
 - ♦ Ezekiel 47:13, 21 "Thus saith the Lord GOD; This [shall be] the

border, whereby ye shall inherit the land according to the twelve tribes of Israel: ... So shall ye divide this land unto you according to the tribes of Israel."

- Daniel 12:7 "And I heard the man clothed in linen, which [was] upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that [it shall be] for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these [things] shall be finished."
 - □ The context of this is <u>Daniel 11:40-12:1</u>, where his wars lead him to Jerusalem where he comes to his end, which is followed by the unparalleled time of great tribulation. When asked how long until the end of these things starting at the unparalleled trouble, elsewhere tied to the abomination of desolation, Daniel is told the power of the holy people are scattered for 3.5 years by the one responsible for the time of great tribulation.

Daniel 7

- □ As covered in greater detail in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, referred to as a little horn (king/leader of kingdoms) that comes up out of 10 others and diverse from them. This means he is not part of the 10, but an 11th smaller horn.
 - The horns symbolize kings who are leaders of kingdoms, implying a smaller kingdom than that of the 10 that this 11th horn rises amongst.
 This little horn plucks up 3 of the others by their roots and they fall before him
- ☐ This little horn had eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.
 - ◆ This defines the symbology of the little horn being a man, along with the other contextual prophecies about this future false christ boasting against God and having signs and wonders.
- ☐ This little horn's appearance was greater than his associates or companions.
 - In the context of this leader coming up out of the 10 horns, he would be wiser, politically craftier, mentally and spiritually stronger, more charismatic, etc. than the others he is among.
- ☐ This horn will change the times (<u>H2166</u> set time, season, appointed time, feast days) and laws (<u>H1882</u> decree, law)
- ☐ This horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them. He will wear them out for 3.5 years
- □ Ultimately this horn will be destroyed with the beast in the burning flame.
 - ◆ <u>Daniel 7:11-12</u> "I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld [even] till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time."
 - Revelation 19:20 "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."
 - ◆ Recall from the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, the four contemporaneous beasts of Daniel 7 are united with the fourth beast representing the Middle East. It is those from around the world gathered at Armageddon which are defeated, but the 3 beasts from the other 3 corners of the earth are not cast into the lake of fire with the beast that was a combination of all 4 when they worshipped the false christ.
- Daniel 9:27 "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the

midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make [it] desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

- □ As covered in the <u>Daniel's 70 Weeks</u> study, the false christ strengthens, or confirms, the covenant with many for one week. This suggests an existing covenant that is strengthened. The week timeframe doesn't necessarily mean this confirmation will have a limit of time imposed on it by the false christ, but is more the prophecy stating that this is the final week of the prophecy of God's timeline in which the false christ is allowed to work in. This is tied to the midst of the 7 years of the 70th week of Daniel, 3.5 years, when he causes the abomination of desolation Daniel and Yeshua refer to.
- Revelation 13:1-10 "And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as [the feet] of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty [and] two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. If any man have an ear, let him hear. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints."
 - Beast with seven heads with names of blasphemy and ten horns with ten crowns
 - Unlike Daniel 7, we now see the one beast with characteristics of the other three mixed together. While they were diverse and contemporaneous in Daniel 7, now they are united. This beast full of symbology is here representing the man of sin, the false christ kingdom that he leads, the four corners of the world following after him.
 - □ the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.
 - one of the symbolic heads of the beast is wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.
 - ☐ The world worships the beast and the dragon who gave the beast his power, wondering at how powerful he is and that nobody can defeat him. Power is given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.
 - ☐ All that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world
 - This is how effective and powerful his deception is that everyone who does not accept Yeshua will accept this false christ.
 - ☐ The beast is given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.
 - ☐ The beast is given power to make war with the saints, and to overcome them.
- <u>2 Thessalonians 2:3b-4, 9-12</u> "...that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. ... [Even him], whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and

lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness." □ Opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or worshipped

- ☐ Sits in the temple showing himself to be God
 - This ties this man of sin to the Jewish temple as the place he puts his throne
- ☐ His coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders
- Revelation 13 states the Dragon gives the beast his power and authority. □ with all deceivableness (G539 - Seducing to sin, deceit of riches, lusts) of unrighteousness (G93 - unrighteous of heart and life) in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved
 - For this cause God sends a strong delusion that they should believe a lie for not believing in truth and having pleasure in unrighteousness.
- ☐ Mystery of iniquity tied to revealing. Conspiracy of darkness to bring about the environment for the revealing.
- Revelation 6:1-2 "And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer."
 - □ Rider of white horse
 - □ Bow
 - Bows are used for battle, and he goes forth conquering, but there is no mention of arrows or a quiver.
 - ◆ Genesis 9:11-13 "And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. And God said, This [is] the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that [is] with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth."
 - ◆ The same word bow, in the original sense of bending, is used here representing a token of a covenant not to cause the earth to perish by water again. This makes sense as a covenant between two parties is a kind of bending of the will of each party to come to an agreement.
 - ◆ **Daniel 9:27** the false christ confirms a covenant with many, starting the 70th week of Daniel
 - We know the 70th week begins with the strengthening of the covenant and it's clear the rider goes forth conquering so it could be that the idea of both a token of a covenant and a weapon of war used to conquer are both tied together.
 - Indeed this combination is what we might expect from the modern Middle East if Israel were to suddenly have a leader who brought the State of Israel back to the Mosaic Covenant and initiated the building of the third temple for that purpose. He would be both returning to the established covenant and as a result have to fight Israel's enemies reacting to this event.
 - □ Crown is given to him
 - This implies not that he takes the mantle of leadership of a kingdom, but that the mantle is given to him willingly. He is more stout than his fellows and he commands great authority. And we know the little horn leading

the little kingdom among the 10 horns surrounding them will conquer the 3 that come against him.

- □ Conquering: The Wars of the False Christ
 - ◆ As covered in greater detail in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> the historical little horn of Daniel 8 foreshadowing and mirroring the future one of Daniel 7, in that both have 4 kings where a little horn rises out of the 4th. What is isolated in these two chapters focused on history and future, are both tied together with Daniel 11. This association as a kind of clarification prophetically leads to a depiction of the wars of the false christ we see suggested generically in the first seal.
 - ◆ <u>Daniel 11:1-35</u> Describes in detail the time from Esther "to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed."
 - ♦ The first half of Daniel 11 speaks of the historical period leading up to Antiochus IV Epiphanes and the foreshadow abomination of desolation example given there from history in 167 BC. Verse 35 speaks of the Maccabean revolt to the time of the end, a time yet appointed. The historical comparisons with the rest of the chapter disappear, further implying that what follows is the time just before the end, a kind of foreshadow and mirror from Antiochus to the future false christ.
 - ◆ <u>Daniel 11:36-39</u> Transitions to the end, describing some parallels in the spirit of the false christ in Antiochus and the false christ. In this way, Daniel presents the historical abomination of desolation and the future false christ so that when Yeshua points to Daniel regarding the definition of the abomination of desolation, we are given both the historical occurrence as a foreshadow and example of the future occurrence.
 - ◆ <u>Daniel 11:40-45</u> Transitions to the end, stating "at the time of the end" where we see the king of the south and north in addition to a "he" that both the north and south come against. So at the time of the end, he will be attacked by the king of the South and the king of the North. His response will be quick and fierce and will overflow them and destroy them.
 - ♦ He will also conquer many in the glorious land, Israel.
 - ♦ Modern Jordan will not be conquered (Edom, Moab, Ammon).
 - ♦ He will conquer Egypt
 - ♦ Word from the North and the East will cause him to go with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.
 - North of Israel would be Lebanon, Syria, and Turkey.
 - Lebanon is actively attacking Israel and Syria is part of the supply route from Iran.
 - <u>Isaiah 17:1-14</u> Damascus becomes ruinous heap and cities of Aroer are forsaken and The fortress also shall cease from Ephraim, and the kingdom from Damascus, and the remnant of Syria. At that day shall a man look to his Maker, and his eyes shall have respect to the Holy One of Israel. In that day shall his strong cities be as a forsaken bough, and an uppermost branch, which they left because of the children of Israel: and there shall be desolation.
 - East of Israel would be Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Iran.
 - Jordan is excluded explicitly and Saudi Arabia is not really mentioned prophetically.
 - Iraq is a possibility

- Iran is actively currently funding and supplying those fighting against Israel through Syria and Lebanon and Gaza. Tunnels to Egypt were also recently uncovered going into Gaza.
- ♦ After this conquering is completed, he will return to Jerusalem
- ♦ In Jerusalem, he will come to his end and none will help him.
- <u>Daniel 12:1</u> At the time he comes to his end and none help him, Michael stands up (stops holding back), and there is a time of unparalleled tribulation.
 - ♦ Note there were originally no chapter breaks, this verse is a continuation of the previous.
 - ♦ As we will see in Revelation, there is an element of a mortal wound being healed tied to the false christ.
 - ♦ While not mentioned explicitly, we know from Yeshua that this unparalleled tribulation is connected to the abomination of desolation. This will be the focus of the next study as we look at the revealing of the man of sin, the false christ.
 - ♦ Revelation 12:7-9, 13 Michael is seen casting the dragon out of heaven, after which he goes after the faithful woman, Israel. So it is as if the restraining of the revealing of the man of sin, the false christ, ends when Michael stands to go to heaven to cast out the dragon. Now on earth giving his power to the false christ, an unparalleled time of great tribulation begins.
- This may not be an exhaustive list of prophecies, but we will take a look at these characteristics in light of some other information later that I believe will strengthen the idea of how this great deception will unfold.
- o False Prophet
 - The false prophet is really only explicitly mentioned in one place in scripture, but that place clarifies his supporting role of the false christ.
 - Revelation 13:11-18 "And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by [the means of] those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number [is] Six hundred threescore [and] six."
 - ☐ This isn't the false christ, but given how intricately they are tied together, a relevant diversion to discuss.
 - ☐ Has two horns like a lamb, but speaks as a dragon.
 - This symbolizes a lying appearance or presentation to deceive, a dragon in sheep's clothing.
 - ☐ He has all the power of the false christ and makes the world worship the false christ whose deadly wound was healed.
 - ☐ He can cause fire to come down from heaven

- ☐ He deceives the world by miracles he can do in the sight of the false christ.
- ☐ He makes the world make an image of the false christ that can both speak and kill those who do not worship it.
- He makes the world take a mark on their right hands or foreheads, and only those who have it can participate in the economy of his kingdom. This mark is the name of the beast or the number of his name, which is the number of a man, 666.

◆ The right hand

- ♦ The right hand in scripture is a sign of strength and power, defeating enemies or withholding that strength and allowing defeat. Exodus
 15:1-19, Psalm 16, Psalm 17:7, Psalm 44:1-4, Psalm 74:10-12,
 Psalm 77:7-11, Psalm 89, Psalm 98:1-3, Isaiah 45:1-3, Lamentations
 2:3
- ♦ The right hand of the Lord supports, guides, and saves. Psalm 18:35, Psalm 20:6, Psalm 60:5, Psalm 73:22-28, Psalm 108:5-6, Psalm 138:6-8, Isaiah 41:8-10
- ♦ From the LORD's right hand went the law. **Deuteronomy 33:1-4**
- ♦ The LORD's right hand created and command the heavens. <u>Isaiah</u> 48:12-14
- ♦ The LORD's right hand purchased and planted Israel. <u>Psalm</u> 78:51-56, Psalm 80:14-19
- ♦ The right hand is a place of honor. **Psalm 110**
- ♦ The right hand is associated with wisdom while the left foolishness.
 <u>Ecclesiastes 10:2-3, Daniel 12:7</u>
- ♦ The right hand can also be used for wickedness. <u>Psalm 26:9-12</u>, Psalm 144:7-10, Isaiah 44:9-10, 20
- ♦ Psalm 109:1-8 "Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand. When he shall be judged, let him be condemned: and let his prayer become sin. Let his days be few; [and] let another take his office."

The forehead

- ♦ Aaron the high priest wore a plate of pure gold engraved HOLINESS TO THE LORD on his forehead. <u>Exodus 28:36-38</u>
- ♦ David slew Goliath on his forehead. 1 Samuel 17:49
- ♦ Uzziah had leprosy on his forehead. <u>2 Chronicles 26:19-20</u>
- ♦ Ezekiel had a vision of the coming destruction of Jerusalem. God had a mark put on the forehead of those who despised the abominations for which judgement was coming that they would be spared. Ezekiel 9:4-7
- Putting these together in the context of the false christ and false prophet, we know the mark given to the Dragon's people then tie them to him, mark them as his. Given that it determines if one can buy or sell means it will be an identifying mark for everyone to know whose side you're on and those without it will most certainly be addressed by neighbors and authorities during this time of the rule of the Dragon.
- We also see this idea of sealing, or identifying as belonging to God in the 144,000 sealed and protected in the wilderness and in the bride of Christ by the Holy Spirit.
 - ♦ Revelation 7:2-3 "And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads."

♦ Ephesians 1:13-14 - "In whom ye also [trusted], after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory."

Where Is He From?

- There is always going to be some level of speculation in examining this question, but I think
 if we look logically at how the Bible speaks of him and what he does, things become
 somewhat clearer.
 - The most general description of the goal of the false christ is deception. He must be able to deceive the whole world on a foundation of religion since he will declare himself to be God and receive worship from the world as a result of that deception. Whatever race or religion a person is, once they are deceived and worship the false christ and the Dragon, they belong to the Dragon. To kill them at this point is to eliminate a useful tool of control in the world. They are already doomed to eternal separation from God at that point and the Dragon's mission is accomplished with them.

Revived Roman Empire

- One of the more popular views among evangelical Christians is the idea of a revived Roman Empire. There are variations, but in general the idea is based on the interpretations of several prophecies that would seem to point to a return in some form of the Roman Empire to have control over Israel and Jerusalem.
- This view tends to look at some sort of political leader in Europe or the Pope making some sort of peace deal for 7 years to essentially mediate a truce in the Middle East such that the Jews are allowed to share the Temple Mount with Islam and build the third temple. Then, in the middle of that 7 years, this leader would break the treaty and disallow the Jews to continue their sacrifices and declare himself to be God. He will then kill 2/3 of the Jews he tricked with a false peace agreement and setup his kingdom in Jerusalem.
- Even with the Pope, I find the deception on a religious level lacking for this view. Yes the Pope is the considered the vicar of Christ on earth, but there is little to no reason behind the Pope or some political leader in Europe declaring themselves to be God. How would that deceive the religions of the world to accept him as God?
 - □ From the Jewish perspective, the amount of trust in the Catholic church given their history is virtually non-existent as those wounds run deep. On the political front, it's hard to believe Israel would trust the leadership in Europe who has been against them at every turn. I understand in this view the deception only needs to go so far as the end goal is to wipe all Jews off the face of the earth, but I think that view, which I used to hold, is not giving the Dragon enough credit for his wicked manipulations. Not only does he want to steal souls from God, but he wants those souls to participate in his kingdom as his minions and to convert or kill their own families and friends in the process.
 - On the Christian side, I understand there is a divide between Catholics and the other branches of Christianity, but whatever branch you are a part of, the majority of adherents would never fall for a man from Europe claiming to be God. While it is true that most Christians won't fall for the deception no matter where it comes from, that doesn't mean the Dragon isn't going to sincerely try to pull it off. The deception has to come from a good foundation in truth twisted to his ends. As we will see in the culmination of these studies, and specifically the <u>Great Tribulation</u> study, the centrality of Israel in Jerusalem of the prophetic narrative fits another view we will cover the best.

o Islam and the Mahdi

From the Islamic perspective, they have their own eschatology and it is not going to

be fulfilled outside the Middle East. Indeed, it's tied to the perceived Arab connection to Israel as descendants of Isaac and Ishmael and events to unfold in that region. Again there are many variations, but it is my belief that this unfolding will have the appearance of fulfillment to those who believe it as they attempt to interpret events as they happen. This is no different than any other eschatological system being viewed by its adherents.

- Islam is built off the supposed revelations of the true interpretation of the corrupted text of the Jews and Christians. As such many of their beliefs about the end show what seems to be their anointed one as the Christian antichrist and visa versa. This has led to many prophetic teachers viewing Islam as the source of the false christ of Bible prophecy.
- Aside from the fact that Islamic eschatology is an inverting of Biblical eschatology, the idea that Israel could be deceived into their anointed one coming from Islam is a hard pill to swallow.
- Yes, there is the stated prophecies of Islam dominating the world, killing Jews, and beheading people, but remember the foundation of the deception is the false christ coming in the name of Christ and deceiving people into believing he is the anointed Messiah. This is all said in the context of the Bible that Islam says was corrupted.
- So in order to accept the Islamic narrative that the Mahdi is the Messiah, Jews and Christians would have to accept the Islamic view that our Bible is corrupted in order to be deceived that the Mahdi actually is the Messiah. I feel that is a very tall order to actually pull off a deception successfully.

Hinduism

- While the third largest religion in the world, its origins are an amalgamation of different beliefs and while one supreme being, or Brahman, is worshipped, it is manifested in what is said to be 330 million major and minor gods to help people in their path to moksha, or nirvana.
- I imagine this would be a very difficult place to build a convincing deception as the foundation to deceive the whole world and there is not really any kind of prophetic narrative from which to build from.
- However, I can see how adherents to this belief system are ripe for deception if a similarly old and structured belief system with a prophetic narrative were to take forefront in the global stage with signs and wonders.

o Buddhism

- Similar to Hinduism, Buddhism is a similarly old religion made up of different beliefs brought together to similarly guide its adherents to nirvana. With a goal to eliminate self and suffering, this doesn't align much with the characteristics of the false christ or really have the global reach to be an effective deception.
- It is possible to see that deception could befall them as described in the prophetic narrative.

o Judaism and Rabbinic Tradition looking for the Messiah

- I think it should be noted that one of the oldest documented religions in the world that originated from a solid foundation that did not change is the same religion from which both of the largest religions of the world originated, Christianity and Islam. It follows then that just as branches derive their life from the root, so too can adherents to those religions built on the root of Judaism be affected by that root.
- Of course the majority of Christianity and Islam will likely not accept this deception, but given the central nature of Israel in Jerusalem and the 70th week of Daniel being their time of putting to proof, the primary focus of the deception is for Israel, who has been blinded by the traditions of men since the triumphal entry.
 - □ <u>Luke 19:41-44</u> "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things [which belong] unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For

the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation."

- Something I never heard much in discussions about the prophetic narrative in Christian circles are the eschatological beliefs of the Orthodox Jews. I suppose because they haven't accepted Yeshua as their Messiah, the Rabbinical interpretation is not really an area many Christians look for understanding as they don't have the full picture.
- While I don't trust the interpretations of the blinded Rabbi's to rightly interpret Bible prophecy, in light of the idea of blindness by traditions of men and deception to insert the false christ in Yeshua's place to receive worship, I think it's important to understand what the Jewish expectation of the Messiah is. Their blindness and traditions actually work to enhance our understanding of how that deception may come about.
 - ☐ They get the prophecies from the same place that Christians do, the Old Testament.
 - ☐ These prophecies do speak of the Messiah, they are just interpreted by the Rabbis to the explicit exclusion of Yeshua.
 - The Jews don't have the understanding Yeshua brought in interpreting the prophecies or understanding that His coming was split into two periods of time, first as the suffering servant in 30 AD and second as the conquering king in the future. Indeed, rejection of Yeshua has led to interpretations meant to actively exclude Him as a possibility.
 - Some actually see the two pictures of the Messiah and interpret that as Messiah ben Joseph and Messiah ben David.
 - ☐ The Dragon will give his false christ and false prophet power in the context of Israel and Jerusalem.
 - ☐ The Dragon will use the building of God's temple and the sacrificial system as part of his deception.
 - ☐ The Jewish interpretation of the arrival of Messiah is already based on the Truth of God's Word, with interpretations made by those blinded to the truth.
 - ☐ These Rabbinic interpretations are widely accepted by the Orthodox Jews in place of personal investigation of God's Word. In other words, the traditions of men are esteemed and studied higher than the Word itself.
- In this light, what are the interpretations that are commonly accepted by the Jews regarding the coming Messiah, and could these expectations be used to deceive much of Israel to accept the false christ in place of the true Christ? If their own interpretations are based on the truth they already accept, the best deception would be to fulfill what they expect in the way they expect it.
 - □ This plays into the what I generalize as the mystery of iniquity, the spiritual wickedness in high places against which we wrestle. I believe that thought is the voice of the spirit realm and like the cartoon angel and devil on the shoulder, thoughts can be whispered into our mind. Just as the Holy Spirit can speak in that still small voice, if we trust in another spirit so too can we be deceived. Without a solid foundation in God's Word, many false doctrine have deceived many through special revelation and interpretation. The mystery of iniquity has been at work for thousands of years building his game board, placing his pieces, and playing both sides to achieve his goal of great deception. He built up the enemies he will use to simulate his status as conquering king, he's twisted the truth ever so slightly to make his moves and edge his way into what appears to be fulfillment of prophecy. Mankind has no concept of the depths of control we

are under, so it's a good thing God is on our side.

• Forerunner: Spirit of Elijah

- ☐ The very last verses of the Old Testament before the silent years leading up to the first coming of Christ speak to the great deception that will set the hook.
- Malachi 4:1-6 "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do [this], saith the LORD of hosts. Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, [with] the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."
 - ◆ The true dual fulfillment of the spirit of Elijah was in John the Baptist preparing the way for Yeshua in the first century AD. This is technically before the day of the Lord, and in the context of 2 Peter 3:8, only a couple days before.
 - ◆ Another possible future fulfillment is covered in greater detail in <u>The Two Witnesses</u> study that could very well coincide with the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel. In this, one of the two witnesses would literally be Elijah the prophet, who would speak truth to Israel as the temple is built and worship begins and warn of deception. This would also be just before the day of the Lord begins, literally years.
 - Now think in light of the Jews who don't believe Messiah has come yet. This is still an expectation straight from the same Bible we have, just through a different lens.
 - The following comes from an appendix of <u>The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah</u> by Alfred Edersheim <u>Appendix viii. Rabbinic Traditions About Elijah</u>, the Forerunner of the <u>Messiah</u>
 - ♦ Elijah will work in reconciling God and Israel, and bringing Israel to repentance.
 - ♦ "The Synagogue is careful to trace this analogy [Moses and Elijah] step by step (Yalkut, vol. ii. p.32 d) the final deliverance of Israel of Egypt, so would the final deliverance by Elijah for ever break the yoke of all foreign rule. The allusion here is to the part which Elijah was expected to take in the future wars of Gog and Magog' (Seder Olam R. c. xvii.) Indeed, this parallelism is carried so far, that tradition has it, that, when Moses was commissioned by God to go to Pharoah, he pleaded that God should rather send by him whom He designed to send for the far greater deliverance in the latter days. On this it was told him that Elijah's mission would be to Israel, while he (Moses) was sent to Pharoah (Pirqé de R. Eliez.40)."
 - ◇ "Not only was he the only ambassador to whom God had delegated His three special keys:' of birth, of the rainfall, and of waking the dead (Yalkut, vol. ii.32 c), but his working was almost Divine (Tanch. Bereshith 7; ed. Warsh. p.6 b, last line, and 7 a)."
 - "In Jewish legend Elijah is always introduced as the guardian of the interests of Israel, whether theologically or personally - as it were the constant living medium between God and his people, the link that binds the Israel of the present - with its pursuits, wants,

- difficulties and interests to the bright Messianic future of which he is the harbinger."
- ♦ "When, at length, the time of Israel's redemption arrived then would Elijah return. Of two things only are we sure in connection with it. Elijah will not come yesterday' - that is, he will be revealed the same day that he comes - and he will not come on the eve of either a Sabbath or feast-day, in order not to interrupt the festive rest, nor to break the festive laws (Erub.43 b, Shabb.33 a). Whether he came one day (Er.43 b) or three days before the Messiah (Yalkut, vol. ii. p.53 c, about the middle) his advent would be close to that of that Messiah (Yalkut, vol. i. p.310 a, line 21 from bottom). The account given of the three days between the advent of Elijah and of the Messiah is peculiar (Yalkut, vol. ii. p.53 c). Commenting on Is. lii.7, it is explained, that on the first of those three days Elijah would stand on the mountains of Israel, lamenting the desolateness of the land, his voice being heard from one end of the world to the other, after which he would proclaim: Peace' cometh to the world; peace' cometh to the world! Similarly on the second day he would proclaim, Good' cometh to the world; good' cometh to the world! Lastly, on the third day, he would, in the same manner as the two previous days, make proclamation: Jeshuah (salvation) cometh to the world; Jeshuah (salvation) cometh to the world, which, in order to mark the difference between Israel and the Gentiles, would be further explained by this addition: Saying unto Zion - Thy King cometh!"
- "The period of Elijah's advent would, according to one opinion (Pirqé de R. Eliez.43), be a time of genuine repentance by Israel, although it is not stated that this change would be brought about by his ministry."
- ♦ "He would also restore to Israel these three things which had been lost: the golden pot of Manna (Ex. xvi.33), the vessel containing the anointing oil, and that with the waters of purification according to some, also Aaron's rod that budded and bore fruit."

☐ Ark of the Covenant

- The following is speculation on my part based on the effectiveness of this unearthing to shift the paradigm in Israel. I'm unaware of any canonical scripture pointing to this, but there are historical references that highlight the possibility. I think it's relevant to present in light of the possibility.
- ◆ <u>Hebrews 9:3-5</u> "And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein [was] the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly."
- ◆ There are rumors that the location of the Ark of the Covenant is known and they are waiting for the right time to reveal it. Of course these are just rumors, from Askum Ethiopia to Ron Wyatt's claim under the crucifixion site by Golgotha, and others, it's not really something we will know for sure until it is revealed, if it ever will be. I bring it up here in the context of confirming the covenant with many because of the power it would have to make what seems impossible now possible in the event it is brought forward.
- There are some apocryphal writings that point to at least this possibility.

- ◇ Prior to the siege of Jerusalem by Babylon, there are reports that some of the sacred items from the temple were hidden by Jeremiah the prophet. Indeed, the Ark of the Covenant was conspicuously missing from the list of treasures plundered by the Babylonians and so it is believed that the Ark of the Covenant was among those things hidden.
- ♦ **2 Maccabees 2:1-8** "One finds in the records that Jeremiah the prophet ordered those who were being deported to take some of the fire, as has been told, and that the prophet after giving them the law instructed those who were being deported not to forget the commandments of the Lord, nor to be led astray in their thoughts upon seeing the gold and silver statues and their adornment. And with other similar words he exhorted them that the law should not depart from their hearts. It was also in the writing that the prophet, having received an oracle, ordered that the tent and the ark should follow with him, and that he went out to the mountain where Moses had gone up and had seen the inheritance of God. And Jeremiah came and found a cave, and he brought there the tent and the ark and the altar of incense, and he sealed up the **entrance**. Some of those who followed him came up to mark the way, but could not find it. When Jeremiah learned of it, he rebuked them and declared: "The place shall be unknown until God gathers his people together again and shows his mercy. And then the Lord will disclose these things, and the glory of the Lord and the cloud will appear, as they were shown in the case of Moses, and as Solomon asked that the place should be specially consecrated.""
- ♦ 2 Baruch 6:1-10 a Jewish apocalyptic book "And it came to pass on the morrow that, lo! the army of the Chaldees surrounded the city, and at the time of the evening, I, Baruch, left the people, and I went forth and stood by the oak. And I was grieving over Zion, and lamenting over the captivity which had come upon the people. And lo! suddenly a strong spirit raised me, and bore me aloft over the wall of Jerusalem. And I beheld, and lo! four angels standing at the four corners of the city, each of them holding a torch of fire in his hands. And another angel began to descend from heaven. and said unto them: 'Hold your lamps, and do not light them till I tell you. For I am first sent to speak a word to the earth, and to place in it what the Lord the Most High has commanded me.' And I saw him descend into the Holy of Holies, and take from there the veil, and holy ark, and the mercy-seat, and the two tables, and the holy raiment of the priests, and the altar of incense, and the forty-eight precious stones, wherewith the priest was adorned and all the holy vessels of the tabernacle. And he spoke to the earth with a loud voice: 'Earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the mighty God, And receive what I commit to you, And guard them until the last times, So that, when you are ordered, you may restore them, So that strangers may not get possession of them. For the time comes when Jerusalem also will be delivered for a time, Until it is said, that it is again restored for ever.' And the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up."
 - While this is a Jewish non-canonical writing, it seemed to be a vision of what Jeremiah was said to have done in hiding the ark and altar of incense in a sealed cave, effectively swallowed

- by the earth.
- ▶ There is also a distinction made that Jerusalem will be delivered for a time before it is restored again forever. This fits with the idea of the ark being restored for that time before the Messianic Kingdom, when Jerusalem will no longer need restoration. That time before would be the temporary false christ kingdom that is destroyed before Yeshua builds the 4th temple depicted in Ezekiel 40-48.
- ◆ Jerusalem's Temple Treasures: Where Did They Go? by Elena Dugan Massekhet Kelim, or Treatise of the Vessels is a Hebrew work, which insists that the treasures from the First Temple remained buried in the heart of Babylonia, in caches between the Tigris and the Euphrates. The text promises that all these implements would remain hidden until the coming of "David, son of David" (the messiah), when they will "ascend and reveal themselves."
 - ▶ "There are several versions that don't agree on the details of where the treasures are hidden.
 - ▶ "The version inscribed on the Ezekiel plaques included a prologue, not found in the printed books, which sets the reader atop Mt. Carmel in northern Israel. It tells the "children of Israel" that the Temple vessels are hidden at the top of a mountain, behind a closed gate. The reference to Mt. Carmel seems to situate the text within the bounds of the Holy Land. The plaques also reference the heroic actions of Baruch and Zedekiah, two figures celebrated elsewhere in midrash and folklore for their actions in the Holy Land, before the rampaging arrival of the Babylonians. Otherwise, however, the plaques seem to provide very little information to go on. But the general picture is of Holy Land caches, waiting for the coming of the messiah.
 - ▶ "The version of Massekhet Kelim found in early modern books, by comparison, is quite clear: The First Temple implements are to be found in and around Babylon. This version also features a unique conclusion, suggesting that when the messiah comes, the Gihon will overflow unto the Euphrates, and only then will the vessels ascend and reveal themselves."
 - ▶ The validity of the details is not what is relevant here, but rather the expectation tying the return of the treasures from the first temple not accounted for in what the Babylonians took to the arrival of the Messiah.
- ◆ Isn't there scripture that says the Ark of the Covenant will not be remembered anymore? Note the time that it will be remembered no more, at the time Jerusalem is the throne of the Lord, the Messianic Kingdom. Not the false messianic kingdom of the false christ, but the Biblical true one.

- the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart. In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel, and they shall come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given for an inheritance unto your fathers."
- ♦ In the true Messianic Kingdom, Yeshua the Messiah will be ruling the world from Jerusalem. Additionally, this points to <u>Ezekiel</u> <u>37:15-28</u> when Judah and Ephraim are united under king David once again, speaking of the Messianic Kingdom. Nobody is going to care about the Ark of the Covenant anymore because they will have accepted Yeshua and God will dwell with them.
- 1 Kings 8:6-9 states that "There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt."
 - ♦ It seems clear that while there originally, by the time the Ark was placed in the Temple Solomon built, the manna and Aaron's rod were no longer present. But the tablets of stone that are the foundation of the Mosaic Covenant were, and they are probably the only things that would last over these thousands of years anyway. Would that be enough to snap Israel back to the God of their fathers and ignite a passion for Israel to return not only to the land, but to God?
- The rediscovery of the Ark of the Covenant could be one of the things that solidifies Israel's desire to return to God, a paradigm-changing event that is both unexpected and severe in the ramifications it has on geo-politics in the region and indeed the world. If a perceived Elijah is responsible, he would be listened to when pointing to someone he was to prepare the way for from the beginning. That is what is expected of Elijah, to prepare the way for the Messiah. Of course we know this was the case with John the Baptist, but those who don't accept that paradigm are still waiting for it to come to pass.
- What is further an incredible possibility is that Elijah is expected to come around Passover, where some modern tradition has a glass of wine is left out for him. As will be covered in the <u>Framework of the End</u> and <u>70th</u> <u>Week Chart Review</u> studies, an exact middle of the week on Yom Kippur, places 1,260 days before, around Firstfruits 3.5 years earlier.
 - ♦ If Firstfruits is the confirming of the covenant for one week, and Rabbinic tradition expects him 3 days before, then three days before would fall around Passover, exactly when tradition expects him to show up. While more of a tradition followed for the sake of tradition, if it were to actually happen that tradition would be then seen as prophetic in nature.
 - ♦ Additionally, Shavuot is tied in Hebrew tradition to the giving of the Law, and it is 7 weeks after firstfruits. So not only are the spring appointed times connected to Israel's escape from Egypt, but to the Mosaic Covenant agreed to at Sinai.
 - ♦ This seems like a perfect time of year as Israel celebrates Pesach, or Passover, for events that further bring the Hebrews together with the revelation of the Ark of the Covenant and a strong leader who promises and will deliver salvation from Israel's enemies she has been dealing with since her rebirth.

- ◆ Rabbi Natan Shlomo's answer to the question What would happen if the Ark of the Covenant was discovered under Jerusalem? in 2023 makes some of the same points I have been dwelling on as a possibility, specifically the fervency of resolve and action. In light of Bible prophecy, we have been given the end result of this, deception. And how great a deception could this be to blinded Israel following Oral Law and Rabbinical tradition?
 - ◇ "In order to be The Ark of the covenant it would have to contain both sets of Tablets that were given to Moses, a portion of Manna, and The Original copy of The Torah. Let us say that the Ark of the covenant was found and it met the above qualifications. This is what would happen.
 - ▶ "1.80% of Jews in Israel would call to build the Temple.
 - ▶ "2. All religious Jews would move to Israel.
 - ▶ "3. Israel would become a hardcore Jewish theocratic state in weeks after this find. The young would lead in this matter.
 - "4. Muslims would deny this find.
 - ▶ "5. The Pope would declare the Chief Rabbi of Israel or its Prime Minister/President the anti-christ.
 - "6. Jews in Israel would get rid of all Mosques and Churches. The Bahai Gardens would be burnt down as well. The level of zeal would begin with the young, especially those without hope.
 - ▶ "7. The United Nations would call on its members to attack Israel.
 - "8. Israel now would say "you touch our country we nuke vou".
 - "9. Emboldened by The Ark of The Covenant as described in Jewish sources The Jewish people would unite under one banner and declare Greater Israel to be under its rule. Jordan, Southern Syria, Iraq, and the Sinai are in this area. For this is the area prophecized to be under the dominion of the Davidic monarchy when the messiah comes.
 - ◇ "World War would begin and this conflict would in all probability involve every type of weapon possessed by man. It would end with the world in ruins with no decisive winner due to the collapse of the worlds economy. Alternatively it would be a decisive victory for the Jews if there was indeed Divine intervention as Jews most certainly would believe if The Ark was found.
 - "In fact Israel knows exactly where the Ark is located. So does the Muslim Waqf. There is a series of caves deep underground Jerusalem which lead to Hebron. It is located there, but The Ark is not searched for. The fact is few people want to know if it truly is what is described in Biblical texts. Its "finding" would change the world within days."
- □ Gog/Magog & Resurrection
 - In addition to being the forerunner of the Messiah, there are other events that are expected tied to the conflict that will arise from the emergence of the messianic figure in Israel.
 - From the appendix of <u>The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah</u> by Alfred Edersheim, <u>Appendix viii. Rabbinic Traditions About Elijah, the Forerunner of the Messiah</u> "Again, his activity is likened to that of the Angel whom God had sent before Israel to drive out and to vanquish the hostile nations

(Tanch. on Ex. xxiii.20, § 18 at the close; ed. Warsh. p.106 b). For. Elijah was to appear, then to disappear, and to appear again in the wars of Gog and Magog (Seder Olam R. xvii.). But after that time general peace and happiness would prevail, when Elijah would discharge his peculiar functions. Finally, to the ministry of Elijah some also ascribed the office of raising the dead (Sotah ix.15, closing words)."

- ♦ Calls fire from heaven in the sight of men
 - ▶ <u>1 Kings 18:20-39</u> Elijah soaks a sacrifice in water after the priests of Baal are unable to have their god start the fire for the sacrifice and the fire of the Lord fell and consumed Elijah's sacrifice completely.
 - <u>2 Kings 1:1-16</u> Elijah calls down fire from heaven two times, destroying 102 of king Ahaziah
 - ▶ Ezekiel 38:21-23 At the time when Gog comes against the land of Israel, God "will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone."
 - ▶ I believe Gog/Magog occurs at the end of the Messianic Kingdom, but that doesn't mean the expectation of it can't be used as part of the great deception of Israel. As is clear to anyone watching the Middle East, if a perceived Elijah and Messianic figure were to bring Israel back to the Mosaic Covenant with archaeological discoveries from the first temple with the desire to build the third temple and start the daily sacrifice, an attack would be imminent on Israel.
- ♦ Resurrection from the dead
 - ▶ <u>1 Kings 17:17-24</u> The son of a widow dies and Elijah prays and takes him and he stretched over him 3 times and he comes back to life.
 - As will be covered shortly, and was covered in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, we see in Daniel and John's visions several times the idea of the false christ coming to his end and, represented by the 7th head of the beast that becomes the 8th, receiving a mortal head wound that is healed.
- Rabbinical tradition is based on the Tanach, the same words Christian eschatology is derived from. The only difference is the benefit of interpretation of the Old Testament in light of the New Testament. Those who accepted Yeshua as the Messiah have had their eyes opened to the nature of God's design, both for the forerunner that pointed to Yeshua in the first century at His arrival and the identity of Yeshua as the promised Messiah.
- Just as the Jewish expectation of Elijah can be used to insert a false prophet that twists the truth to destroy mankind, so much more can the expectations of the Messiah be used to insert a false christ that seems to give Israel all they want, only to pull the rug out from under them and lead them to destruction.
- Ikvot Meshicha "The heels of Moshiach" or Chavlei Mashiach "birthpangs of Messiah"
 - □ Also think in terms of modern geopolitics related to the State of Israel. Ever since Israel became a nation, the surrounding nations have continually attacked her, and Israel has a lot of enemies surrounding her. Furthermore, the political world as a whole has been antagonistic toward Israel in relation to Israel being in the land and dividing it for the very enemies attacking her to eliminate her from the land, from the Jordan river to the Mediterranean sea.
 - There is a Jewish expectation of events to unfold to bring about the Messiah.

They believe he will be a human being from the house of David and the tribe of Judah. This is no surprise since believers in Yeshua believe in the very same scriptures they derive their beliefs from. They believe after he comes there will be no more war, the third temple will be rebuilt, the dead will be resurrected, the Jews will live in the holy land | 15 facts every Jew should know about the Messiah

- Just as Yeshua and His teachers and prophets gave us warnings about what was to come, Rabbinical tradition has some ideas about what will lead to the coming of the Messiah. | The time immediately before Mashiach
 - □ Sotah 49b
 - "increase in insolence and impudence; oppressing inflation; unbridled irresponsibility on the part of authorities; centers of learning will turn into bawdy houses; wars; many destitutes begging, with none to pity them; wisdom shall be putrid; the pious shall be despised; truth will be abandoned; the young will insult the old; family-breakup with mutual recriminations; impudent leadership."
 - □ Sanhedrin 97a; Shir Rabba 2:29
 - "lack of scholars; succession of troubles and evil decrees; famines; mutual denunciations; epidemics of terrible diseases; poverty and scarcity; cursing and blaspheming; international confrontations nations provoking and fighting each other."
 - □ *Sanhedrin* 98a
 - "When you see a generation ever dwindling, hope for him... when you see a generation overwhelmed by many troubles as by a river, await him."
 - □ Bereishit Rabba 42:4. Note Pesikta Rabaty 37:2 (ed. Friedmann, ch. 36)
 - "When you see nations fighting each other, look toward the feet of Mashiach."
 - □ Zohar II:8a
 - "In the time that Mashiach will awaken, many signs and miracles will occur in the world."
 - □ "The Messiah Is Near!" Rabbi Notices Something About Netanyahus Speech that NO ONE Noticed | YouTube
 - "What do we have to rely on? Our Father in heaven."
 - I recently came across an hour long documentary style film by Berel Solomon called <u>Finding Mashiach: An Emotional Search for the Jewish Messiah</u>. I would recommend watching this to get an idea from the Jewish perspective, the drive for relationship, the drive for truth, the desire for the arrival of the Messiah.
 - "Ever since I was a kid we always heard the word Mashiach, and it was always something that was never taken so seriously. Throughout Jewish history, there's been one thing that's given Jewish people hope in the hardest, most difficult times. Jewish people on trains on the way to concentration camps sang one song in hopes to see the day where Mashiach will come. The problem is the subject is so elusive that as soon as you start speaking about Mashiach people almost tune out. And when October 7th happened, I found myself so incredibly hurt, despondent, and I need to find something on the side of light and on the side of truth. And there's nothing that I know of besides Mashiach that is that miraculous light."
 - "He's [Mashiach] has got to be the final catalyst to bring every single

Jew back to the land of Israel. He's going to be a king, kingship, royalty is going to return to our people."

Messiah

- Messiah, Mashiach, Christ all mean anointed and in scripture are defining the same person, God's anointed one. Most often referred to generally, there are expectations from the Old Testament for the Messiah to fulfill.
- □ By no means comprehensive, but you can do some simple searches to find out what the Jews are expecting from the Messiah. Of course there are many opinions and interpretations, but note that their views originate from prophetic interpretation, all of which point to Yeshua either historically fulfilled or in the Messianic Kingdom. The interpretation is key and being blind to Yeshua's fulfillment they are left with Rabbinic interpretation and open wide to accepting a false Messiah who appears to provide many of these fulfillments.
- □ <u>Mashiach</u> Jewfaq.org provides a list of expectations of the coming Messiah.
 - Before the time of the mashiach, there shall be war and suffering.
 - ◆ The mashiach will be a great political leader descended from King David. The mashiach is often referred to as "mashiach ben David" (mashiach, son of David).
 - He will be well-versed in Jewish law, and observant of its commandments.
 - He will be a charismatic leader, inspiring others to follow his example. He will be a great military leader, who will win battles for Israel. He will be a great judge, who makes righteous decisions.
 - But above all, he will be a human being, not a god, demi-god or other supernatural being. It has been said that in every generation, a person is born with the potential to be the mashiach. If the time is right for the messianic age within that person's lifetime, then that person will be the mashiach. But if that person dies before he completes the mission of the mashiach, then that person is not the mashiach."
 - ◆ The mashiach will bring about the political and spiritual redemption of the Jewish people by bringing us back to Israel and restoring Jerusalem.
 - He will establish a government in Israel that will be the center of all world government, both for Jews and gentiles.
 - He will rebuild the Temple and re-establish its worship.
 - He will restore the religious court system of Israel and establish Jewish law as the law of the land.
 - ◆ All on earth shall worship him
 - He shall rule the earth and destroy the wicked
- Hastings' Dictionary of the Bible "V. The Messiah of Rabbinism. Subsequent to the destruction of Jerusalem, Pharisaism developed rapidly into its final stage of Rabbinism. The two tendencies which are so marked in Pharisaism one towards strict legalism, the other towards Messianicidealism were then codified and systematically elaborated. The development of the Messianic expectation, however, was to some extent shaped by the need of combating the Messianic interpretations of Christianity. Traces of this influence are undoubtedly to be found in the Targum on Isaiah 53, and in 2 Esdras, but they are also to appear in literature that was clearly subjected to Christian redaction. The Messiah was generally regarded as a descendant of David. He was to free Israel from the power of the heathen world, kill its emperor of the kingdom of evil, and set up his own Kingdom. He was regarded also as pre-existent, not merely ideally, but actually. For a merely ideal pre-existence is not to be argued from the well-known saying including the seven things created before the world was made. The name here undoubtedly implies personality, and in some of the later Jewish

writings this pre-existent state is somewhat minutely described. He is to be hidden until he appears, but the obvious inconsistencies of view were never fully systematized. Doubtless because of the Messianic arguments of Christians, based upon such passages as Isaiah 53, the Rabbis were forced to the recognition of the idea of the suffering Messiah. In this recognition, however, no change was made in the conception of the Messiah the son of David, but the belief came to involve a second Messiah the son of Joseph. His office and person are not described in detail, but later Rabbinic teaching held that he would appear before the coming of the Messiah the son of David, would gather faithful Jews to him, defeat his people's enemies, and establish a great empire with its capital and temple at Jerusalem. Thereafter some one of the various transcendental enemies of Israel, like Gog and Magog, would defeat and slay him. Then the Messiah son of David would come and resurrect the Messiah son of Joseph, and establish the great and more permanent Messianic Kingdom. This conception of the Messiah son of Joseph, however, has never played a very large role in Rabbinic Messianism, and must be regarded in the light of a concession to Christian opponents rather than as a really formative influence. The older hope of the Messiah son of David is that dominant among orthodox Jews, who still await his coming, which is to follow the appearance of Elijah (Malachi 3:1; Malachi 4:6; Malachi 4:6)."

- Mashiach ben Joseph
 - ♦ The Suffering Messiah Ben Yoseph (Joseph) Menorah.org
 - ▶ "Rabbi Alshekh's claim is true where it pertains to the last three verses of chapter 52. The Targum begins its paraphrase with: Behold my Servant the Messiah shall prosper.
 (15) The Targum continues into the 53rd chapter of Isaiah: And He will build the Temple that was polluted because of our sins. (16) This must be the Messiah, for no one else was to build the Temple according to Jewish religious tradition, but the Messiah. Additionally, several Midrashim take the threefold expressions contained within those scriptures, "exalted, and extolled and be very high," (17) as an indication that "Messiah shall be more exalted than Abraham ... more extolled than Moses ... and be very high; that is, higher than the Ministering Angels. ..." (18)"
 - ▶ <u>Isaiah 52:13-52:12</u> "Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. As many were astonied at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men: So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for [that] which had not been told them shall they see; and [that] which they had not heard shall they consider. Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, [there is] no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were [our] faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he [was] wounded for our transgressions, [he was] bruised for our iniquities: the

chastisement of our peace [was] upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither [was any] deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put [him] to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see [his] seed, he shall prolong [his] days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, [and] shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide him [a portion] with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."

- According to Rabbi Yitzchak Breitowitz, Zechariah talks about a great funeral in Jerusalem. The women will weep and men will weep separate from each other. It doesn't say who died, but some day it will be the death of Messiah ben Joseph. Messiah ben David is the one who rebuilds the temple and gathers Israel back to the land, but there is a pre-figure from the tribe of ephriam and will be involved in the war of Gog/Magog and defeat those enemies but will tragically die in that process.
- David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for [his] only [son], and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for [his] firstborn. In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon. And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart."

Mashiach ben David

- While Mashiach ben Joseph is interpreted as a kind of temporary Messiah that will play his part in bringing about the prophesied Messianic Kingdom, it is Mashiach ben David that will rule and conquer. However, even this view is debated and not well understood.
- ♦ The bottom line is this dual nature of the Messiah is recognized by

Rabbis from scripture, spurred in part as a response to Christians pointing to these passages as proof that Yeshua is the Messiah, while rejecting Yeshua as a possibility. And so they look forward to a time when Mashiach ben Joseph will bring Israel back together, rebuild the temple, die, and either be resurrected or a new Mashiach ben David will come on the scene to rule from Jerusalem.

- Warning against deception surrounding the anointed one
 - It's clear that there is no solid agreement across the board as to the interpretation of all the Old Testament scriptures about the Messiah amongst the Rabbis. It is this lack of understanding that can be used to "properly interpret" prophecy when aspects of the various views seem to come to pass. Having seen a glimpse of how the blinded Rabbinical perspective interprets the Old Testament prophecies, I think it's important once again to point out the warning Yeshua gave.
 - Matthew 24:3-5 "And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what [shall be] the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."
 - ☐ Historically, there have been those who claimed to be the Messiah
 - <u>List of Jewish messiah claimants</u> Yeshua seemed to start a trend amongst the Jews, perhaps because the Rabbis recognized after 70 AD that Messiah was supposed to have come, but they didn't see him.
 - <u>List of messiah claimants</u> It's not limited to the Jews, there's a messiah complex everywhere.
 - □ In the future will come one who not only appears to fulfill Old Testament prophecy, but comes with signs and wonders in doing so.
 - □ So let's examine how Yeshua has provided us the eternal perspective on this deception by understanding the truth according to God's Word.
- Faithful and Unfaithful Israel: Time of Jacob's Trouble
 - As followers of Yeshua, we recognize the dual nature of the Messiah, only accepting that Yeshua is God in the flesh, both human and divine. As the One Spirit of God defines the Father's identity, so it does the Son's, and so all 3 bear witness as one to Truth, having no beginning or end. We see this in Yeshua's baptism when the Spirit descended on Him as the Father affirmed His Son and in these two witnesses the ministry of Christ was established.
 - As mentioned previously, the prophetic narrative is centered around Israel and Jerusalem and I do not believe this is coincidence. We've seen the Biblical depictions of the false christ and the Jewish expectation of the Messiah to come, having missed and/or rejected His first coming. In that light I think it's important to touch on the division of Israel seen in Bible prophecy and how that defines the interpretation of some critical symbology in Bible prophecy.
 - o The Mosaic Covenant
 - <u>Deuteronomy 11:26-28, 31-32</u> "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known. ... For ye shall pass over Jordan to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God giveth you, and ye shall possess it, and dwell therein. And ye shall observe to do all the statutes and judgments which I set before you this day."
 - While Israel ultimately could not obey God's statutes and received the curses, there
 were times of obedience when they received the blessings. These blessings and curses
 were tied to a specific people given a specific role in representing God on the earth

and remaining faithful. Through much tribulation in their curses, the foundation was engrained in the culture and even most non-religious Jews have some tradition tied to the statutes of God.

- The Mosaic Covenant was the establishment of God's people through which the Messiah would come for the whole earth, Hebrew and Gentile. That covenant was made initially with the blood of animals not to remove sin, but to remind of it continually. Later the Son of man would make a New Covenant with His blood that would conquer sin for those who would believe and obey.
- The centrality of these statutes to the nation of Israel in the Promised Land are sometimes disregarded by Gentile Christians to their own detriment of understanding.
 I believe they were established as everlasting statutes for a reason, and the fact they are so central will be used by the enemy of mankind for his designs too.
- Faithful Woman of Revelation 12
 - Israel's relationship to God and the Christian relationship to Christ is compared to marriage. In this, faithfulness is continued commitment and dedication to one God alone.
 - Malachi 2:14-17 "Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet [is] she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for [one] covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously. Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied [him]? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil [is] good in the sight of the LORD, and he delighteth in them; or, Where [is] the God of judgment?"
 - ◆ Israel is God's wife by the covenant made at Sinai. Even though she dealt treacherously with God through history, going after other gods, He still has a remnant of her that will be saved. They were put away, but God hates divorce and those that follow Him will be brought back to Him.
 - Romans 11:1-5 "I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, [of] the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to [the image of] Baal. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace."
 - Paul made it clear that God is not done with Israel, but while all Israel will be saved, there is only a remnant that is of Israel that is elect by grace. This is the faithful of Israel.
 - ◆ As covered in the <u>Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel</u> study eternal Israel, that is the wild and natural branches that are grafted onto the root that is Christ. And so we see an eternal uniting of the faithful into the family of Abraham through a New Covenant that could be likened to a ketubah bringing us all into the family of God.
 - ☐ Malachi 1:11 "For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name [shall be] great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense [shall be] offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name [shall be] great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts."

- Even though Israel had profaned His name, God spoke of the Gentiles honoring it.
- □ The same God
 - YAHWEH behold the hand/arm, behold the hook/peg
 - ◆ At the root meaning of the letters of the name of the Lord given to the Hebrews is a literal connection that points to Yeshua on the cross. Our worship of Yeshua is worship of YAHWEH and the plan of redemption performed on our behalf and the faithful of Israel.
- In the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, we saw in John's vision depicted in Revelation 12 a woman that is identified with Jacob, or Israel. She is identified this way by Jacob himself when interpreting Joseph's dream in <u>Genesis 37:9-11</u>.
- This Israel is hated and persecuted by the dragon with seven heads and ten horns as soon as he is cast down to the earth out of heaven.
 - ☐ The timing of this is covered in greater detail in <u>The Restrainer</u>, <u>Great</u> <u>Tribulation</u>, <u>Abomination of Desolation</u>, and <u>Framework of the End</u> studies.
- While faithful Israel is first attacked, they are protected from the dragon and taken on wings of an eagle to a place in the wilderness prepared for her and protected for 1260 days from the dragon. This is like a future second exodus where what was physically Egypt the first time is now Jerusalem that is spiritually Sodom and Egypt.
 - ☐ The <u>Great Tribulation</u> study will go into greater depth on God's plan for Israel in the wilderness, to bring her back to Himself and woo her. She will emerge from the wilderness into the Promised Land during the Messianic Kingdom under the rule of the Messiah just as promised.
- Also similar to the Exodus, in their flight just as Pharaoh sent a flood of his army that was swallowed up by the sea, now the second time a flood from the Dragon going after the woman will be swallowed up by the earth. (We'll get more into that later.)
 - ☐ The dragon, not able to get those of Israel from Judea any longer, turns his attention outside Judea to persecute Israel and those with the testimony of Christ.
- Genesis 12:3 "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."
- The hatred of Israel as a people is truly a sign of satanic hatred against God's chosen people. It may be part of the plan of deception that the mystery of iniquity has been at work for thousands of years building to destroy mankind, spiritual wickedness in high places we battle against.
- Some of the Christian world have a replacement view that has no place for Israel and portions of those join with the rest of the Gentile world in either hating her or disregarding her. This is not a healthy alignment for the soul. As we've already seen, there is a remnant God will save that remain faithful to Him.
- For now the vocal minority of the world is against Israel, but we may see that shift, or at least be silenced, in coming years as Israel makes a justified stand for her continued existence in the Promised Land.
- My heart is for eternal Israel, whether they're living for Christ now or will in a few days or years, whether Hebrew or Gentile. There are ministries like One For Israel building a great presence online and in Israel to bring the Gospel to the unbelieving Jews. One by one, individual branches of the natural tree are grafted back on as they see and accept Yeshua. We should continue to pray for these ministries and the Jews they are reaching with the good news.
- I believe the woman of Revelation 12 is a view of the natural branches of eternal spiritual Israel at several moments in time before eternity, the 12 tribes of Jacob, or Israel
- It's often accepted that it's representative of every one of the people of Israel and so taken as a corporate whole, but I think as we will see there is a division of Jacob itself

into the faithful and unfaithful in light of several other places in scripture. I posit that the woman of Revelation 12 may be a view of just the faithful remnant out of all those of Israel.

- Those who reject their God already belong to the Dragon and he can use them as his pawns. When the wise men from the East arrived in Jerusalem with tales of the King of Israel being born, I'm sure the Dragon was there whispering in the ears of Herod sparking thoughts of loss of power. When Yeshua was crucified, I'm sure the Dragon was there whispering in the ears and stirring the wicked spirits of the leadership and those that brought about His crucifixion, Jew and Gentile. But even in the midst of that time, there were faithful in Israel who believed and later discovered that Yeshua laid down His own life, it wasn't taken from him. He offered it freely for a purpose and turned the tables on the evil who were blind to His true plan until it was too late.
- Unfaithful Woman of Revelation 17-18
 - Just as spiritual faithfulness is compared to marriage, breach of that trust was likened to spiritual whoredom and adultery with Israel when they played the harlot and went after other gods. The details behind the understanding of the unfaithful harlot is covered in greater detail in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study.
 - □ It was at these times of spiritual adultery that the promised curses Israel agreed to at Sinai came in the form of wicked religious or political leaders of Israel misleading them and surrounding nations attacking and controlling them. They left God and so God departed from them, along with His divine protection and blessing.
 - One of the evidences that the Bible is God inspired is the fact that the authors of it from Israel didn't sugar coat the reality of her apostasy and wickedness at various times. Most kingdoms will hide the bad things and elevate the good, but Israel has always been honest with the failings of the leaders and people for our benefit in understanding good, evil, repentance, and forgiveness. It shows a God-inspired authorship focused on the eternal message over pride.
 - I think there are reasons to be wise as serpents and harmless as doves when it comes to natural carnal Israel. Not because of the people of Israel herself, there is no difference between human beings as to the obedience to righteousness or the depths of depravity. Rather, because of the prophesied effective deception of the end times, who the deceiver is, who he will deceive, and what that will ultimately lead to.
 - □ Let us not forget there is a spiritual wickedness that is not human that hates humanity, all of it, with a depth of evil we likely cannot comprehend. He wants to drag as many humans to hell with him as he can and will use deception to trick anyone susceptible to participating in his wickedness because they either rejected or do not know the truth.
 - Israel has been blinded and are looking for a Messiah to fulfill Old Testament prophecies that have not yet come to pass. These are legitimate prophecies that either did or will come to pass, but it's all about the interpretation of them. When you don't have the perspective of Yeshua as the Messiah and rely on the interpretations of men who reject Yeshua as the Messiah, you are left with interpretations ripe for deception and a population wide open to accepting those interpretations, especially when they see them apparently being fulfilled in the way they expect.
 - In their zeal as the instruments of the establishment of the long awaited Messianic Kingdom where Israel is at the center, it will become easy to take prophecy and use it to manipulate those who believe the lies. In following after a false god, they blindly stumble into apostasy and wickedness thinking they are doing the will of God.
 - In Revelation 17-18 we see many characteristics of this unfaithful adulteress that rides the Dragon and the influence she has on the world.
 - ☐ She commits fornication and the world commits fornication with her. Spiritually this speaks to going after other gods, or apostasy. Not only is she called a harlot

because she has been unfaithful to her God for another, but the world is also unfaithful to the one true God in order to likewise go after her new god. She is essentially a proxy for global apostasy.

- From a blinded Israel perspective, if they think the false messiah is the Messiah, Bible prophecy states that the world will flow to Israel, reenforcing the deception as it unfolds.
- □ Her spiritual fornication is tied to wine upon which she is drunk. Moreover the world is also drunk on the wine. This fornication is also tied to wrath as the nations drink and are drunk on the wine of the wrath of her fornication. Wine is the result of crushing of grapes from the fruit harvest in the fall and many times God's wrath is associated with the winepress of the wrath of God. So it would seem this woman, following her false god, has her own wrath tied to the wine she is drinking that is said to be the blood of the saints, the martyrs of Yeshua.
 - From a blinded Israel perspective, they believe the prophecies that the Messiah will tread the winepress of God's wrath as well. We know from Isaiah 63:3 that He treads the winepress alone, but if the false messiah the whole world have accepted desires them to be instruments of his will, is this something they will reject, or will they in their zeal do whatever he says?
 - ◆ In current thinking, imagine a unified world that labels a group terrorists of the highest order and anyone associated with that terrorist group is hunted down and killed by every nation in the world. The technology and infrastructure is already in place to restrict movement, search, and destroy. Now transition that terrorist group to any who refuse to worship the antichrist and you have a view of what this means. The tribulation is only for those who are labeled the terrorists, the rest of the world that follows willingly will live life normally, at least until the wine press of the wrath of God comes. This is covered more in the Hour of Temptation: Left Behind study.
- She is attired like the clothes of the high priest, purple, scarlet, decked with precious stones. These are the depictions of the clothes and breastplate in Exodus 28 and Exodus 39. And like the high priest, she also has something written on her forehead. While the high priest had written holiness to the Lord, the harlot's says mystery, babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth.
 - I think it's important to see that the garments of the priests include everything but the pearls and the woman is arrayed in the same things as that great city. She even wears on her forehead, like Aaron was to wear, an engraving although clearly in opposition to God. Is this all just coincidence?
- Revealed vs. Blinded
 - ☐ Having grown up with the revealed Word of God in the New Testament combined with the Old Testament and then digging into the Word myself in the study of prophecy, it was hard for me to see from any other perspective.

 Without accepting Yeshua as the Messiah, the expectations are quite different.
 - □ What I had a difficult time doing was keeping my understanding of the truth, but replacing the glasses that let me see with blinders needed to see from the Hebrew perspective, having eliminated Yeshua from the possibilities.
 - □ Revealed in New Testament
 - When we look at the expectations of the Messiah, we see Yeshua saving us from wicked people trying to kill us because we believe in Him and refuse to worship a false god. We are not being killed in battles, but as sheep to the slaughter. He returns from heaven and saves us and judges

those who follow the false christ. Upon their defeat, He then establishes His kingdom with Jerusalem at the center and brings righteous judgement and peace to the world. The world then pilgrimages to Jerusalem and worships God.

 When we look at the expectations of the false christ, we see the man of sin that hates God and persecutes His people until He returns.

□ Blinded in Old Testament

- When Jews look at the expectation of the Messiah, they see a time of distress against Israel as a people by her enemies from which the Messiah saves them by defeating her enemies. He brings Israel back to Him and He then establishes his kingdom with Jerusalem at the center and brings the Law, righteousness, and peace to the world. The world then pilgrimages to Jerusalem and worships God.
- ◆ There is no expectation of deception from a false christ, this is only in the understanding Christ gave us. Anything we might associate with persecution from this deception is generally wrapped up in Israel's enemies persecuting her and from whom the Messiah will save them.

Division of the Natural Branches

- This would all seem to point to the idea that natural branches of Israel will be divided between faithful and unfaithful at some future point in history when prophecy begins to come to pass, hated by the Dragon and deceived by him respectively. To them that reject him, he will persecute. To them that accept him, he will use as his instruments of persecution. This isn't a new concept, and while Israel as a people have a modern history of being hated by the Gentiles in the nations to which they were scattered, Jacob has always had its own internal family issues as well in the past.
 - □ **Zechariah 13:1-6** "In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness. And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, [that] I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall no more be remembered: and also I will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land. And it shall come to pass, [that] when any shall yet prophesy, then his father and his mother that begat him shall say unto him, Thou shalt not live; for thou speakest lies in the name of the LORD: and his father and his mother that begat him shall thrust him through when he prophesieth. And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] the prophets shall be ashamed every one of his vision, when he hath prophesied; neither shall they wear a rough [hairy] garment to deceive: But he shall say, I [am] no prophet, I [am] an husbandman[H5647 worker, servant, laborer]; for man taught me to keep cattle[H7069 - obtain acquire, posses] from my youth. And [one] shall say unto him, What [are] these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, [Those] with which I was wounded [in] the house of my friends."
 - We've seen how the religious and political leadership of Israel in ancient Israel persecuted the just and the prophets that God sent her.
 - Lamentations 4:12-14 "The kings of the earth, and all the inhabitants of the world, would not have believed that the adversary and the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem. For the sins of her prophets, [and] the iniquities of her priests, that have shed the blood of the just in the midst of her, They have wandered [as] blind [men] in the streets, they have polluted themselves with blood, so that men could not touch their garments."
 - This particular prophecy spoke of the persecution of Christ and His followers by their own families and friends. Indeed, those that followed

Christ were not persecuted by the world at first, it was by their own people who looked at Yeshua's message as blasphemy. This kind of religious zeal, one of the works of the flesh in Galatians 5:20 - emulations, led to the murder of many of God's prophets and followers. While that persecution expanded to the Gentiles persecuting them, it all started with the Jewish persecution of their own people who followed Yeshua.

- ♦ Matthew 23:29-39 "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. [Ye] serpents, [ye] generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell? Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and [some] of them ye shall kill and crucify; and [some] of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute [them] from city to city: That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. Verily I say unto you, All these things shall **come upon this generation**. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [thou] that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord."
- ♦ Acts 8:1-4 "And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen [to his burial], and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed [them] to prison. Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word."
- Acts 9:1-2 "And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem."
- ♦ 1 Thessalonians 2:13-16 "For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received [it] not [as] the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe. For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they [have] of the Jews: Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men: Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost."

- ♦ This ties them to the church in Judea who suffered at the hands of the of the Jews, who killed Yeshua and their own prophets and persecuted the disciples spreading the Gospel. Forbid them to preach to the Gentiles that they might be saved. (Ref. N H Taylor)
- Who persecuted the Thessalonian Christians? By N H Taylor, Department of New Testament Studies, University of Pretoria
- John 5:43 "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive."
- And in the future, we are given a vision of great persecution to those who reject the false christ. The false prophet helps enforce this global requirement to worship the false christ and those who reject him are put to death. As covered in greater detail in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, this woman arrayed in the same colors of the high priestly attire and the breastplate of 12 precious stones for the 12 tribes of Israel is Jerusalem. This woman, Jerusalem, is seen with a golden cup full of the blood of the saints upon which she is drunk.

 - Revelation 11:7-8 "And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies [shall lie] in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified."
 - ♦ Revelation 17:4-6, 18 "And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead [was] a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration. ... And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth."
 - ♦ Isaiah 1:21-28 "How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water: Thy princes [are] rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them. Therefore saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies: And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin: And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city. Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness. And the

- destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners [shall be] together, and they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed."
- Revelation 16:4-7 "And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy. And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous [are] thy judgments."
- ♦ Revelation 18:21-24 "And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast [it] into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all. And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft [he be], shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee; And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth."
- Of course there are other interpretations of what this means from a blinder perspective. According to <u>Rabbi Yitzchak Breitowitz</u>, this is a reference that needs some interpretation that there will be Jews that will be attacking Jerusalem in the context of Gog and Magog.
- ◆ So in the context of Israel in Jerusalem, we see that it is not possible for the blood of a prophet to be shed outside Jerusalem and while the Old Testament prophets were killed there and even Yeshua was killed there. The persecution of the early Jewish church began there and were brought back to there to stand trial for accepting Yeshua as the Messiah. While Israel has definitely been persecuted through history by Gentile nations, we must not forget the dark history of apostate Israel preceding those times of judgment upon her as well.
- ◆ In the future, the kind of blind fervency of support of the false christ as the long awaited Messiah against those who reject him will result in the unparalleled time of great tribulation, to the Jew first and also the Gentile. I believe it is called the time of Jacob's trouble for a reason, it is a family affair to begin with until the Dragon is prevented from completing his conquering of Israel.
- It's like looking in a mirror where everything is backwards. In 30 AD, the Jews that rejected the true Messiah persecuted the Jews that accepted Him, in the future, the Jews that accept the false Messiah will persecute the Jews that reject him. You're still seeing an accurate representation in the mirror when seeing with spiritual eyes. The true people of God will never persecute, but are constantly persecuted by those not of God, because the wicked and unjust don't have His Spirit of selfless love in them. They are void of mercy, grace, longsuffering, goodness, gentleness, and all the fruits of the Spirit.
- ◆ It also makes sense how the confirming of the covenant to return to the Mosaic Covenant that starts the 70th week, the building of the third temple, the stopping of the daily all directly relate to the great deception.

It's the false establishment of the Messianic Kingdom prior to Christ's return for the purpose of deceiving Israel and the world, hijacking the source of the main religions of the world and consuming the rest, all with signs and wonders.

- □ Zechariah 13:7 "Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man [that is] my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones."
 - We see this idea of the foolish shepherd a couple of chapters earlier, who tears in pieces and is struck by the sword.
 - ◆ Zechariah 11:15-17 "And the LORD said unto me, Take unto thee yet the instruments of a foolish shepherd. For, lo, I will raise up a shepherd in the land, [which] shall not visit those that be cut off, neither shall seek the young one, nor heal that that is broken, nor feed that that standeth still: but he shall eat the flesh of the fat, and tear their claws in pieces. Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! the sword [shall be] upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened."
 - This foolish shepherd is deemed "my fellow," that is companion or neighbor. This would indicate, as the rest of the chapter does, that Israel will be divided in the future by the worthless shepherd that leaves the flock.
 - Revelation 12:7-8, 12-14 "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. ... Therefore rejoice, [ye] heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man [child]. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent."
 - ◆ The false christ is the deceiving leader of Israel, pretending to be the Messiah to deceive blinded Israel into accepting him as the long-awaited Messiah. He doesn't care for Israel like a shepherd, his goal is gathering adherents that will be his followers and do his bidding, which in turn is the Dragon's bidding. The Dragon knows that any who worship him will die the second death with him, he doesn't need to kill those who follow him, then he would lose his power in the earth. What he does need to get rid of are those who reject him and pull others out of the deception with truth. The Dragon is going after the woman first in Jerusalem and Judea until she is protected from him.
- Zechariah 13:8-9 "And it shall come to pass, [that] in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off [and] die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It [is] my people: and they shall say, The LORD [is] my God."
 - Could this be referring to a Gentile false christ powered by the Dragon going after any Jews?
 - ♦ Traditionally this prophecy is viewed as some outside false christ killing all Jews he can get his hands on. Perhaps there is another perspective that can take the same scriptures in combination with

others to highlight a little-discussed possibility.

- ◆ In the context of Romans 11, could this be referring to the natural branches being broken off in unbelief and adultery as they fornicate with a false god, who is the false christ Yeshua warned about?
 - Note that 2/3 are both cut off (H3772 kaw-rath 145x cut off from people, 85x cutting a covenant, 23x cut down) and die (H1478 gaw-vah 12x die, 9x give up the ghost, 2x perish). These are two distinct things that will happen to them.
 - Michael Heiser makes the point that the term cut off was used both as capital punishment (death) and banishment from the people, or the nation of Israel. (reference)
 - ♦ As discussed in Romans 11, this speaks to the idea of the natural branches being broken off the root, which is Christ, in unbelief and the wild branches being grafted in. This would seem to hint that:
 - ▶ 2/3 of natural carnal Israel at the time of this prophetic fulfillment will be cut off from the people, eternal spiritual Israel that remain on the root in belief, which is Christ, and they will also die.
 - In the vein of the natural and wild branches, a branch that is cut off and not grafted back on will die eventually without the root that bears them, there are two steps.
 However we know that many alive today have been cut off spiritually, yet they live.
 - In the understanding of eternity, if one is not in Christ, they will die the second death. In their decision and taking of the mark and worshipping the beast they are permanently cut off and will die the second death because there is no forgiveness to those who take the mark.
 - Revelation 14:9-11 "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive [his] mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."
 - The second death is the lake of fire and the branches cut off are cast into the fire.
 - John 15:5-6 "I am the vine, ye [are] the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast [them] into the fire, and they are burned."
 - ▶ 1/3 of natural carnal Israel at the time of this prophetic fulfillment will be brought through fire, refined as silver, and tried as gold. This 1/3 will call on His name and God will hear them. They will be His people and He will be their God. These

will be grafted back onto the root in belief and remain part of spiritual Israel along with their Gentile brothers and sisters in Christ.

- <u>2 Peter 3:6-7</u> "Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men."
- The flood brought destruction by water in the days of Noah, as in the days of Noah, the heavens and earth are reserved for fire in the day of judgement.
- Malachi 4:1-2 "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall."
- Malachi 3:1-4 "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he [is] like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit [as] a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years."
- I believe this is speaking of the wooing of eternal Israel that are not cut off, who remain faithful to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and call on the name of the Lord. He will save and protect them in the wilderness on the earth during the day of the Lord and the wrath of God on the earth when He comes and destroys by fire. In that fire also refines the remnant of Israel that did not turn from Him in the time of Jacob's trouble.

• The Time of Jacob's Trouble

- <u>Jeremiah 30:4-7</u> "And these [are] the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah. For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day [is] great, so that none [is] like it: it [is] even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it."
- This speaks of an unparalleled time that will be covered in greater detail in the <u>Great</u> Tribulation study.
- Why is this called the time of Jacob's trouble? As seen in Genesis, Jacob is the father of the 12 tribes and Jacob's name was changed to Israel. Hebrew culture is very focused on life and family. Being God's chosen people not only set apart from the world, but the world has been against them ever since.

- I believe that associating this time with the patriarch if the 12 tribes shines a light on why it's called the time of Jacob's trouble.
- Matthew 10:34-39 "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes [shall be] they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it."
 - Christ's first coming brought division to Israel, to bring those with ears to hear to Him, and by nature of those following the teachings of the scribes, Pharisees, and Sadducees who were hypocrites, the people turned against their own families who became followed after the Truth and persecuted and killed their own.
- Similarly, the false christ will starts with a return to God's covenant with Israel and then pull a bait and switch with the new kingdom under the power of the Dragon. Behind it will be great deception and apostasy to worship a man who comes in his own name that will tear apart the once close-knit family of Israel.
- With the false Christ, this time of division in the family of Jacob will be unprecedented in history much to the delight of the Dragon, who will not only deceive Gods people to their eternal demise, but also cause them to kill their own families in the process. And God will send a strong delusion that they believe the lie because they had pleasure in unrighteousness. We see this with the harlot riding the beast, drunk on the blood of the saints and making the whole world drunk on the wine of the wrath of her fornication in worshipping the false christ. It is the wrath of the Dragon on God's people that the harlot and the world are drunk on.
- o Is this view against Israel or antisemitic?
 - I think part of the more reserved acceptance of this possibility is the ingrained support for Israel's existence and recognition by much of the bride of Christ looking for the redemption of Israel. This is something I look forward to as well.
 - Let us not forget that the natural branches broken off the root, which is Yeshua, may be natural carnal Israel, but they are not eternal spiritual Israel, and that is the Israel that will be with God in eternity. I would rather all believe and be saved, but nothing I wish for will override their free will. The best I can do is point out their own history, and that of every Gentile too for that matter, in finding all sorts of ways to turn from God. People search for God like a thief searches for the police.
 - This has nothing to do with genetics, it has to do with spirit and obedience to the God of creation and eternity, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This applies to Christians, atheists, Muslims, Buddists, and humanity in general. The only reason there is focus on Israel and Jerusalem is because that is what Bible prophecy is focused on. Daniel is told, "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city," and the final week of years is the container of time in which much of future prophecy unfolds. God has been spreading the Gospel through His followers in the earth for almost 2 millennia, but He's not done with the redemption of His people whom He blinded in unbelief.
 - The Old and New Testaments are all about the history and future of a peculiar people loved and selected by God and hated by the world to represent Him in the world. Like us all, they historically failed and by His own strength God saved the world being born a Jew out of His people.
 - Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide [is] the gate, and broad [is] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be

that find it."

- ☐ Take any nation or people and not all are good, it's the human condition. Judge by their fruits.
- I'm sure there are some who might be thinking this is somehow against Israel or antisemitic to think that the false christ could be from Israel and that Israel herself would be involved in any way with the wickedness of the kingdom of the false christ.
 - □ First it should be pointed out that the false christ will willingly give himself over to the enemy of all mankind for power. The Dragon, regardless of who he tempts with power, is all of humanity's enemy, he's the satan, the accuser, behind everything that will work to destroy every human being he can. He has been controlling Hebrews and Gentiles throughout history. Let's not lose focus on who hates who and desires our destruction.
 - □ I take the view that God has foretold what will happen and nothing I think or do will change what has been foretold.
 - ◆ Israel was reborn, to the glory of God
 - Israel will return to God, to the glory of God in keeping His promises
 - Israel will rebuild the temple and start the daily ministering and sacrifices at the temple
 - ◆ A remnant of Israel will be saved from the false christ by God, and protected for 3 1/2 years in the wilderness
 - Supporting or hating Israel will result in no change in outcome for what is foretold, only determine whether you personally will be grafted on or cut off in your love or hatred respectively. We are to love those who hate us and not harbor any hatred in our hearts. If we do then the love of God is not in us.
 - ◆ I love all people and desire they come to the saving knowledge and relationship with Yeshua the Christ, to the Jew first and also the Gentile.
 - I support those who choose Yeshua and pray for those who reject Him.
 - ◆ I have no enemies, but I love those who would call me an enemy and kill me because my eternity is secure in Christ. Vengeance is the Lords and my job is to love selflessly. He will judge the wicked.
 - □ To that end, I support and trust God's design for Israel and along with that the people of Israel who have been persecuted by the world for 2,000 years and called back to the land God gave them in perpetuity. It is their land historically, archaeologically, it was purchased legally, was conquered in war not brought on by themselves, and even given back in a vein effort to broker peace. This has only brought about conflict. Victory in war determining boundaries is the very principle that determines national boundaries throughout history and what we have today. Much of the Middle East we know today is the result of conquering nations defining boundaries that once did not exist. Yet somehow Israel is different.
 - □ I support the right of Israel to respond to the hatred and murder of her neighbors to defend their people. I think this may ultimately be a tool by the mystery of iniquity to be part of the great deception, but it is a righteous and just fight for the survival of God's people.
 - Jew and Gentile can and will be deceived, it has been foretold by our God who sits outside of time and knows the end from the beginning. What is coming will shake the atheist, humanist, materialist, spiritual, religious from all faiths, and anyone else who is not aware of what we have been warned about in God's Word.
 - ☐ The idea of a false christ from Israel should not be put on them as a bad thing, they're completely blind to what is coming and a great deception is being put in place that God is allowing to test His people, and even sending a strong delusion

- so that the natural carnal Israel is separated from the spiritual eternal Israel. God is separating out His people, the faithful meek, from the unfaithful, proud, and zealous who lead to the deaths of others in their unbelief.
- ☐ If you don't know the history of ancient Israel, they were not always doing the will of God. They often turned away from God to idols and other gods. Their fervent religious leaders killed the very prophets God sent for many reasons from wickedness to blindness following the letter of the law and unable to see the spirit of it. Any Orthodox Jew will admit this, it's part of their history if they accept the Tanakh. What they likely won't admit is that this included the Son of God, but the sins of murder in the past are on those involved, and in the case of Yeshua, he willingly gave His life and forgave them, so it is not a part of this anyway. He forgave those who killed Him, it was a necessary part of God's design of redemption.
- □ When looking at how things may unfold we must be wise as serpents and gentle as doves. Understand that true wickedness would probably revel in deceiving God's own people to follow him instead and even get them to be the instruments of their own peoples' destruction. Even at Christ's first coming it was the Jews who initially began the persecution of the followers of Christ before the Gentiles joined in. No nationality or people are immune to apostasy, hatred, zealotry to murder and other works of the flesh. But when you're blind to the spirit of the law because of the letter of it you can be easily deceived.
- □ We are told to love even our enemies and to the first century Jewish church, a fervent Israel thinking they did God's will were enemies of the disciples and killed them, Paul among them. So let us not hate, but love selflessly. Freely we have received the Gospel, freely give.

Rise of the False Christ Kingdom

- The Bible warns of great deception surrounding false christs attempting to deceive the world. Could the expectations of the blinded children of Israel lead to many accepting a false christ while rejecting the true Messiah?
- Taking what scripture has said about the false prophet and false christ, and what Rabbinic tradition holds regarding the coming Messiah and his forerunner, Is there a connection that can be made between the two?
- Could this be how we can see the rise of the kingdom of the Dragon and the fulfillment of all the works of the mystery of iniquity at work deceiving the world in the near future?
- Based on my study of Bible prophecy, some of which is covered in other studies in this series, this is how I can see this possibility come to reality. I do not claim to have this all correct. I am simply sharing my understanding of prophecy alongside both the New Testament fulfillment in reality and Rabbinical interpretations about Elijah and the Messiah that could lead to deception in alignment with Bible prophecy. A more complete sequence of events will be reviewed in *The Coming Times* study.
- There is one sign that I believe will come first, a consolidation of global governance into four corners of the earth. One of these will be an alliance of 10 Arab nations in the Middle East that will be the 10 horns on the fourth kingdom of Daniel 7. Whether this is an alliance based on a new caliphate intended to stand against Israel or just a more financial or power alliance I don't know. However, this study is focused on the false christ, who I believe we will see come to power after this is in place.
- It is my belief that all of this will begin with the start of the 70th week of Daniel that is determined for Israel and Jerusalem in Judea.
- Birth Pangs of Messiah
 - Christians are not the only ones expecting the Messiah to come and neither are they the only ones who associate that revealing to birth pangs. It's no wonder that the two religions based on the same Tanach have similar expectations.
 - Reality

□ The first thing Yeshua warned about in the Olivet Discourse regarding the beginning of these things and the sign of His coming was deception surrounding a false christ. Then wars and rumors of wars, famines, pestilence, earthquakes, persecution, rise is selfishness as love grows cold, the Gospel preached to the world and then the end. That end began immediately with the abomination of desolation, the revealing of the man of sin, or false christ. While not there yet, I think those watching will have him revealed much sooner than that.

Deception

- ☐ The Rabbinical expectation is mostly in line with what Yeshua warned about with an increase in insolence, irresponsible authorities and evil decrees, abandonment of truth, family dissention, poverty, famine, lack of wisdom, blaspheming, nations provoking and fighting each other.
 - "When you see a generation ever dwindling, hope for him... when you see a generation overwhelmed by many troubles as by a river, await him." | Sanhedrin 98a
 - "In the time that Mashiach will awaken, many signs and miracles will occur in the world." | Zohar II:8a
- As we can see, the same kind of lack of security and stability is seen, although from the Jewish perspective it's really focused on just Israel. I think it's safe to say that just like birth pangs, the intensity of not just the expectation, but the desire for the arrival of the Messiah to save them and bring peace is exponentially growing. From a watchman's perspective, my expectation is not much different as I see all the events unfolding and I expect the Messiah to return soon as well.
- ☐ This isn't so much of a deception as an expectation. However, we have the benefit of Yeshua's warnings and how we should expect Him to return, in the clouds of heaven, not on the earth.
- □ Without that understanding, the apparent fulfillment of the expectation of the arrival of the Messiah on earth as a man will most definitely turn into deception because they will be expecting it that way, and that is the way the lie will begin. It's why Yeshua made a point of that first.

Arrival of Elijah

- Elijah is a central figure in both Judaism and Christianity because we are told he will come before the day of the Lord. And so both belief systems see him arriving, but in different ways.
- Malachi 4: I this last chapter of the last book of the Old Testament is laid out a time when:
- God destroys Israel's enemies and they tread on the wicked
 - □ Reality
 - ◆ As will be covered in greater detail in the <u>Day of the Lord</u> study, this millennial period begins with the wrath of God, which is preceded by the signs of the sixth seal. It is God who will destroy the wicked on the earth in this time and when He returns to setup His Messianic Kingdom in Jerusalem, He will defeat the armies gathered against Jerusalem with the word of His mouth. Israel, having been protected in the wilderness from all of this, will then exit the wilderness into the Promised Land where Yeshua has already defeated all who came against Him and Israel will dwell in peace and safety under the Messiah in Israel just as promised.
 - Another possibility tying <u>The Moedim: Appointed Times</u>, <u>Daniel's 70th</u> <u>Week</u> and the <u>70th Week Chart Review</u> study, is the provision to celebrate Pesach Sheni, or second Passover, in the event one was travelling or touched a dead body and was unclean at the time of Passover. <u>Numbers</u> <u>9:6-13</u> Israel is both travelling and encountering dead bodies as they come

out of the wilderness into the Promised Land around the first of Abib/Nisan at the end of the 70th week. Interestingly, there are several year cycles where 1,335 days from the start of the time of Jacob's trouble fall on that second Passover.

- Without the vision given to John in Revelation, the sequence of events leading to the day of the Lord isn't really known, but there may be some expectation that it's a good thing from a Jewish perspective because their God is bringing justice and defeating their enemies. However, it is clear that what men perceive as justice against the wicked and what God's definition of wicked is, may not be equivalent.
- ◆ Amos 5:18-19 "Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end [is] it for you? the day of the LORD [is] darkness, and not light. As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him."
- There may be some interpretations of God performing miracles in the fact that Israel remains after so many of her enemies come against her, that unlike times of old she stands strong and defeats her enemies because God is on her side. This doesn't stop her enemies, but the expectation is the Messiah will conquer all her enemies. Given they expect the Messiah to be a man empowered by God, they will be participants as they were after the Exodus when conquering the land, to be his army fighting for Israel and treading on her enemies. This mindset would come into play more in the future.
- ◆ This expectation would be enhanced as soon as someone appearing to be Elijah came on the scene, knowing he comes before the day of the Lord.
- Arrival of Elijah before the day of the Lord
 - □ Reality
 - ◆ John the Baptist
 - Matthew 11:11-14 "Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if ye will receive [it], this is Elias, which was for to come."
 - ♦ Yeshua said John the Baptist was Elias who came in the spirit of Elijah to prepare the way for the Messiah before His ministry started and baptize Him into that ministry in the first century. While many were turned to the Messiah, Israel at that time missed the sign corporately and rejected the Messiah he pointed to. So they're still looking for Elijah the prophet and as happens many times in scripture, there is an already but not yet element it would seem.
 - ◆ Two Witnesses
 - ♦ Matthew 17:1-3 "And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him."
 - Given Moses and Elijah speak with Yeshua at the transfiguration, these are likely the two witnesses that will show up in Jerusalem for 1,260 days performing the miracles they were each known for historically and prophesying and witnessing to the people in

Jerusalem to try and bring them to the truth. They are given power during their time.

- ▶ Shut up heaven so it doesn't rain
- ▶ Turn water into blood
- ▶ Send any disease they choose on the earth
- Kill any who would try and harm them with fire from their mouths
- While John in the spirit of Elijah prepared the hearts for the Messiah historically, the actual Elijah will actually be on the scene at the same time as the false prophet, only the real Elijah will work with Moses to turn the hearts of those still blinded to the truth and expose the lies to those with ears to hear.

◆ False Prophet

- ♦ The false prophet points the world to worship the beast and eventually take the mark of his name and worship his image.
- ♦ Revelation 13:12, 14 "And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. ... And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by [the means of] those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live."

- The Jews also expect Elijah to come some number of days before the Messiah. By some traditions they expect he will come at Passover and there is still tradition to leave a glass of wine for Elijah during Passover, which is covered more in <u>The Moedim: Appointed Times</u> study.
 - ♦ This expectation may have greater significance when looking at the <u>70th Week Chart Review</u> study, but basically there are many times where 1,260 days before Yom Kippur falls on the appointed time of firstfruits in the spring, just days after Passover when Elijah is expected to come.
- ◆ Elijah is expected to be the harbinger of the bright future of the Messianic age, Saying to Zion, thy King cometh! In other words, he not only comes before the Messiah, but in the same vein as John the Baptist prepared the way for Yeshua, he is expected to prepare the hearts of the people for the Messiah. However, the Messiah already came and warned of any man on earth saying they are the Christ. I expect having Elijah point to him he won't have to sell himself as much, especially given what comes next.
- ◆ It's like a copy of John, Yeshua, and the Father twisted upside down so the false prophet, false christ, and Dragon take their place and use the poor interpretation of the Word of God to pull off the deception.
- Elijah is to bring reconciliation between God and Israel and bringing Israel to repentance.
 - □ <u>Isaiah 40:1-5</u> "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see [it] together: for the mouth of the

LORD hath spoken [it]."

□ Reality

- ◆ In the time just before Yeshua's ministry, John the Baptist was preaching in the wilderness of Judea and calling for repentance because the kingdom was at hand. He baptized people as they confessed their sins and repented throughout the region.
- ◆ As seen in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, Daniel 2 was a prophecy about the kingdom of God arriving during the Roman empire and destroying all those empires symbolized in the statue. That rock cut without hands that destroyed the statue became a mountain that filled the whole earth, the kingdom of God. It was not a material kingdom as many expected, but a spiritual one that silently grows in the population that come to accept Yeshua and gain eternal life. This prophecy was from the eternal perspective and the true size of this kingdom will not be known until He returns and they are all resurrected with those alive and caught up together.
- ◆ So the reality is that the kingdom of God has been here since Christ's ministry and the Holy Spirit in believers since Shavuot in 30 AD has been working on the hearts and minds of mankind for almost two millennia in preparation for His return to gather His own.
- <u>Revelation 13:11</u> "And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon."
 - ♦ The epitome of a wolf in sheep's clothing, the false prophet is described as a Dragon in lamb's clothing, speaking the words of the Dragon while appearing as a lamb. This highlights his deceptive nature as the Dragon is the father of lies. This would seem to be part of the deception, appearing in an expected form while setting the stage for great deception.
 - ♦ In the beginning, I would expect this false prophet to be stating that messiah has arrived as the false christ is rising to power and conquering Israel's enemies. Then further as the world begins to normalize relationship and eventually give over their power, he won't need to push it as much, many will believe it.

□ Deception

- Not aware or accepting of this spiritual kingdom, either Israel must be in a place of defeat and resignation, grasping for hope, or something must trigger a strong desire to repent from their secularism and turn back to God in the only way they know. It seems to me that the latter is the best argument because even if Israel remains on the edge of destruction, this draw back to God is for more than just those in Israel, it's a spiritual shift for all the children of Israel around the world. This voice crying in the wilderness is exactly what they expect of Elijah and the message of her warfare being accomplished and iniquity pardoned in this time will be like a heavy burden taken from their backs as it becomes a reality to them.
- ◆ Elijah is expected restore to Israel several things once lost: the golden pot of Manna, the vessel containing the anointing oil and waters of purification, and Aaron's rod that budded and bore fruit. As we saw these were at one time in the Ark of the Covenant. It is my opinion that God both set up and will allow a universal Hebrew shock to the spirit in the return of the Ark of the Covenant. He seems to have directed its securing through Jeremiah to be used as a catalyst for a paradigm shift in Israel. Not only would this immediately shift the spirit of the people of Israel, but it would bring Hebrews from all tribes around the world back to Israel.

- Rabbinical tradition holds that God had delegated His three special keys of birth, rainfall, and waking the dead to Elijah. The idea of birth could be considered a spiritual rebirth of Israel to her roots and promises.
- Elijah is expected to forever break the yoke of foreign rule from Israel.
 Whether directly or indirectly, his preparing the way for and pointing to the Messiah who fights for Israel and establishes his kingdom is the catalyst for this.
- Return of the Mosaic Covenant
 - Having seen the return of Elijah in the minds of Israel, and a shocking return of one of the most central archaeological finds to the foundation of their belief system and proof of their ancestral rights to the land, the people of Israel will be primed for what comes next when a strong orthodox leader inspires the nation to return to the God of their fathers and the Mosaic Covenant.
 - He will be well-versed in Jewish law, and observant of its commandments.
 - □ Isaiah 11:2-5 "And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins."
 - □ Reality
 - Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,"
 - Many times the Scribes, Pharisees, and Sadducees were caught off guard and unable to answer Yeshua's wisdom and knowledge of scripture. In the days before His crucifixion, He actively debated with them at the temple, showing He was without spot or blemish. Furthermore, He revealed the Spirit of the Law behind the letter of it. That selfless love fulfills the law.
 - Revelation 19:15 "And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."
 - Yeshua knew the Word of God and followed Torah, but He also knew to what Torah pointed, a better covenant that was everlasting for which He would need to sacrifice Himself for all mankind. In being subservient to the will of the Father in the power of the Spirit, He laid down His life and picked it up again, fulfilling the Law.

- One of the expectations of the Messiah is that he will return Israel to the law of Moses. In order to be the kind of leader that would do this, he needs to both know and follow the Mosaic Covenant and advocate all return to it as well.
- Ultimately going back to the letter of the law is not embracing the necessity of accepting Yeshua as the Messiah, but they are blinded to that until the fulness of the Gentiles. Going back to the Mosaic Law is following the eternal statutes God gave them as a people, and while for some it will bring them closer to God and they will not be deceived, what comes next will deceive them.
- He will be a charismatic leader, inspiring others to follow his example. He will be a

great military leader, who will win battles for Israel. He will be a great judge, who makes righteous decisions.

- □ Hosea 3:4-5 "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and [without] teraphim: Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days."
- □ <u>Jeremiah 33:15-16</u> "In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this [is the name] wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness."

□ Reality

◆ Yeshua

- ♦ Revelation 19:11, 15 "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. ... And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."
- ♦ Yeshua's second coming is tied to the wrath of God, but this doesn't come until after the man of sin is revealed and his deception is allowed to unfold. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-11
- ♦ When He does return at the end of the 70th week, it will be to establish His kingdom in Jerusalem and the land of Israel. After this time, they will dwell safely and accepted by the faithful remnant of His people Israel.
- ♦ During His ministry, Yeshua drew many followers with His understanding of God's Word.

False Christ

- ◆ <u>Daniel 7:20b</u> "...even [of] that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look [appearance, aspect] [was] more stout [to speak great things] than his fellows [companions]."
- While likely not jumping to associate this new leader on the scene with this character, the reality that the false christ will come on the earth and is expected to be a charismatic leader fits with this depiction.

Deception

- Many Jews around the world are reporting a sense of anticipation given the confluence of events unfolding in the world today. Even non-religious Jews are beginning to try and learn more about the Messiah.
- It will take a very charismatic and inspiring leader to bring the Hebrew population of Israel to completely change their lives to take on the yoke of being Torah observant. While things like the Ark of the Covenant may help, an inspiring leader who leads by example will definitely be needed to influence many.
- He will also need to exude the energy of a competent leader in both leading the military of Israel and the judgement in Israel. As they move to a theocratic monarchy, there will be much resistance that is needed to overcome.

Confirming the Covenant

☐ <u>Malachi 4:4</u> - "Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, [with] the statutes and judgments."

□ Reality

- <u>Daniel 9:27</u> "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week..."
- ◆ The false christ confirms or give strength to the covenant with many. This implies an existing covenant that will be strengthened, or returned to, not something new. This prophecy is in the context of Israel and Jerusalem. It doesn't state he will define its length as seven years, just that it is how long it will be. As we will see, that time will be cut short, but it is clear that a covenant is the starting point of the 70th week of Daniel.
- ◆ Israel is blinded to Yeshua until the fulness of the Gentiles, the only connection they have to the God of their fathers is the everlasting covenant made by their fathers at Sinai that is still a part of at least tradition of the children of Israel.
- <u>Revelation 6:2</u> "And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer."
- ◆ As the perceive messiah, Israel will crown the false christ as their king and leader of the military who will respond to all who come against Israel with their utter defeat. In that light the bow he has is taken just as a weapon of that war. There is another possibility that was mentioned in the Seals, Trumpets, Bowls study that this bow founded in the idea of bending, is also used by God in describing the rainbow as a token of a covenant between God and man not to destroy the earth by water again. As a bow of war physically bends to fire, so too is a covenant a bending of will for two parties to meet on a mutually agreed compromise. I would posit this bow in this context has a dual purpose signifying the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel with the corporate return of Israel to the Mosaic Covenant and all that entails. The false christ will present the idea in light of all the surrounding events and Israel will accept his proposition and conform to all that entails.
- ◆ I must say also that the law of Moses is indeed an everlasting covenant for Israel, which we see in the continuation of ministry to God in the Messianic Kingdom in Ezekiel 40-48. While there is an aspect of deception in the return to the law of Moses because that honest return will be hijacked by the false christ, that doesn't make Israel's return to the law of Moses a bad thing. In the end, faithful Israel will accept Yeshua as the Messiah and while keeping the everlasting statutes will be covered by the blood of Christ as all who accept Him are.

- ◆ The majority of Israel is a secular nation today, and it will take a collective repentance to turn back to the Mosaic Covenant. This is exactly what they expect the Messiah to cause to happen when he comes after Elijah prepares the way for him.
- ◆ Yeshua fulfilled the law in Spirit making a new and better covenant, but the original covenant was still an everlasting covenant for Israel. This will be the initiation of the time of temptation for Israel, to both draw them back to God the only way they know how and place a choice before them to ignore the two witnesses and those who warn them and follow after another god, or remain faithful to God and reject the deception. Those who remain faithful will heed the warning and flee to the wilderness will be unblinded and brought to know Yeshua there to meet Him in His kingdom established on earth when judgement is complete.
- He will bring about the political and spiritual redemption of the Jewish people by

bringing us back to Israel and restoring Jerusalem.

- □ <u>Isaiah 11:11-12</u> "And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth."
- □ <u>Jeremiah 23:8</u> "But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land."
- □ <u>Jeremiah 30:3</u> "For, lo, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the LORD: and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it."
- □ Hosea 3:4-5 "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and [without] teraphim: Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days."
- □ Reality
 - Over the past centuries, Israel has slowly gone back to the land.
 Persecution from Spain, Germany, Arab nations, and elsewhere has been going on for some time.
 - ♦ Chart showing Middle East Jewish population shrinkage
 - <u>Ezekiel 37:15-28</u> speaks of the uniting of the sticks of Judah and Ephraim.
 This indicates that it is not just Jews that will return to the land, but all the 12 tribes of Israel will be brought back to Israel and under the Messiah, son of David.
 - ◆ This may be the reason God had Jeremiah hide the Ark of the Covenant, so we might see a massive return of all the tribes of Israel.
 - This may also be speaking to the time of the Messianic Kingdom, when Yeshua will call all the remnant of Israel back to the land after the previous 7 years of chaos.
- Deception
 - ◆ The draw of Hebrew people from all around the world as the Messiah appears to come on the scene and brings Israel back to Torah will be a strong affirmation to many that the Messiah has indeed arrived, especially with everything else going on.
- He will restore the religious court system of Israel and establish Jewish law as the law of the land.
 - ◆ <u>Jeremiah 33:15</u> "In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land."
 - Isaiah 1:26 "And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city."
 - ♦ Reality
 - ◆ <u>Jeremiah 33:7-8</u> "And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, as at the first. And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me."
 - The context of Jeremiah 33 is the restoration of Judah and Israel as they

- once were when God will cleanse and pardon their iniquities. Additionally the voice of the bridegroom and the bride will be heard in Jerusalem.
- ◆ The reunification of the Northern kingdom and Southern kingdom is yet to happen, although it might be said it's in process now as Hebrews from every tribe have moved back to Israel and not just Judah and Benjamin. This is an image of the time after the 70th week, when Yeshua is reigning from Jerusalem and faithful Israel has come out of the wilderness into the Promised Land, forgiven, redeemed, and reunited as one people as depicted in Ezekiel 37:15-28.

♦ Deception

- ◆ <u>Daniel 7:24-25</u> "And the ten horns out of this kingdom [are] ten kings [that] shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak [great] words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."
- ◆ The word times is used in connection with season, or appointed times. Given there will be a return to the Mosaic Covenant, it would also require a strict adherence by all of Israel to the seven feast days of the year.
- ◆ Furthermore, given the Mosaic Covenant is the Law for all of Israel, the secular system in place today must be replaced in order to fully adhere to the statutes given by God to Israel to perform. The government of Israel must be completely changed to a monarchy where a king over Israel would be appointed. We see this in the idea that the rider of the white horse is given a crown. With belief that this man is the Messiah, he likely would not need to take the crown, but the people would willingly give it to him.
- He will rebuild the Temple and re-establish its worship.

 - Jeremiah 33:17-18 "For thus saith the LORD; David shall never want [lack] a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel; Neither shall the priests the Levites want [lack] a man before me to offer burnt offerings, and to kindle meat offerings, and to do sacrifice continually."
 - □ Reality
 - Third Earthly Temple
 - Revelation 11:1-2 "And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty [and] two months."
 - ♦ It is clear in John's vision that there will be a physical, measurable temple that is somehow different from the previous in the court of the Gentiles
 - ◆ Fourth Earthly Temple

- behold, [there was] a man, whose appearance [was] like the appearance of brass, with a line of flax in his hand, and a measuring reed; and he stood in the gate."
- ♦ It is in the days when Jerusalem dwells safely that there will be no lack in One to sit on the throne or perform the burnt offerings continually. This is because Yeshua will be sitting on the throne and reigning from Jerusalem with Israel dwelling in the Promised Land as intended and the priesthood ministering at the temple.
- ◆ New Jerusalem Heavenly Temple
 - ◆ <u>John 14:1-3</u> "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also."
 - ♦ Revelation 21:1-3 "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God [is] with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, [and be] their God."
 - ♦ New Jerusalem is the Father's house with many mansions being prepared for His bride. At the end of His Messianic Kingdom, after the Dragon is defeated, after the great white throne judgment, after the heavens and earth are burnt up in a fervent heat, and after the new heavens and new earth are created, New Jerusalem rests on the new earth forever.

Deception

- ◆ The existence of the temple in Jerusalem is central to the return to the eternal statutes God gave Israel to do. It is where Israel was to meet with God, which is the whole push behind returning to the Mosaic Covenant, to return to a relationship with God.
- Already preparations are in progress for ministering at the temple with the instruments instructed to be made. Additionally, for the first time in millennia, there were red heifers that met with the criteria for creating the ashes used to purify the priesthood, temple instruments, and people in accordance with God's statutes. Even so, if ancient ashes were to be found with the Ark or elsewhere, everything would be ready to proceed with the building of the third temple.
- The only thing standing in the way would be the politics of such a move, but as we've seen with the arrival of Elijah and the messiah, the false prophet and false christ, the will is going to be there in force and the tepid response to the Orthodox Jewish community to allow a return of the temple will no longer be an impediment.

Wars of the False Christ

• The Old Testament speaks of conflict surrounding Israel and Jerusalem and John's vision of the end unfolding in Revelation explicitly defines intense periods of conflict as the Lord opens the seals to the scroll. This is not unexpected given the return to the

- Mosaic Covenant and all that entails with the debates over control of the land in Judea and the wars that have been fought over it since Israel's rebirth.
- Daniel 11:40-44 "And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many [countries] shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, [even] Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians [shall be] at his steps. But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many."
- <u>Isaiah 17:1-3, 7, 9</u> "The burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from [being] a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap. The cities of Aroer [are] forsaken: they shall be for flocks, which shall lie down, and none shall make [them] afraid. The fortress also shall cease from Ephraim, and the kingdom from Damascus, and the remnant of Syria: they shall be as the glory of the children of Israel, saith the LORD of hosts. ... At that day shall a man look to his Maker, and his eyes shall have respect to the Holy One of Israel. ... In that day shall his strong cities be as a forsaken bough, and an uppermost branch, which they left because of the children of Israel: and there shall be desolation."
- Isaiah 11:4 "But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked."
- Reality
 - ☐ The events that would transpire with the arrival of the Messiah in the minds of Israel and the complete overhaul of the state of Israel to return to the Mosaic Covenant and rebuild the temple will cause a response by Israel's neighbors that will trigger another war. Considering one of the reasons for the October 7, 2023 attack by Hamas was because Israel imported red heifers, the building of the temple will likely trigger a larger response.
 - Daniel 7:8, 20-22 "I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn [were] eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things. ... And of the ten horns that [were] in his head, and [of] the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even [of] that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look [was] more stout than his fellows. I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom."
 - □ As stated before, the 10 horns represent 10 kingdoms in the Middle East and the little horn represents a smaller kingdom in size than those 10. When this little horn, the false christ, rises to power, he will eliminate 3 of the 10 kings. This tells us that 7 of the 10 kings are not antagonistic to the point of war at that time, although they do end up destroying Jerusalem in the end.
 - □ While Daniel 11:40-44 depicts many of Israel's enemies being defeated, it explicitly calls out Egypt, the North and the East. I believe these could be representing the 3 horns that are plucked up. There still remains 10 horns, meaning the leadership of these 3 are taken out, the horns, yet the kingdom itself remains and a new king is represented in those 3 still being part of the 10.
 - Egypt is self-explanatory, and given the clear existence of tunnels from

- Egypt to Gaza discovered in the war on Hamas, the supposed peace with Israel they have is not real.
- ◆ To the North of Israel is Lebanon and Syria. Damascus is the longest continually inhabited city and as such must not have ever been made a ruinous heap. Isaiah 17 states it will be and that cities will be forsaken because of the children of Israel.
- ◆ To the East is Jordan, Iraq, and Iran. Of those three, I think it's clear who the most hateful against Israel is. So while Israel may retaliate in the war it's in now with Iran's proxies, I imagine that Iran won't be fully dealt with until the false christ comes and takes care of them in his great military power.

Deception

- ◆ As with the history of Israel since May 14, 1948, with few exceptions of preemptive attacks, they have been on the receiving end of the start of wars. The declaration of the dissolution of Waqf control over all of the Temple Mount for the purpose of rebuilding the temple will cause many of Israel's neighbors to attack her.
- ◆ Note that not all of them will, I imagine that some politicking will be going on in the world to allow Israel to rebuild the temple after the emergence of the Ark of the Covenant and the firm will of the nation of Israel, but that doesn't mean all her neighbors will agree with this decision.
- The resulting complete annihilation of the enemies that come against Israel will only increase the whispers of Messiah among Israel as they are getting exactly what they expect from their Messiah, a strong king that defeats Israel's enemies in the name of her own peace and security.

o Temple Rededication

- Tied to the rebuilding of the temple, it will take some time to actually accomplish this and be ready to dedicate the temple. There are thoughts of a more portable and quick to assemble tabernacle going in place, and that may be the case temporarily, but it seems the physical temple being measured in John's vision would point to a more static temple.
- Daniel 9:27b "...and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease..."
- Reality
 - We know prior to the middle of the seven years, the temple must be dedicated for the daily sacrifice to begin for the existing daily sacrifice to be stopped.
 - ◆ As covered in the <u>Seals, Trumpets, Bowls</u> study, I believe that the third seal, often interpreted as famine, may have a different meaning. What is interpreted as "a pair of balances" is the Greek word zygos from the root of zeúgnymi (to join, especially by a "yoke"); a coupling, i.e. (figuratively) servitude (a law or obligation.; also (literally) the beam of the balance (as connecting the scales):—pair of balances, yoke.
 - In this other relevant interpretation of the symbolism behind a pair of balances, we have the idea of this rider representing a yoking of servitude by law or obligation.
 - ◆ Matthew 11:28-30 "Come unto me, all [ye] that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke [is] easy, and my burden is light."
 - ◆ The word Yeshua used for His easy yoke is the same Greek word used of the pair of balances. In that Yeshua brought a new and better covenant not burdened by the law, but in understanding the spirit of the law loving God and neighbor, we see that in living by the Spirit, the burden of His yoke truly is easier and lighter

than that of the Mosaic Covenant and all the statutes, which were foreshadows of the things to come.

Deception

◆ The fulfillment of the promise of a temple before which to meet with God, its dedication would be the final element that needed to be put in place to keep the statutes of the law of Moses fully. From this point, Israel would be in right standing with God according to His statutes and all the pieces would be in place to complete the deception and insert the false christ in place of the true Messiah in the eyes of the blinded of Israel.

False Gog and Magog

- There is no doubt that an attack on Israel will come from the usual suspects, but without the only other place in scripture to mention Gog and Magog together in the New Testament, the timing of this event is in question and so could be expected at any time the parties are present and willing.
- Ezekiel 38:22-23 "And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that [are] with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I [am] the LORD."
- Ezekiel 39:6-7 "And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I [am] the LORD. So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not [let them] pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I [am] the LORD, the Holy One in Israel."

Reality

- Revelation 20:7-9 "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom [is] as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them."
- The only other place Gog and Magog is mentioned in Bible prophecy is at the end of the thousand years when the Dragon is loosed to deceive the world. This fulfills all the prerequisites of a time of peace and unwalled villages in addition to the only other explicit naming.
- So I feel the events of Ezekiel 38-39 are one of the last events before the last resurrection and the great white throne judgement. That doesn't mean an event that could be interpreted as being related won't happen and the false prophet is said to call fire from heaven.
- <u>Revelation 13:13</u> "And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,"

- ☐ Elijah is expected to appear, then to disappear, and to appear again in the wars of Gog and Magog. (Seder Olam R. xvii.)
- ☐ Having signs and lying wonders that could make even the most modern materialist question themselves, the truly orthodox religious among Israel will be primed for deception. He is known for calling fire from heaven.
 - ◆ <u>1 Kings 18:20-39</u> Elijah soaks a sacrifice in water after the priests of Baal are unable to have their god start the fire for the sacrifice and the fire of the Lord fell and consumed Elijah's sacrifice completely.
 - ◆ <u>2 Kings 1:1-16</u> Elijah calls down fire from heaven two times, destroying 102 of king Ahaziah's men.
- Many expect a Gog and Magog alliance to come against Israel as depicted in

Ezekiel 38-39, and it's not hard to see why, given many of those that seem to be involved in such an attack currently hate Israel and some are actively at war with her. The armies that attack Jerusalem are defeated with fire and brimstone from heaven.

- ☐ The spirit of Elijah is tied to calling fire from heaven that both consumes sacrifice and enemies in scripture. In the presence of the false christ, the false prophet has all the false christ's power and by his miracles deceives the world, such as calling fire from heaven.
- □ In accounting for the idea of the suffering servant, there is some Rabbinical tradition that Messiah ben Joseph will be killed during Gog/Magog, what I would see depicted in Daniel 11:45 just before he's resurrected

Resurrection of the False Christ

- In the Old Testament Daniel depicts one fighting against Israel's enemies and defeating them, yet being killed at Jerusalem. Isaiah speaks of one pierced for the transgressions of others and mourning for an only son in Israel. Without the interpretation of the New Testament, this pivotal misunderstanding will open wide the gates for great deception, and with God's help the delusion will gain credibility to put His people to proof in the desires of their hearts for God or apostasy.
- He will be a human being, not a god, demi-god or other supernatural being.

□ Reality

- This expectation was likely added because of Yeshua's claims and the growth of His kingdom in the world as a result. The active attempts to blind the people from seeing Him through Rabbinical interpretations in the Oral Law is a part of the self-imposed blindness Israel suffers from.
- ◆ I see no issue with Yeshua being both human and the LORD, or YHWH because the Spirit of God, that is One, defines the identity of the human being Yeshua as it does the Father in heaven. Every human is defined by their individual spirit within them, that makes them who they are. The Father and Son are just the same identity in that they are separate beings with the very same Spirit. In this way the Father (1) and Son (2) are One with the Spirit (3) in Truth. These 3 bear witness and in the mouth of 2 or 3 witnesses is a matter established. Deuteronomy 19:15
- And so Yeshua, making Himself subservient to the Father and given the kingdoms of the world, will be made King over all things and the Father will glorify the Son as the Son glorifies the Father. And even though the Father is still in heaven, and the Spirit of God will indwell His bride made up of many people, what identifies God, His Spirit, is still the same one Spirit that never changes.

□ Deception

- "It has been said that in every generation, a person is born with the potential to be the mashiach. If the time is right for the messianic age within that person's lifetime, then that person will be the mashiach. But if that person dies before he completes the mission of the mashiach, then that person is not the mashiach."
- ◆ You can see in this view both the potential for some to accept a resurrected messianic figure and some to reject him when he calls himself God. The Jews have a hard time with Yeshua because He said He was God, which goes contrary to the Lord being one in their view. The Father, Son, and Spirit being one is a difficult concept for many without a spiritual perspective.
- Messiah ben Joseph to Messiah ben David
 - □ <u>Isaiah 52:13-15, 53:3-5, 8</u> "Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. As many were astonied at thee; his

visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men: So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for [that] which had not been told them shall they see; and [that] which they had not heard shall they consider. ... He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were [our] faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he [was] wounded for our transgressions, [he was] bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace [was] upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. ... He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken."

- Zechariah 12:10b-11 "...and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for [his] only [son], and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for [his] firstborn. In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon."
- □ <u>Jeremiah 31:31</u> "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:"
- □ Reality
 - Revelation 17:8, 11 "The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. ... And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition."
 - Revelation 13:3, 12 "And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. ... And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed."
 - We see in John's vision that the false christ has a mortal wound that is healed.
 - ♦ Given the concept from Isaiah 53 that the Messiah would be rejected of men and cut off from the land of the living for Israel's transgressions.
 - ♦ Furthermore in Zechariah 12, Israel is said to look upon him who they pierced and mourn as one for his only son.
 - ♦ Taken together, this seems to imply that for the deception to work best and the false christ accepted as the Messiah, one of their own would kill him.
 - ◆ 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12 "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth [will let], until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: [Even him], whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."
 - ♦ This is regarding the revealing of the false christ, the man of sin, and

- in both the context of this false christ pretending to be the Jewish Messiah and "God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie," this is tied to Jews who continue to reject Yeshua.
- ♦ The immediate context of those that believe the strong delusion are "them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved"
- ♦ Context of letters to Thessalonica
 - ▶ 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 "Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and [by] our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."
 - ▶ This ties the coming of our Lord and our gathering to Him (rapture) to the apostasy and revealing of the man of sin prior to the rapture. It further defines that revealing as being tied to the events of the <u>abomination of desolation</u> when the man of sin sits in the temple declaring himself to be God.
- ♦ Together this would seem to be tying the strong delusion to the Jews at the time of the revealing of the man of sin when he declares himself god. This would also coincide with a falling away from the truth to go after a lie, or apostasy.
- ♦ Keep in mind that the time leading up to the great tribulation sees the rebuilding of the tabernacle/temple in Jerusalem. I believe that some of natural carnal Israel will truly be seeking after God at this time
- ♦ Apostasy requires an original adherence to the truth in order for one to fall away from it. If this apostasy is tied to Israel falling away from their love of God to go after this false messiah putting himself in place of Christ, then it would make sense that the buildup to the abomination of desolation would lead to many natural carnal Israel beginning to view him as the Messiah and following after him instead of what they view as the Christian false God. At this point, the false christ will be able to make his own new covenant with those who believe him and use that to eliminate all who reject it and him.
- We see that God Himself sends a strong delusion that they would believe a lie. This apparent power may be the strong delusion that God sends, performing the actual resurrection, but allowing it to appear that Elijah is behind it.
- The false prophet has two horns like a lamb, but speaks as a dragon.
 - ♦ This symbolizes a lying appearance, a dragon in sheep's clothing, likely meant to deceive. This is necessary if the deception is to cause Israel to believe that the false christ is the messiah of the Old Testament. Both the false prophet and false christ would need to begin their deception with a bit of truth, seeming to bring about a return to the Old Testament, but then take a hard left turn once the hook is set and draw as many away from the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as they can.

◆ The resurrection of the false christ is the turning point leading to the abomination of desolation that starts the great tribulation and we see the false prophet that pointed everyone to the false christ enforces the worship of an idol of the false christ and the killing of those who refuse to do so. Similarly he requires the taking of the mark of the false christ and killing of those who refuse.

□ Deception

- Elijah has already come on the scene, preparing the way for the Messiah, who came to light shortly after and for the past 3 1/2 years accomplished the rebuilding of the temple and bringing peace and security to Israel from her enemies who he defeated handily.
- Now, when it appears that all is lost and the Messiah is dead, Elijah comes and resurrects him. The spirit of Elijah is tied to the resurrection of the dead from the Old Testament and Rabbinical tradition ties waking the dead to him.
 - ♦ <u>1 Kings 17:17-24</u> The son of a widow dies and Elijah prays and takes him and he stretched over him 3 times and he comes back to life
- ◆ The Messiah has now defeated death, something nobody believed possible and this miracle solidifies his place as Messiah and explains the dual nature of Messiah ben Joseph and Messiah ben David.
- Who they thought was king David is gone and a new king David emerges from death, only now he has proven his power to conquer death and

Purge of the Blasphemers

- Having defeated death, the messiah will once again change the times and laws, declaring himself to be God. This will cause a division in Israel between those who hold that the Messiah is only a man and those who take his death and resurrection as proof that he is actually God as he claims. But Jerusalem must be established as the seat of his kingdom to which the nations will come to worship him and must be purified of impurity according to his proclamation.
- He will stop animal sacrifice
 - Daniel 9:27b "...and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make [it] desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."
 - □ Jeremiah 31:31-34 "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day [that] I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: But this [shall be] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

□ Reality

◆ The majority of Christians that study Bible prophecy hold some variation of the "he" of Daniel 9:27 to be the false christ, foreshadowed by Antiochus IV Epiphanes in 167 BC. While it's not stated why the false christ stops the daily sacrifice, it's generally been associated with an outside force coming in and stopping Israel from ministering at the temple

as it was the first time with Antiochus IV. I think the best deceptions are those unexpected that come from a different angle. As we've seen digging into the details of what the Jews expect based on interpretation of the prophecies from the Tanach, deception can be born from a lot of truth if it is twisted in just the right way.

- ♦ There are some Christians who view the "he" that stops the daily sacrifice as Yeshua back in 30 AD. Through a reordering of the verses through Hebrew poetic means this is separated from the overspreading of abominations that make it desolate, but it goes to show that even in terms of Yeshua some Christians flip the identities through poetic means, which I feel is very dangerous.
- Yeshua made a new covenant, which is laid out in the New Testament (Covenant) based on His death and resurrection, the sacrifice of the Lamb of God and covering of sin by the blood of the Lamb. In this He fulfilled the Law and wrote it on our hearts as the Spirit of God indwells His bride and guides us to follow the spirit of the Law, which is selfless love.
- However, in light of the expectations of the Rabbinical interpretation of this, a variant of the new covenant may be in view, a perversion of Yeshua's death and resurrection in that of the false christ.
- This highlights the fact that the deception is tied to the truth and as such requires using God's Word to deceive those blind to its revealed meaning in the New Testament. This means the deception is tailored to those who already trust God's Word and accept its premises.
- How this deception of a new covenant unfolds is not clear, but this is the point of the bait and switch. He has accomplished the evidences he needs to deceive the majority of the people with his lying signs, wonders, and miracles. Now, having defeated death, he can make the new covenant in his own design with his own rules different from the Mosaic Covenant of his fathers, and animal sacrifice would seem to not be part of it.
- For those who don't know Bible prophecy, or even just their Bible, and for those almost 2,000 years removed from the resurrection and reliant on old writings, a similar type of death and resurrection they see with their own eyes and not knowing the true Messiah returns in the clouds of heaven and not on the earth, some may fall into the deception from the church itself.

□ Deception

- Jeremiah spoke of a new covenant unlike the Mosaic Covenant made with their fathers. Having just been resurrected from the dead, he has the bona fides to make claims that no other messianic figure has been able to except Yeshua, but He's been cut out of the options for Israel because they've been blinded to Him for this time of testing.
- ◆ So the combination of this new covenant, which can be tied by the Tanach to the death of the Messiah for their transgressions, and his clear power over death in their eyes will lead to a new way of doing things.
- And with the false messiah present among the people, they will not need to teach about him, he will be in their midst. This will be a time of rejoicing for the deceived because in their minds, the kingdom of the Messiah is being established with Israel at its core. Finally Israel has come out of her tribulation as the hated people in the world to be elevated with her Messiah as the crown jewel of the earth and all the nations will now respect and look to her.
- He shall rule the earth and destroy the wicked
 - □ **Isaiah 11:4** "But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with

- equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked."
- ☐ Malachi 3:1-4 "the Lord will come suddenly into his temple as the messenger of the covenant. He will be as a refiners fire that will purify the sons of Levi and purge them as gold and silver are refined. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant to the Lord again."
- □ <u>Ezekiel 20:37-38</u> "And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I [am] the LORD."

□ Reality

- How does one define wicked? It depends on who is saying it. If God says something is wicked, then it is contrary to His nature, showing the works of the flesh. If the Dragon says something is wicked, it will be something the world considers weakness and more in line with the fruits of the Spirit. The wicked of either side naturally are in opposition to the one calling them wicked.
 - ♦ If the Dragon is slaying the wicked, he is killing God's people who show meekness, forgiveness, gentleness, goodness, and go as lambs to the slaughter.
 - ♦ If God is slaying the wicked, it's typically because they are coming against Him or His people. When He fought for Israel once they were established in the land, it was typically defeating her enemies attacking her. When He pours out His wrath, it is after His enemies were attacking and killing His people. When He returns to establish His Messianic Kingdom, the Dragon has gathered a large army against Him. The Dragon's people show hatred, variance, zealotry, spite, wrath, and anger.
- One of the works of the flesh is emulations, which is translated from the Greek zealous or zeal that is rooted in zeo, or to be hot or fervent. While zealous can be taken as good in some context, it is also associated with fierceness of indignation, punitive zeal, contentious rivalry. I believe this sums up the attitude of those in Judea who are deceived into believing in this false christ. In their mind, the Messiah has arrived and those who reject him are to be contended with fervent indignation to purify the land for his kingdom.
- ◆ Zechariah 13:9 "And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It [is] my people: and they shall say, The LORD [is] my God."
 - ♦ Yeshua will return in glory from heaven and both catch up the bride and protect faithful Israel in the wilderness where they will be refined through fire to come out of the 70th week into the Messianic Kingdom. Several times the idea of refining gold by purging it of the dross so that what is left is pure. In dealing with Israel, 2/3 are cut off while 1/3 is refined through the fire, and in the wilderness while the wrath of God comes by fire on the Earth, the faithful of Israel will be learning who Yeshua is now that they see Him, and
 - ♦ This applies spiritually in each Christian's life as seen in <u>2 Timothy</u> <u>2:20-22</u>, <u>1 Corinthians 5:6-8</u>, and <u>Hebrews 9:13-15</u>. We are to purge the old flesh for the new spirit.

- Acts 17:1-9 "Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ. And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few. But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also; Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, [one] Jesus. And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things. And when they had taken security of Jason, and of the other, they let them go."
 - ♦ Paul in Thessalonica preaches at a synagogue for three weeks and converts many Jews and Gentiles. But it was the Jews, moved with envy, that instigated a riot because of it.
 - ♦ Even today there is a minority of primarily orthodox Jews reliant on Rabbinic tradition who persecute Christians in Israel.
- But why is this purge from the perceived Messianic Kingdom required? If you recall, when the Jews as a whole did not see Yeshua as the Messiah and there was no candidate present in their minds, in their zeal they persecuted and killed Yeshua and His followers for blasphemy. This is not a new idea, it's recorded in the New Testament and history. In their mind, this man had elevated Himself to the level of God and claimed to be the Messiah without removing Roman rule or even hinting at that being His plan. As far as they could tell, He wasn't setting up a kingdom that the world would come to for understanding the Lord or any of that. His followers were not taking up arms and fighting against the foreign oppressors as so many messianic movements had in the past, but were being told explicitly not to do so. In this same way, in the future the same situation exists where followers of Yeshua believe in what the followers of the false christ deem blasphemy and there are laws about what to do with blasphemers. These laws are not enforced anymore today, but that is the whole point of going back to the Mosaic Covenant, to bring them back an follow them strictly. And when he can make a new covenant of his own design and define something like blasphemy laws for any who speak against him by not accepting him, the persecution kicks off in earnest.
 - ♦ Interestingly, the current insistence that the Messiah will be a man and not a god or demi-god may be the very thing that turns many of Israel to rejecting him when he declares that he is god in the temple, before they are unblinded. Only later when they see the Christians that fled with them taken and the sign of the Son of Man in the clouds at His return will they have the scales removed from their eyes.
 - ♦ As for Christians in Judea, those who heed Yeshua's warning, they will flee to the mountains because they will be targets of the army of followers of the false christ who will prepare Jerusalem to be purified from any who do not believe in their new god-man.

- So it could be that the false christ will place himself in the stead of Yeshua, not in name but anointing/christ since he blasphemes God, given power by the Dragon (Satan), to deceive Israel with all lying signs and wonders. He would be giving them what they are wanting, a conquering king who defeats their enemies and brings in the promised Messianic kingdom where they live in the Promised Land in peace and security and where the world brings their glory to Jerusalem.
- ◆ Jeremiah 30:7 "Alas! for that day [is] great, so that none [is] like it: it [is] even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it."
- Revelation 12:16 "And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth."
- ♦ Numbers 16:7,28-35 Korah rebelled against Moses and God in the wilderness, unhappy with Moses and Aaron's position and the situation they were in, they wanted to replace them. They were to bring incense before the Lord who would choose those that were holy. The Lord was going to consume them all but Moses pleaded for them. Ultimately all those in tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, who did not separate from them when warned, the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.
- ◆ The remnant faithful of Israel will be saved out of this purge into the place prepared for her in the wilderness. There is an interesting parallel in the Exodus, when Israel was brought on eagles wings out of Egypt. For three days they traveled to the Red Sea and instead of the earth swallowing up the armies of the antichrist, it was water swallowing up the armies of Egypt. In both cases the faithful Israel was escaping "Egypt" into the wilderness and the enemies that pursued them were swallowed up, saving the fleeing Israelites.
- ◆ Malachi 2:11-13 "Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god. The LORD will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar, out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the LORD of hosts. And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that he regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth it with good will at your hand."
- ◆ The fact that the temple will be rebuilt according to scripture in the future and that Israel may actually be attempting to reignite their relationship with God may or may not be acceptable at first, but if they are deceived into following another strange god, they will be cut off from Israel (Jacob).

□ Deception

- ◆ <u>Daniel 11:45-12:1</u> "And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation [even] to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."
- Following the wars of the false christ, he plants his tabernacle in Jerusalem, on the earth, and shortly after that he is killed and resurrected

- and the abomination of desolation takes place and he purifies the land of all those who refuse to worship him after he has declared himself God.
- ◆ <u>Daniel 11:45</u> is taken by some Rabbinical scholars to be the record of the death of Messiah ben Joseph in general or in the Gog and Magog attack.
- Their Messiah has defeated all of their enemies, died, rose again, and is now taking the mantle of God with a new covenant that releases the obligations of the old covenant like the daily sacrifice. Now he is requiring that the land be purged of the unbelievers in preparation for the establishment of his eternal kingdom.
- Perhaps the idea of destroying the wicked with the breath of his mouth will be interpreted not in some supernatural way, but as a king or commander gives orders to his armies.
- The dragon would not need to kill those Jews that choose to worship him, they are willing followers doing whatever he says and as soon as they pledge allegiance to him, their fate is sealed, he has effectively killed them, but gets to use them as tools in the meantime.
 - ♦ This same principle is seen in Romans 11. God has broken the natural branches off the root and they are cut off from eternal Israel in unbelief. As a branch cut off from the root is doomed to death, it remains alive for a short while on the ground until it starves without the root, withers and dries up, and is cast into the fire.
- ◆ The dragon would need to kill those in Judea who reject him and purge the non-believers from his kingdom. This would initially be focused in the land of Israel, only expanding once the land is purged. The fervency with which those who accept him would carry out his will may be the picture of the armies in <u>Joel 2</u> overrunning the city and the terror of the time of Jacob's trouble.
 - ♦ If they accept the false christ as God when he declares himself to be god in the temple, to them Messiah has come and any who reject him are blasphemers and going after false gods. The severity of rejection of God among the people has a history of dealing harshly with it. This severity is part of the history, muted by the secular nature of Israel. But when the messiah seems to have come, is it hard to believe in their fervency that severity will not return, especially if demanded by their messiah.
 - ♠ Exodus 32:26-29 "Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who [is] on the LORD'S side? [let him come] unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, [and] go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour. And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men. For Moses had said, Consecrate yourselves to day to the LORD, even every man upon his

son, and upon his brother; that he may bestow upon you a blessing this day."

- Establishment of Jerusalem
 - Israel will come out of a time of trouble redeemed
 - Zephaniah 3:8-11 "Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination [is] to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, [even] all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy. For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent. From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants, [even] the daughter of my dispersed, shall bring mine offering. In that day shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy doings, wherein thou hast transgressed against me: for then I will take away out of the midst of thee them that rejoice in thy pride, and thou shalt no more be haughty because of my holy mountain."

◆ Reality

- ♦ I believe, based on the framework of the 70th week that will be covered in greater detail in the <u>Framework of the End</u> study, that the move to convert the world will begin in earnest around the time that those in Judea are saved from the Dragon when Yeshua returns in glory just before the wrath of God is poured out starting the day of the Lord.
- ♦ In reality, Yeshua will return from heaven in glory first for the gathering of the bride and protection of faithful Israel in the wilderness, everyone saw Him and those not expecting Him were afraid, but there is likely going to be a deception built around this known event as well. At this point in time, the only people not protected on earth are all those who fight against the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and kill His people in their wickedness.
- ♦ The wrath of God will be revealed from heaven upon the murderers who hate Him and His people because He is jealous for His creation that love Him.
- ♦ Then when the wrath of God is complete, He will return to defeat the armies the false christ and false prophet gathered to fight him, destroy the false christ and false prophet, lock away the Dragon, and establish His Messianic Kingdom where there will be true peace and safety.

- ♦ The false christ that is made king of Israel is expected to be king over all the earth and he will be the one and only lord in the earth. None are able to stand against him, though many have tried.
- Anyone who stands against him in this is considered the wicked and will have his indignation poured on them. He is claiming to be the God who created all things and he is going to remake the Earth in his design to bring peace and eliminate war.
- ♦ This will begin in Israel and only once the jealousy for his people has brought all who accept him in and removed the rest from the land will Israel submit in humility to serve him. This will expand out from there to the rest of the world and ensure that while not everyone will accept him in their hearts, they will submit to his will and in that he will bring a false peace. In this Israel and Jerusalem will be elevated from a place of being hated by the world to that of being the crown jewel of the Earth, who will bring their treasures to their

king.

- Great Political Leader
 - □ <u>Jeremiah 23:5</u> "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth."
 - □ Reality
 - Matthew 1:1 "The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham."
 - ◆ As the last chapter and verses of the Old Testament spoke of Elijah being sent, the first verse of the New Testament establishes the lineage of Yeshua as the promised descendant of David. While He did not come the first time as a King leading His kingdom, He is eternal as is His kingdom, which is not of this world. He is the King of spiritual Israel in New Jerusalem that this world cannot see or understand.
 - However, before eternity He will return to the earth and reign from
 Jerusalem as King over Israel and rule the world with a rod of iron bringing
 peace and security in the world through righteous judgement and justice.
 - God is allowing the false christ to come on the scene before His return to try His people and the world and show themselves where their loyalties lie. He has declared in His Word how He will return, in the clouds with great power and glory.

- While there is recognition of a son of Joseph and son of David duality to the Messiah, it is the lineage of David that is important in the Messiah. There is not a very systemized view of this duality so a convincing presentation by one with power will somehow calm the concerns of many. Similar to how Yeshua, son of Joseph, died the suffering servant and was resurrected the King who conquered death, I suspect the false christ in his death and resurrection will have some similar explanation.
- ◆ His resurrection will be a powerful sign to Israel and the world that something is different about him. Sure they claimed Yeshua rose from the dead 2,000 years ago, but this man they just saw with their own eyes today. There is no doubt the Old Testament prophecies will be twisted to point to him and in addition to the defeating of Israel's enemies, the establishment of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and the world will only work to solidify this view in the world and especially Israel.
- He will establish a government in Israel that will be the center of all world government, both for Jews and gentiles.
 - □ **Zechariah 14:9** "And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one."
 - □ <u>Isaiah 2:2-4</u> "And it shall come to pass in the last days, [that] the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."
 - □ <u>Isaiah 11:10</u> "And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious."

- □ <u>Isaiah 42:1</u> "Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, [in whom] my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles."
- □ <u>Ezekiel 40-48</u> and others In the Messianic reign, Israel will never again profane the name of the Lord and will fulfill the prophecies of promise in the Land and the presence of the Lord.
- □ Reality
 - ◆ Romans 15:8-12 "Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises [made] unto the fathers: And that the Gentiles might glorify God for [his] mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name. And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people. And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people. And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust."
 - ♦ In His death and resurrection, the Gospel went to the Gentiles that put their trust in Him.
 - ♦ In addition, Yeshua will return in glory and rule over the world with a rod of Iron for 1,000 years at which time He will reign over the Gentiles.
 - As covered in the Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel study, Israel was blinded in their unbelief when Yeshua presented Himself as the Messiah. And so the Gospel went to the Gentiles, just as prophesied, to bring them into the family of God and to ultimately be the provocation of His people to jealousy with another people just as they provoked Him to jealousy with another god.
 - ◆ <u>Deuteronomy 32:19-21</u> "And when the LORD saw [it], he abhorred [them], because of the provoking of his sons, and of his daughters. And he said, I will hide my face from them, I will see what their end [shall be]: for they [are] a very froward generation, children in whom [is] no faith. They have moved me to jealousy with [that which is] not God; they have provoked me to anger with their vanities: and I will move them to jealousy with [those which are] not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation."
 - ◆ For the past almost 2,000 years, the spiritual kingdom of God has grown primarily in the conforming of the Gentiles to the Spirit of God although many Hebrews have been called as well. In this the spiritual kingdom has already been established and grown, but there is also a time coming when the physical Messianic Kingdom will be established in Jerusalem and the world will come to worship Yeshua there.

Deception

Having abolished the old sacrificial system in the new covenant made after his resurrection, his word will be the final statement of the belief system now in place. While rejection and rebellion against this will be dealt with harshly, for those who accept it as truth, it will seem at first as an entrance into utopia where conflict is abolished as everyone conforms to the new global power. This is not how it seems even as the literal translation of the original Greek for utopia is "no place."

Conversion of the World

- All on earth shall worship him
 - □ <u>Isaiah 2:17</u> "And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day."

- □ Isaiah 2:1-4 "The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, [that] the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."
- □ Isaiah 2:5-12 "O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD. Therefore thou hast forsaken thy people the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the east, and [are] soothsayers like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers. Their land also is full of silver and gold, neither [is there any] end of their treasures; their land is also full of horses, neither [is there any] end of their chariots: Their land also is full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made: And the mean man boweth down, and the great man humbleth himself: therefore forgive them not. Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty. The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the LORD of hosts [shall be] upon every [one that is] proud and lofty, and upon every [one that is] lifted up; and he shall be brought low:"

□ Reality

- As Christians, we understand this to be speaking of Yeshua during the Messianic Kingdom where the nations will come to Jerusalem. If we have the ability to take off our Christian glasses and put on our blinders, we can see from a Jewish perspective, anyone that seems to cause this to come to pass would appear to be the fulfillment of it. With our understanding of the revelation of Yeshua given to John, we know the false christ will indeed establish his kingdom in Jerusalem and the whole world will give him their power and wealth. An image will be setup to which everyone must bow to and submit to his authority. For the minority of the world who refuse they will be eliminated, but for the majority that remain it will seem a time of peace at first.
- Once his kingdom is established in Jerusalem, the false christ will have amazed the world with his power and great authority. He will be undefeated and seem to have the power of God, even seeming to fulfill the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah. For many, the clear presence of one claiming to be the Messiah will overshadow the meek suffering servant from 2,000 years ago who has been gone ever since. Even some who called themselves Christians will fall away in doubt that Yeshua is the Messiah when a supernaturally powered man who claims to be and seems to have fulfilled the prophecies before their eyes is standing before them.
- Revelation 13:3-4, 8 "And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? ... And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life

- of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."
- ◆ Isaiah also speaks of the last days having idols in the land followed by a concept that will be covered in greater detail in the <u>Day of the Lord</u> study, hiding from the glory of Christ's coming and recognizing the wrath of God where the proud will be brought low. This concept is directly tied to the sixth seal that heralds the return of Yeshua in the clouds.
- ◆ This speaks of a time of idolatry and wealth. Is it possible that the great deception is tied to the idea that the messiah has come in Israel? In the Olivet Discourse: Vision of the Future study, we see the first thing Yeshua says when asked about the sign of His coming was not to be deceived by false christs. If the false christ could give Israel what she expects from the Messiah, a conquering king that brings the world to Jerusalem to worship Him and bring peace to the whole earth, could she be deceived and follow him?
- If Israel accepts this false christ, they will be going after another god, and building idols and worshipping the man of sin as if he was God. The false prophet points the world to worship the beast, take the mark of his name and worship his image.
- Revelation 13:14 "And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by [the means of] those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live."

Deception

- ◆ The Old Testament is clear that the Messiah will rule over the earth from Jerusalem and the world will worship Him. To blinded Israel, there has been no Messiah figure previous that was able to accomplish any of the prophecies. Now the conquering king has quieted Israel's enemies, raised from the dead, and brought the promised new covenant different from that of their fathers.
- Given the strength shown in conquering Israel's immediate enemies, enforcing peace in the Middle East, and the zealous nature of Israel's following after him, the world that hates Israel will recognize their inability to defeat her at this time while many in the world will start to question if this Jewish leader really is the Messiah as well. This will only strengthen the zealous nature of the Jews in supporting their messianic figure.
- ◆ Those who reject him are rebels and traitors, treated as terrorists and hunted down in an attempt to purge the utopia that is the messianic kingdom of anyone that will cause impurity and contention. For those who accept him, this will be a natural reaction and family, friends and neighbors will participate in rooting the dissidents out from amongst them throughout the world.

Enforcement with a Rod of Iron

- Psalm 2:6-12 "Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou [art] my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give [thee] the heathen [for] thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth [for] thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish [from] the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed [are] all they that put their trust in him."
- □ Reality

- <u>Revelation 12:5</u> "And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and [to] his throne."
- Revelation 2:26-29 "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. And I will give him the morning star. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."
- ◆ Revelation 19:11-16 "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on [his] vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."
- It is Yeshua coming from heaven that will take the kingdoms of the world and rule with a rod of iron. This will not be the same kind of tyrannical rule of the false christ who killed those who rejected him, but it will be a theocratic monarchy and not everyone will truly be happy with it. To perish from the way is to fall away from the truth, which ultimately leads to destruction. Yeshua won't kill those to don't accept Him, He is patient yet steadfast and severe. He will pass judgments on them such as not sending rain. Yet for those who actively attack Him, all hope is lost for them.
- ◆ Zechariah 14:12, 16-18 "And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. ... And it shall come to pass, [that] every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, [that] whoso will not come up of [all] the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that [have] no [rain]; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles."

□ Deception

- The world has seen the strength and power of the king of Israel and the zealous nature of his followers. For many this will seem to be a time of spiritual revival in the world, a time of new beginnings, the corrected interpretation of the age of Aquarius and the utopia long expected to come. For many the king of Israel will represent the manifestation of diverse expectations of many belief systems and for those without prior belief systems, the manifestation of the desire of their hearts for world peace.
- ◆ There will be pockets of rejection throughout the world, but these, no

matter how benign they may seem, will stand in opposition to the utopia they desire and will therefore be seen as everything from outcasts to terrorists. For these few this time will be great tribulation, but for the rest of the world the promise of world peace under the rule of one who has the power to enforce it will be very alluring.

- False Christ for All Religions?
 - While there are many indications of war and domination during the end by the false christ, it is clear that regardless of belief, the whole world will eventually follow after the false christ when he declares himself god. Anyone that rejects him will be killed, which will prompt the less die hard believers of the religions of the world to either drop their previously held beliefs completely or accept a misunderstanding they had in their belief system to allow for them to worship this false christ and keep their lives.
 - The prophecy that he will change the times and laws could therefore apply to all the religions, not just doing so to force everyone to Gregorian, Islamic, or Hebrew calendars and associated laws. Let's not forget that this is the Dragon's kingdom and all existing religions will be replaced and/or adjusted to point all worship to this false christ. As covered in the Olivet Discourse: Vision of the Future study, the first thing Yeshua said about the time of the end is a warning not to be deceived, so deception is a primary aspect of the Dragon's plan. It is much easier to deceive existing believers of various religions by using a bit of their truth and corrupting it to mean something else.
 - Judaism, Islam, and Christianity will likely not be kept as-is because they all have elements
 that would reject a man declaring himself to be God in the Jewish temple. Hearts and minds
 must be changed for this acceptance to happen. Perhaps fear of death will be the reason,
 but there is also a fervency of worship and families turning against each other that goes
 beyond saving one's own life to dedicating one's life to an ideology and sacrificing your own
 family for it.
 - The idea that any one religion as they exist today would be enforced above all others by the false christ is contrary to my understanding of Bible prophecy.
 - Jews believe in only one God in heaven, worshipping a man on earth who says he is god will take some deception.
 - Muslims believe there is no God but Allah and he has no son. It seems to me that something would have to be "corrected" in this view they hold for the coming Mahdi fighting Jews and Christians for them to comply and worship a Jewish messianic figure. At the same time, Islam will be used as the primary enemy for Israel to defeat, which with the power of the Dragon will be done handily. So there may be a level of humility through strength introduced that changes the whole landscape of Islam during this time.
 - Christians who know their Bible understand the trinity and that the Father in heaven remains there, the Holy Spirit dwells with us, and Yeshua the Messiah will come in the clouds, not on earth.
 - The Jews rely more on Rabbinical teaching than the scriptures themselves. Christians rely on leaders in the church to properly interpret the Bible. Islam relies heavily on the Hadith and their interpretations. This can lead to all of these being influenced by a great deception to understand the foundation of their faith anew, by a new teacher that makes each of them conform to a common understanding that makes disciples of the false christ of each of the main religions, united against those who know the truth and refuse to worship false idols in spiritual adultery.
 - Judaism
 - It seems pretty clear that Israel is still awaiting the Messiah. Being blinded at the triumphal entry, only individual Jews drawn by the Holy Spirit have come to know their Messiah over history, yet the rest remain blinded. I would love to see that corporate blinded lifted now, but God has His designs for a reason. I imagine the way we are told things will unfold would not be possible if it was not this way, similar to

- how if they had known He was the Messiah they never would have crucified Him and we would have no path to salvation. So I put my trust in God in all things.
- That <u>Daniel 9:27</u> is a confirmation of the covenant points to an existing covenant that is strengthened. From a Jewish perspective the only existent covenant that could be strengthened and bring the secular state of Israel back to the God of their fathers is the Mosaic Covenant. While it could be an outside political move to give Israel the right to worship in the way of their forefathers, historically it's a hot-button issue nobody wants to touch given the Islamic claim to the same space the Jews want to build their temple. However, we see war break out and the false christ conquering as a result of it, which would fit with an Jewish leader making it happen against all calls to not bring war to the Middle East. The resulting move sees at least some nations come against Israel for it.
- The false christ and false prophet being centered in Jerusalem and fulfilling the hopes of Israel to see the Messiah arrive and save them from their enemies seems a simple fit for deception.
- At least one of the enemies we see defeated by the false christ in <u>Daniel 11:40-45</u>, Egypt, is an Islamic nation and the others to the North and East can be inferred as Islamic as well. Given <u>Isaiah 17</u> and the ruinous heap Damascus becomes to the North of Israel and all the nations to the East that hate Israel, their defeat by this unstoppable force whose end comes at Jerusalem seems to point to a false christ for the Jews.
- The whole 70th week of Daniel is focused on Israel and Jerusalem and we saw at Christ's first coming, the Gospel turned the Jews against each other, the religious leaders imprisoning and killing those who followed Yeshua. <u>John 5:43</u> says one will come in his own name that will be received, yet we know not all will accept him and they will be killed for it. The time of Jacob's trouble sees the family of Jacob turn against their own over acceptance of the false christ. This same kind of persecution happened when Yeshua and His disciples taught of the kingdom of God, Jews turned against their own to stop it. Now they will turn against their own to establish a false kingdom.
- The same person who confirms the covenant with many for one week prevents it from being followed in the midst of the week after he declares himself god in the temple in Jerusalem.
- The Dragon hates Israel as clearly seen in <u>Revelation 12</u>. Israel is also blinded and he has a way into their religious world to pull off the greatest deception in history. He can take the people God values, the literal family of Yeshua, and turn them against their own God. As a result, the dragon will drag them to hell with him.
- We just went through multiple Old Testament prophecies that through Rabbinical tradition have been interpreted in such a way that could seem to be fulfilled by someone other than Yeshua, who will ultimately fulfill them all. Some of these haven't happened yet and the depiction of prophecy about the false christ at the end lines up with both the geographic area in which they will take place and aspects of Old Testament prophecy if interpreted differently without the revelation of the New Testament.
- For these reasons, among others covered in these studies, it's not hard to see how Israel would be deceived by the false prophet and false christ.
- It's also commonly assumed that all of Israel are lumped together as being hated by the Dragon. While this is true when they are not his pawns, the natural branches are broken off the root in unbelief. And if he can graft them onto himself, stealing them away from God, then he has hands and feet to do his will and they are as good as dead already. I believe <u>Revelation 12</u> and <u>Revelation 17</u> clearly delineate two women, faithful and unfaithful respectively. The faithful will reject the dragon and be hated and killed, the unfaithful will turn on the faithful and the dragon will use them to kill

their own in the fervency of their following him. I think the dragon will get extra pleasure from this.

Christianity

- I would like to say that no Christians would fall for the deception given that Yeshua stated multiple times in the New Testament not to be deceived and that He would return in the clouds from heaven and not on the earth. And the disciples and apostles wrote many times about false christs and great deception.
- However, just like the Rabbinical and Islamic traditions, there are many false doctrines in Christianity that fail to read the Word of God itself and rely on private interpretation.
- There are beliefs that Christians must pave the way for the kingdom of God that will be established on earth. They look for signs like a great revival of belief in God that will take over the world. With little reliance on the whole council of God, this is primed for deception as they accept Yeshua is a Jew and the rise of a Jew that brings what appears to be the beginnings of a Messianic Kingdom in Israel could pull some into the belief that the revival and establishment of the kingdom with signs and lying wonders is taking place.
- According to <u>Matthew 25:1-13</u>, 50% of those who consider themselves Christians waiting for the Bridegroom will be cast into great tribulation and the hour of temptation, more on that in the <u>Hour of Temptation: Left Behind</u> study. Their hearts were far from God and He never had a relationship with them because they never really wanted a relationship with Him, they were caught up in the cares of this world. We are warned to keep the faith during this time even unto death and that saving our physical lives we will lose our eternal lives. Many will worship the false christ at this time unfortunately and be cut off from the family of God forever.

Islam

- Unfortunately I believe much of the Islamic world will simply be used as pawns to be destroyed in the effort to portray the false christ as the conquering Messiah. The mystery of iniquity has influenced a belief system said to properly interpret the corruptions of the Old and New Testaments hundreds to thousands of years after the documented archaeological record of them as written. Said to be channeled from the angel Gabriel, there's not much argument that it came from the spiritual realm, but whose spirit?
- And so there are similarities between Islam, Christianity, and Judaism, though primarily twisted in knots to mean something quite different.
- The Dajjal sounds like what I've come to understand the false christ to be, a man claiming to be the fulfillment of the Jewish messiah around which most of Israel would rally as he initially brings them back to the Mosaic Covenant and defeats their enemies. It is this character that Islam is to fight against and there is no doubt many will see the false christ as the Dajjal and fight against him and lose.
- What of those that remain? Could there be a transition from Dajjal to Mahdi as part of the deception for Islam?
 - □ Initially we see 3 of 10 kingdoms surrounding Israel come against her, defeated by what would be referred to as the Dajjal at that time by radical Muslims. Indeed we see that when the little horn comes up among the 10, he will defeat 3 of them, but that is only 30%, the other 7 don't seem to be involved. Israel is the only non-Islamic nation in the region and so could not be the 10, yet they play a distinct role in the end times scenario, most likely being the 11th horn, the little horn.
 - Once soundly defeated, the remaining moderate elements may be convinced by the possible dual lineage and obvious supernatural power and undefeated nature of this false christ that they misunderstood and he is actually the Mahdi.
 - □ If they view the Mahdi as the rider on the white horse just as Christians, only as

- a Messiah and not false christ, they would align more with a Jewish false christ than Christians. If they are persuaded of his messiahship, his orders to kill Jews and Christians who reject him would fit right in line with their eschatology.
- □ At that point they might see the false christ as Mahdi and false prophet as Isa and both of them would point to the actual Yeshua the Messiah who is coming in the clouds as being the Dijjal against whom they all fight.
- The Muslims believe that Mahdi will prove the Islamic view that the Jews and Christians misinterpreted the scriptures, but it could just as easily be turned around. A supernatural Mahdi would defeat all radical Islamic armies coming against him leaving only the moderate Muslims to whom it is explained that it was Islamic teachers who misinterpreted the scriptures.
 - ☐ The Dragon has been here from before the beginning, I believe he has been setting up his 4D chess board to provide the enemies he will be able to defeat using the people he intends to destroy. To this end, he can bring them into his fold by deception and have a massive army already around the world to do his bidding once they accept him.
- Some sects look at Christians as Dajjal <u>Dajjal Or The Antichrist</u> YouTube
- While it is hard to imagine, I do see a way that Islam will go through some transition in the end times that would see them setup by the mystery of iniquity from their inception to be the Dragon's tool to bolster his credentials in the eyes of the Jews as their Messiah by being the enemies he needs to defeat.
- At the same time he can use the correction of their interpretation to turn them into his hands and feet as well after the ones are killed off who would never have accepted him are gone. He is able to show his power and strength, something respected in the Middle East, and they will still hunt down Jews and Christians, as well as Muslims, who do not change their beliefs to worship him.
- Of course there are more religions in the world, including the religion-less. Many will lack substance and fervency of adherence by their followers to stand in the face of the supernatural rise of the false christ and his followers and their imminent death for rejection.
 - Indeed atheists, when faced with resurrections, fire from heaven, etc. will suddenly face an existential crisis of belief. Some will stick to their guns, but when faced with death would probably be the first to fold, having no reason to not.
 - Theosophy, drawing on belief systems such as Neoplatonism, Hinduism, and Buddhism, prepares the way for the coming Maitreya who is said to hold the "Office of the World Teacher".
 - Similarly other New Age movements have belief systems, channeling spirits they do not understand, holding they are one with the universe, looking to a new age of Aquarius, and open to accepting a messianic figure to lead humanity there.
 - Some even outright claim to worship the Dragon as Satanists. I'm sure there are those who just go through the motions as in any religion or to be antagonistic, but there is a dark underbelly that will be ready to enforce the false christ policies around the world along with the other religious adherence deceived into accepting the Dragon as their false god through his false christ.
 - We've seen how voices can be silenced online and the Word of God will be enemy number one during the reign of the false christ. Ultimately folding to the false christ will lead to eternal destruction. Outside of trust in Yeshua there is no eternal hope.

Conclusion

- One thing I've learned in my study of Bible prophecy is the central nature of Israel and Jerusalem to God's plans.
 - There are many views on where the false christ will come from, but it would seem at the very least he will rise to power amongst an alliance of 10 nations. We see in the midst of these 10 a little 11th horn rise up, signifying a smaller individual nation in the region of the 10 nation alliance. We know this is centered in the Middle East because

- Jerusalem is central to all the symbology.
- It is also clear that his focus is on Israel and the temple. He is seen defeating Israel's enemies, who are powerless against him, yet he's not able to fully accomplish his goals. Note that the false christ is going after Islamic nations in his wars. Given there are only really Islamic nations and a Jewish nation in the Middle East, that should clue us in on where the false christ is coming from.
- It seems there are also passages that point to Yeshua and His future Messianic Kingdom that hold many similarities to depictions of what the false christ will do. These are not lost on the Orthodox Jews, again priming them for deception when they seem to be happening with signs and lying wonders.
- There's a similarity between the John the Baptist, Yeshua, Father relationship and that of the false prophet, false christ and dragon. John pointed to Yeshua who pointed to the Father and similarly the false prophet points to the false christ who points to the dragon. Lucifer will get his worship and in the meantime deceive the world and pull countless numbers to hell with him.
- As we saw in the Visions of Daniel and John study, the destiny of the harlot riding the beast is under the control of the Dragon through his little horn leading the head of the beast. If we are going to interpret scripture with scripture, than the consistency of defining an adulterer, fornicator, and harlot in the natural is in the covenantal relationship between a husband and wife. In the spiritual it is in the covenantal relationship between God and His people. Why would the symbology of a spiritual harlot drunk on the blood of the saints and the world drunk on the wine of her fornication suddenly shift to represent a people who are not considered God's people?
- Deception is the key takeaway from this study. Not just a white lie kind of deception, but a
 deep and abiding deception that has been planned by the mystery of iniquity for thousands
 of years. A deception that will be upheld by lying signs and wonders.
 - Materialistic atheists will be confronted with the supernatural at this time and not knowing the truth from scripture they will fall into the deception.
 - The children of Israel, mostly secular today, will have a powerful deception thrust upon them in the midst of their blindness imposed upon them by Yeshua in 30 AD.
 - Islam will be confronted with the inability to defeat Israel. The dragon has been deceiving them for centuries, setting them up as the pawns he can easily defeat to confirm his power to Israel. We know the 10 horns will eventually destroy Jerusalem, so they clearly still hold hate, but God puts it in their heart to fulfill His will and give their power over to the false christ.
 - Spiritual people from other religions will face the deception of supernatural power they don't have in their belief systems. The Jewish God will seem to be with Israel until hijacked by the false christ, but not fully understanding they will likely not see the problem with the transition.
 - Christians will be faced with a supernatural appearance of a figure claiming to be the messiah of Bible prophecy and the power behind him to deceive if possible the very elect. Remember that what would seem to deceive many of Israel is the appearance of actual Old Testament prophecy being fulfilled, a little bit of truth covering the poison pill. Only those who know what God's Word actually says will be immune to this deception, but how many know God's Word on this? How many pulpits are afraid to address Bible prophecy for fear of division and how many congregants try and understand it themselves? Many Christians have been very supportive of Israel, and rightly so. But we also must be discerning according to God's Word and warn of deception.
 - ☐ Matthew 24:23-27 "Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here [is] Christ, or there; believe [it] not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if [it were] possible, they

shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before. Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, [he is] in the secret chambers; believe [it] not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

- ☐ Christ is not coming on the earth, but from heaven with power and great glory
- All the world will be confronted with the choice of death or worship. How many will choose worship thinking it's not a big deal?
 - Revelation 14:9-11 "If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."
- Apostasy requires an original adherence to the truth in order for one to fall away from it.
 Traditionally this has been looked at in the Christians sense because that is the ultimate revealed truth in the New Covenant.
 - One of the central themes of the warnings about the end time is deception surrounding someone claiming to be God's anointed.
 - ▶ Christians believe in the truth about the Messiah. Yeshua told His followers how He would return, in the clouds as He left. He is the Messiah and a false Messiah would have to come in the clouds to pull off an effective deception to pull believers away from the truth and follow after a lie.
 - ▶ Israel doesn't believe Yeshua is the Messiah or place any validity in His words or even know them. They are waiting for a Messiah based on the Tanach interpreted by Rabbinical tradition. However, Israel's statutes are also eternal and so what God told them to do in ministering to Him is also the truth. For the blinded, the Old Covenant still stands as long as their hearts are truly toward their God. As we have seen here, there are many expectations from the same Bible Christians have about the arrival of the Messiah, many of them veiled in mystery without the context of fulfillment revealed from the New Testament. This provides some wiggle room to interpret into deception, and deception leads to falling away from the truth to follow after a lie.
 - ▶ The rest of the world does not believe in the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They have many other belief systems based on falsehoods, but they do not hold onto the truth now. Therefore, they can not fall away from the truth because it is not with them anyway. They are going from unbelief to unbelief.
- There is an hour of temptation coming on the world, do we love our life more than our Savior? More on that in the *Hour of Temptation: Left Behind* study.
- The good news is that Yeshua is returning in glory to bring judgement on the earth. At that
 time, we will all be changed and together with the resurrected dead in Christ be caught up
 to meet Him in the air before His wrath is poured out. As we will see in future studies, we
 may not face the brunt of the dragon's wrath outside of Judea, but we have been warned to
 watch for a reason.
- Let us live our lives now in the Spirit and in love for God and our neighbors, being the light in the darkness, wise as serpents and gentle as doves in bringing those with ears to hear to the same relationship with God by His Spirit we were brought to. The most important thing we can learn from prophecy is that God is in control and we have no reason to fear, but let us not neglect the lost in this world who don't have the Spirit of God and relationship with Him. Prophecy gives us warning and comfort, but Yeshua gives us eternal life, to all who believe. So let us share the good news, plant some seeds, and let the Spirit water them.
- Pray for those in your sphere and make sure you have a relationship with God in Spirit and

- Truth, putting your trust in Him and letting His Word guide your path. The only true protection from deception is knowing the Truth and believing it.
- Given the injustice in the world toward Israel, which I hate, she is already feeling isolated and cornered. While I want and cheer for her victories over the evil that comes against her, I'm also tempered with the understanding that at some point the Dragon will deceive many of her people and hijack them to do his will. I desire righteous justice, and until the deception comes, I stand with Israel in her fight for survival, knowing she will not only win, but also in the name of a false god rule the world for a short time. Out of this will come the true Messiah's return to both save the remnant of Israel and His bride who watch and wait for Him. And then Israel will come out of the wilderness into the Promised Land and the promised rule of the Messianic Kingdom.

May God continue to bless you as you remain in Him.

- False Christ: False Messiah
 - The beast, the man of sin, the 7/8th head, the little horn, the antichrist, and the false christ
 are all one and the same. They are all the main puppet of the Dragon to whom he gives his
 power and authority in order to deceive the world.
 - The little horn
 - Given the central nature of Jerusalem in the end times, these 11 horns would seem to be centered in the Middle East. As discussed in the <u>Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel</u> study, this would most likely fit with the small nation of Israel amongst the surrounding Islamic nations that is represented by the woman riding the beast. This would be apostate Israel, deceived by the false christ into accepting one that comes in his own name after rejecting Yeshua who came in His Father's name. <u>John 5:43</u>
 Spiritual adultery is tied to following after other gods, and this is the picture we see of the whore riding the beast, drunk on the blood of the saints. The little horn by nature of representing a king, requires a kingdom to be ruling over.
 - □ <u>Lamentations 2:3</u> "He hath cut off in [his] fierce anger all the horn[H7161] of Israel: he hath drawn back his right hand from before the enemy, and he burned against Jacob like a flaming fire, [which] devoureth round about."
 - □ <u>Ezekiel 29:21</u> "In that day will I cause the horn[<u>H7161</u>] of the house of Israel to bud forth, and I will give thee the opening of the mouth in the midst of them; and they shall know that I [am] the LORD."
 - ◆ [H7161] and [H7162] are both the same word from the root [H7160] and are spelled and pronounced the same so I'm unsure the difference, if any, between its use in Daniel 7 referring to the little horn and in the cases above used as the horn of Israel.
 - This horn will change the times (<u>H2166</u> set time, season, appointed time, feast days) and laws (<u>H1882</u> decree, law)
 - In light of the false christ deception, this could be related to what is said to be a restoration of God's appointed times, but perhaps a corruption of them to fit his designs. This could also be an enforcement of them globally similar to how the Messiah will have the world come to Jerusalem on pilgrimages.
 - THIS Is Why Jewish People REJECT Jesus as the Messiah Rabbi Schneider mentions that there are many different laws that only apply at certain times. For instance, there are laws that only applied to Israel while they were in the land under the rulership of a king. There are also laws that involve sacrifices, which aren't taking place. There are laws toward men, and toward Israelites or Jews, and there are moral laws. So there are Old Testament laws not applicable now, but when the temple is rebuilt and the daily begins again, laws in Israel will change. When the false christ declares himself God, Israel will then be under a king and laws will change.

- This also pertains to the idea that the majority of Israel is a more secular melting pot with traditional history baked in, but when the Messiah comes, existing laws and governmental structures will change along with the desire to keep appointed times as a nation more fervently.
- This horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them. He will wear them out for 3.5 years
 - □ Ultimately these saints will be given judgement after the Messiah returns and they will possess the kingdom. These saints, outside of time, are all of Israel, natural and grafted branches alive during this time. Attempting to divide Jew from Gentile is to assume knowledge of future personal decisions about members of either group to accept Yeshua. Whoever rejects the false christ and accepts Yeshua during this time are the saints.
- Ultimately this horn will be destroyed with the beast in the burning flame.
 - Revelation 19:20 "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."
 - Daniel 7:11-12 "I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld [even] till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time."
 - □ Recall from the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, the four contemporaneous beasts of Daniel 7 are united with the fourth beast representing the Middle East. It is those from around the world gathered at Armageddon which are defeated, but the 3 beasts from the other 3 corners of the earth are not cast into the lake of fire with the beast that was a combination of all 4 when they worshipped the false christ.
- This little horn's appearance was greater than his associates or companions.
 - □ In the context of this leader coming up out of the 10 horns, he would be wiser, politically craftier, mentally and spiritually stronger, more charismatic, etc. than the others he is among. In the context of the false christ deception of Israel into accepting him, this would apply among his people in Israel as well as strength as an ambassador among the 10 horns that they would give him their power and strength as a warrior against the 3 horns that he defeats.

o Revelation 6:1-2

- Rider of white horse
- Bow
 - □ Bows are used for battle, and he goes forth conquering, but there is no mention of arrows or a quiver.
 - ☐ Genesis 9:11-13 The same word bow, in the original sense of bending, is used here representing a token of a covenant not to cause the earth to perish by water again.
 - □ **Daniel 9:27** the false christ confirms a covenant with many, starting the 70th week of Daniel
 - □ The idea of both a token of a covenant and a weapon of war used to conquer all fit together when we imagine in modern times what would happen if a leader of Israel were to declare a return to the Mosaic Covenant, possibly with the Ark of the Covenant in tow, and the following of the statutes given to Israel in having a temple where they would meet with God. Note that in Daniel 11 it is the king of the South and North that come against him, and his response is to conquer them.
- Crown is given to him

- ☐ This implies not that he takes the mantle of leadership of the nation, but that the mantle is given to him willingly. He is more stout than his fellows, he commands great authority and is bringing about the return of the strength of Israel. The little horn leading the little kingdom among the 10 horns surrounding them will conquer the 3 that come against him.
- His personality may begin with an apparent heart toward Israel, working to achieve the reestablishment of the Mosaic Covenant and the temple for Israel, but that is not the ultimate end. This seems bolstered by the fact that he will restructure the land and change the times and laws, which are exactly what the Mosaic Covenant set in motion, the appointed times given in the statutes of the Law. It may be that he will enforce these statutes nationally as part of the return to the Mosaic Law or perhaps add an interpretive spin on them to accomplish his ends.
 - <u>Proverbs 6:16-19</u> Defines seven things the Lord hates, which pretty much defines the dragon and his minions. The false christ will certainly live these things out.

He i	is very proud
	☐ He exalts himself above all gods, claiming to be God.
	☐ He blasphemes God
	He will be single-minded on his goal of fulfilling the will of his master in taking
	power and know he will accomplish it.

- He is deceitful and full of lies and flattery
 - ☐ Similar to Antiochus, he will be politically savy and become very powerful until allowed to reveal himself.
 - ☐ The very nature of the great deception will require that it be hidden until the revealing is allowed and his plan implemented quickly and suddenly.
 - ☐ The supernatural power that he and the false prophet will have are used to enhance their deception.
- He will stand out among the people from which he comes and whether deceived himself or deceiving Israel from the beginning, his personality will be one of pride, arrogance, and selfdeification. He will be single-minded in accomplishing his goals and will prosper in all that he does. He will gain his strength from a false god and glorify him and he will blaspheme God and turn all that follow him against God and Yeshua's faithful followers, whether they be Jew or Gentile.
- Rises to power from a political alliance of 10 kings/kingdoms and subdues 3 of those in some way. The alliance of 10 remains since all 10 give their power to him ultimately, but would seem the leadership is forced to change after a failed uprising due to his arrival on the scene.
 - He is described as a little horn, yet this diminutive representation surely doesn't represent his power and strength as he has the whole of the dragon's power behind him to the point the whole world will worship him. Since the "horn" is representative of a king, and a king the leader of a kingdom, the size of the horn more likely represents the size of his kingdom in comparison to the other 10 horns. Within this region, this little horn will defeat 3 of the 10 horns, implying that the little kingdom of the little horn will overpower 3 of the surrounding kingdoms. Given the wars of the false christ seen in Daniel 11, this would seem to depict this time of conquering Israel's enemies and building the deception.
- As covered in greater detail in the Visions of Daniel and John study, the seven mountains, which are seven kings, represent the dragon's control of Mount Zion (Jerusalem) through the history of Israel in the land. It is a merging of space and time in prophecy depicting the periods in Israel's history where they turned to other gods in spiritual adultery and God judged them by the godless nations. The first six were from their start in the land through Rome in John's day. The seventh represents a short period before the abomination of desolation and the transition to the eighth head represents his death and resurrection into the dragon-powered false christ ruling the world for 3.5 years after the abomination of

desolation.

- He is allowed to come to power by God on His timing. His revealing is being restrained.
 - He will be the cause of the abomination of desolation when he stands in God's temple and declares that he is god. This abomination in the temple will cause the temple to be desolate of God's presence as it is no longer sanctified according to the statutes God gave Israel to keep it sanctified as a meeting place between God and Israel.
 - He comes to power at the abomination of desolation
 - He will stop the daily sacrifice that he also likely made the way to be started again
- From the abomination of desolation to his end at Christ's return at Armageddon is 3 1/2 years, or 42 months.
 - As covered in the <u>Daniel's 70 Weeks</u> study, the false christ strengthens, or confirms, the covenant with many for one week. This suggests an existing covenant that is strengthened. The week timeframe doesn't necessarily mean this confirmation will have a limit of time imposed on it by the false christ, but is more the prophecy stating that this is the final week of the prophecy.
 - This is tied to the midst of the 7 years of the 70th week of Daniel, 3.5 years, when he causes the abomination of desolation Daniel and Yeshua refer to.
 - That he both makes the covenant and stops the daily sacrifice, setting up the abomination of desolation, would seem to tie the rebuilding of the temple or tabernacle necessary to perform the daily sacrifice according to the statutes of God for Israel, to the confirmed covenant that makes this return possible. This temple is stated clearly in Revelation 11 as being a physical temple that is both measurable and involves people being there.
 - "Maimonides, a great Jewish philosopher and codifier of the 12th century, rules that if we recognize a human being who possesses the superlative qualities ascribed to Moshiach, we may presume that he is the potential Moshiach. If this individual actually succeeds in rebuilding the Temple and gathering in the exiles, then he is the Moshiach." | What Is the Jewish Belief About Moshiach (Messiah)? Chabad.org
- It is after his transition that he goes after the woman who gave birth to the Messiah, but as covered in the *Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel* study there are two women that represent Israel.
 - Revelation 12 is the faithful woman the dragon hates. These are the Jews the dragon is killing and attempting to kill through his followers.
 - Revelation 17-18 is the unfaithful woman whoring after another god and persecuting the Jew first and also the Gentile. The fervency of her worship is one of the things that draw the world to join her.
 - The dragon hates God's people, but he also needs his minions to obey him and be his hands and feet. Nothing pleases the dragon more than deceiving God's chosen people into rejecting God and then using those same people to kill their own families who refuse to reject God. They are duped pawns in a game of 4D chess who put their trust in a false god. The dragon will not desire to kill all Jews, just those who reject him. Just as a branch is cut off from the root, it does not die right away, but once separated from the source of its life, it is as good as dead. The dragon knows those who reject God and accept him are going to hell with him and the second death later is better than the immediate death now because he gains followers that worship him and do his will on the earth.
- He and his armies will be undefeatable in battle
- He and those that follow him will murder anyone they find who will refuse to worship him.
 Ultimately this will likely only be those who have faith in the One True God and Messiah.
- He will come to his end when Yeshua returns in glory at Armageddon and throws him and the false prophet into the lake of fire and the dragon is bound for 1,000 years.
 - He will receive a mortal wound, but that wound will be healed. This will be one of the primary reasons the world perceives him as undefeatable and worships him and the

dragon who gives him his power.

- He is in reality a puppet
 - The dragon, Lucifer, will be allowed to give both the beast and false prophet supernatural power to perform miracles and deceive the world by them.
 - He will honor a god of forces his fathers didn't know
 - He will acknowledge and increase the glory of his god
- That the mark of the beast is given on the right hand or the forehead would seem to imply the strength of the Dragon on the right hand and a corruption of the priesthood on the forehead.
- From this it would seem that a sort of false fulfillment of the coming of the Messiah will be played out.
 - Just like John the Baptist came before Yeshua with the spirit of Elijah to make the way ready for him and point others to him, so too will the false prophet point to the beast to be worshipped
 - Just like Yeshua came acknowledging the Father and humbling Himself to His Father's will, so too will the false christ come
 - What will be different is
 - ☐ When Yeshua came it was according to Their plan to come first to bring salvation through the cross and resurrection, then 2,000 years later to fulfill the prophecies of vengeance and taking the kingdoms to reign forever.
 - ☐ The false christ will come to deceive Israel and the world into believing that he is fulfilling everything, and will do so with lying signs and wonders, even being resurrected from the dead.
 - ◆ 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12 "for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie"
- Jewish False Christ Great Deception? Isaiah 9-11 parallels
 - Isaiah 9-11 are a Messianic prophecy, but when looked at in light of blinded Israel falling into deception and the signs and lying wonders that come with an apparent messianic fulfillment, could the dragon use God's word as a the truth in the lie he brings? Imagine Israel, rejected and persecuted by the world with only one place to go, the land of Israel. But that is under attack and they have nobody to turn to until they're presented with the option of returning to God as a nation. Upon doing so, things begin to turn around with the help of a leader that brings them peace and security.
 - <u>Isaiah 10:1-11</u> Assyria is God's instrument of wrath and indignation. Where will Israel turn without God? Without Him, they will be prisoners and slain.
 - Isaiah 10:12-19 When the Lord has performed His work in Mount Zion and Jerusalem, He will punish the fruit (offspring) of the stout heart of the king of Assyria in his pride and arrogance.
 - Isaiah 10:17 "And the light of Israel shall be for a fire, and his Holy One for a flame: and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day;"
 - <u>Isaiah 10:20-34</u> in that day, the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more again stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth. The remnant shall return, even the remnant of Jacob, unto the mighty God.
 - □ <u>Isaiah 10:27</u> "And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing."
 - Could it be that God allows the false christ the power to destroy Israel's enemies and this proud leader will use this prophecy to garner messianic credentials? The prophecy speaks of the Lord's anger in the Assyrian's destruction, would the wars of the false christ seem to fulfill this with the false christ inserting himself into that role and seeming to fulfill the

prophecy? ☐ He is come to Aiath (Ai) - East of Bethel □ he is passed to Migron - SE of Aiath (Ai) □ at Michmash he hath laid up his carriages - NE of Migron □ they have taken up their lodging at Geba - SW of Migron Ramah is afraid - W of Geba ☐ Gibeah of Saul is fled - S of Ramah and Geba cause it to be heard unto Laish - North of Sea of Galilee & Lake Huleh □ O poor Anathoth - SE of Geba and Gibeah □ Madmenah is removed - SW of Hebron □ the inhabitants of Gebim gather themselves to flee □ Lebanon shall fall by a mighty one - N of Israel Isaiah 11:1-10 - Going back to the arrival of the Messiah, but also describing the Messianic Kingdom □ It could be that the false christ will use this prophecy as a proof that he is the messiah the Jews have been waiting for and by his destruction of Israel's enemies they will be restored to the fulness of the promised land and peace in □ Isaiah 11:10 - "And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious." • Revelation 13:4 - "they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?" **Revelation 17:1-6** - The kings of the earth have committed fornication with her and made drunk with the wine of her fornication. She has a golden cup full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication. She is drunk on the blood of the saints and the martyrs of Yeshua. ♦ The woman riding the beast is symbolic of Jerusalem as the seat of the false christ. Israel's absolute dedication to their perceived messiah and his power and great authority cause the world to wonder after and follow him as well. Wine is made from crushed grapes and symbolizes the blood of the saints, those who reject the man of sin. The world is also drunk on this blood meaning that the false christ's murder of all those who refuse to worship him, fornication, is the blood upon which the world and the woman, Jerusalem the unfaithful woman, are drunk upon. The world has given their power over to the dragon. Isaiah 11:11-16 - The Lord will a second time recover a remnant of His people from four corners of the earth. Adversaries of Judah will be cut off □ We have seen since the establishment of the State of Israel an Aliyah back to the land by many Jews. If the perceived messiah and Messianic Kingdom has arrived, how much more will Jews from around the world begin to flood back to the Promised Land? □ they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west Since October 7, 2023 we have seen the resolve of the State of Israel against the terrorists. I don't believe this to be the fulfillment, but imagine the fervor and resolve if they are being led by the perceived messiah? Read Joel 2. □ they shall spoil them of the east together □ they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab the children of Ammon shall obey them Daniel 11:41 - spoken of the false christ, "these shall escape out of his

hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon."

- ★♦ This is a proof that the false christ is not the Messiah because these three escape from His hand, while in Isaiah 11 they do not. A good thing to point out when it is happening so the Jews understand that the false christ is not the Messiah.
 - ♦ In reality, the fulfillment of this will be in the transition to the Messianic Kingdom, the 1,000 year reign of Christ from Jerusalem after the 70th week of Daniel and the false christ and false prophet have been cast into the lake of fire and the dragon bound for 1,000 years.
- □ the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea
 - ◆ Daniel 11:42-43 He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.
 - ♦ We are told that both the Messianic fulfillment and the future false christ fulfillment will decimate Egypt.
- Daniel 11:44 "But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many."
- Daniel 11:45 "And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him."
- <u>Daniel 12:1</u> "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."
 - ☐ There are no chapter breaks in scripture and verse 1 is meant to continue after Daniel 11:45. This gives us a view of the
- Possible three horns plucked up in their revolt against the little horn?
 - □ <u>Daniel 7:7-8,20,24</u> Fourth beast with 10 horns, out of which a little horn came up and plucked 3 by the roots.
 - This vision of Daniel represents the political state of the world just prior to the false christ's kingdom. We see this with the same symbolic animals joined together in the visions of John in Revelation 13 (REF: Visions of Daniel and John)
 - ☐ King of the south = Egypt
 - ☐ King of the north = Assyria
 - Isaiah 7:8 Damascus is the head of Assyria
 - Isaiah 17:1-9 Damascus taken away from being a city because of Israel.
 - ☐ Spoil them of the East = Iran? Biggest enemy of Israel to East I can think of currently
- This is covered more in the *Visions of Daniel and John* study, looking at the symbology of the kingdom
- Daniel 7 shows the precursor to the final kingdom with four symbolic beasts, diverse and contemporaneous, controlling the four corners of the earth.
- Revelation 13 shows the symbolic characteristics of these four beasts united under the dragon of Revelation 12 in contrast to the faithful woman of Revelation 12 that the dragon hates.
- Length of reign scriptures
 - Revelation 13:5 42 months
 - Daniel 7:25 3.5 years
 - Daniel 12:5-11 3.5 years
- A False Messiah Come To Israel? (eliminate or incorporate)
 - As seen in the possibilities of a false Elijah coming, can you see where this traditional belief could lead to accepting of a "false prophet" as if from God if everything they imagine should

happen does? What is perceived as divine intervention when everything seems to work in their favor is really due to the Dragon playing both sides of the chess board. Could it be that the mystery of iniquity that has been at work from the beginning could have planted these seeds to grow into something molded for just such a deception? The spiritual wickedness in high places often uses a little grain of truth to get people to swallow the whole poison pill. Let us guard our hearts and minds with the Truth of God's Word alone.

- If a perceived Elijah, the false prophet, is responsible for bringing this long sought after archaeological find to light, the mindset of every Israeli around the world would almost instantaneously shift. He would also likely be listened to when pointing to the false christ in the beginning as that is what is expected of Elijah, to prepare the way for the Messiah. And when the one he pointed to, changed the times and the laws to bring Israel back to the Mosaic covenant as a nation in the land? Well you can imagine the religious zeal in Israel and the Aliyah back into the land from all over the world of the 12 tribes of Israel.
- To that point, especially with genetic testing, all the tribes of Israel may begin to wake up to both their lineage and land, uniting once again the dispersed tribes in the land.
- I think the majority of Israel would be sincere in their turn back to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Over time, the false christ would deceive them into following him instead through the signs and lying wonders he will come with in the power of the Dragon.
- This will be a time of great testing for Israel not to follow after another god, which once again the majority of them will fail at in the zeal of the moment and lack of foundation in the Word of God. Instead they will be trusting on the blind Rabbinic tradition to lead the blind people of Israel into great deception and apostasy.
- I wish it weren't so, I so desire Israel to see her Messiah. But this is what God foretold from before the foundation of the world and we must trust Him in all things. I know it pains God more than we can imagine to see His own family turn from Him to lies and eternal destruction.
- I used to have the perception that the Dragon just wanted to kill all Jews no matter what, like the holocaust, attempting to wipe them from the face of the earth. However, I've come to see that by deceiving them into accepting him, he not only ensures their ultimate destruction with him for eternity, but he steals them from God and uses them to kill their own families who reject him. The dragon doesn't need to kill all Jews, just those who reject him. Those that accept him will be his eyes and ears, hands and feet to carry out the slaughter of God's people at the hands of the world and God's unfaithful natural branches will be broken off in unbelief.
- Some of these sound very familiar to the Christian understanding as given by Yeshua and the prophets, which is of little surprise since the root source are the same prophecies from the same scriptures. The difference is a lot of extra-Biblical Rabbinical interpretation and tradition have given teachings of men that are looked to more than the text itself by many religious Jews. This is a primer for deception because then these interpretations based on the truth can be manipulated only slightly to appear to be fulfilled when taking the whole original text would show differently.
- The main idea behind these things is understanding from a Jewish perspective the feeling of persecution and isolation in the world that will lead them to turn back to God, the only one who can save them. Just like there are no foxhole atheists, the time leading up to the return of Christ will be a time that will test mankind's self-reliance. It is this environment that deception will be allowed, a deception that has been at work for millennia and guided by the mystery of iniquity to this end. We have no ability to understand the scope because we only live a short time. But the principalities and powers and spiritual wickedness in high places have groomed mankind, introducing corrupting ideas, watered them, and helped them grow.
- The mystery of iniquity has been creating the chess pieces and setting up the board, playing

both sides in different ways. One side comprised of the nations of the world through the various corruptions of belief to create enemies of Israel through time. One side that birthed the Messiah but rejected and was blinded to Him and persecuted through time by those taught to hate them. Periods of intensity where Christianity was hijacked and used against them. Islam, born out of a sibling rivalry and corruption of the common text, used to breed hatred.

- These pieces have been moved around the board through time, working to the ultimate end of intense pressure on the children of Israel to the point they turn to God the only way they know how. This is hijacked by the same kind of corruption of understanding of the original text we've seen in various religions through history and manipulated in the time of isolation to be primed to accept a false christ. He and his false prophet will conveniently "properly interpret" the prophecies that seem to check all the boxes of the Messiah Israel has been waiting for, the one that will conquer their enemies and bring peace to the world and elevate Israel to the center of all power with the Messiah ruling the world.
- All this will truly happen by Yeshua, but first a false christ will bring it about and the judgement of God will come on the earth and ultimately put a stop to it. You see the Dragon may have his pawns on the board, but his whole game is contained within a pawn on God's board and he stands no chance. God has already won, we just don't have His perspective outside of time except from what He has revealed to us in His Word.
- It is important to understand that Israel's time of testing is coming. The blind leading the blind will not serve many of them well as they will be led into the pit. All they do will seem on the surface to be fulfillment of the prophecies of the Messiah, but it is an elaborate ruse. Those who point it out will be labeled antisemitic, but from my perspective my heart breaks for those whom I believe will begin their journey back to God in sincerity, but will be deceived by the teachings of men, blinded to the reality of scripture because their heart is far from God. And let's not forget that according to the parable of the 10 virgins in Matthew 25:1-13, 50% of those who consider themselves Christians will be shut out of the marriage because they have no relationship with Christ. A time of testing is not coming only for Israel, but all those who speak with their lips of God. Judgement must begin at the house of God.
 - <u>Isaiah 29:12-14</u> "And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned. Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near [me] with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men: Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, [even] a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise [men] shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent [men] shall be hid."
 - Matthew 15:7-9 "[Ye] hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with [their] lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching [for] doctrines the commandments of men."
 - <u>1 Peter 4:17-19</u> "For the time [is come] that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if [it] first [begin] at us, what shall the end [be] of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls [to him] in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator."
- Thank God that a remnant will remain faithful and be protected through this time and come out of the 70th week in to the Promised Land under their awaited King and High Priest Yeshua. And through the hour of temptation, those left behind that remain faithful to God even unto death will live again in His kingdom.
- So in this let us understand it isn't about physical genetics, it's about spiritual alignment in belief in Yeshua and His atoning sacrifice. Just as some who call themselves Christians will be shut out of the marriage, so too will some of the natural branches be broken off in unbelief.
 But many natural branches will believe and have the faith of the titans of faith that came

before them.

Reasons for Jewish false christ (Move to false christ study?)

- Centrality of Israel and Jerusalem in scripture
- o Blinded Israeli expectation
 - Daniel 11:40-12:1, Isaiah 11:11-16, 19:21-25, and 27:12-13; Micah 7:12; Zechariah 14:18-19, Isaiah 17:1-3,7-9 Messiah defeats Israel's enemies
 - □ Daniel 11:41 Will be a sign that he's not the Messiah
 - Daniel 11:45-12:1, 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 Antichrist plants his tabernacle at Jerusalem and declares himself to be god in the Jewish temple
 - □ "According to Leviticus Rabbah 9:7 and Pesiqta Rabbati 12, several ancient rabbis taught the following: "In the Age to Come all sacrifices will cease, but the thank offering will never cease; all songs will cease, but the songs of thanksgiving will never cease." (Cited in Hartmut Gese, Essays in Biblical Theology 133)." *False Christ* by Chris White
 - □ John 5:43-47 "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive."
 - Isaiah 60:1-3 Zion is expected to have the Gentiles come to it
 - Zechariah 14:16-18 All nations will go to Jerusalem annually to worship the Lord and keep tabernacles. Those who don't will have no rain
 - THIS Is Why Jewish People REJECT Jesus as the Messiah Rabbi Schneider speaks to the blindness of Israel stemming from the jealousy of the religious leaders of Israel of Yeshua to the end of His crucifixion and resurrection.
 - ☐ After the temple was destroyed, they had to rewrite what life was to be without the temple and sacrifice so Rabbinic Judaism was born. Today, most Israelis don't know the Torah, they only know the Oral Law passed down through Rabbinic tradition. These are attempts to explain the Torah through the lens of the traditions of men.
 - He also talks about what modern Jews are looking for in a Messiah. The minority of Jews that know Torah are looking for a Messiah to come that will restore Israel to keeping the Torah, which will in turn bless the world and bring peace and harmony to the earth. Gentiles would the keep the Noahide Laws. (not drinking blood, not killing, etc.) They don't believe he will be God in the flesh, but will be an anointed Messiah that will be revealed when there are enough Jews keeping Torah. In this time Israel will be exalted above the earth through which God brings blessing to the earth.
 - The awaited Messiah is going to be a king over Israel. Israel is not a theocratic monarchy at the moment, but something is going to have to change in order for Israel to change its whole political structure.
 - ☐ Revelation 6:2 "And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer."
 - Daniel 7:25 "And he shall speak [great] words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."
 - The awaited Messiah is going to be a priest that will oversee the rebuilding of the third temple. As laid out in Hebrews 7, Yeshua is that high priest, but deception comes first.
 - □ Psalm 110:1-7 "[[A Psalm of David.]] The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies. Thy people [shall be] willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth. The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou [art] a priest for ever after the order of

Melchizedek. The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath. He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill [the places] with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries. He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head."

- □ <u>Isaiah 11:1-2</u> "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;"
- □ Zechariah 6:11-15 "Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set [them] upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest; And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name [is] The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both. And the crowns shall be to Helem, and to Tobijah, and to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah, for a memorial in the temple of the LORD. And they [that are] far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD, and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. And [this] shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God."
- □ As Chuck Smith pointed out in his commentary on Zechariah 6-10, "The name Joshua, of course, is significant. It is the name Jesus. It is the Hebrew for the Greek Jesus. In Hebrew it means Jehovah or "yah is salvation." So it is significant, the name itself, that Joshua was crowned as a priest, but crowned to be the king. As a foreboding or of a prophecy of the crowning of Jesus as King, who is from the tribe of Judah, but also to be acknowledged as the priest."
- □ So the Jews see this as pointing to the Messiah rebuilding the third temple, but we know this was fulfilled in the resurrection according to Christ.
 - ◆ <u>John 2:18-21</u> "Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things? Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body."
 - However, that doesn't mean that one coming who rebuilds the temple could not use that as a deception to begin to plant the idea that he is the messiah in the Jewish mind.
- Contrast between faithful Revelation 12 woman and unfaithful Revelation 17 woman.
- The woman riding the beast is not the beast nor any of the heads. The beast has 7heads/mountains and one of the heads 10 horns.
 - The little horn that comes up is the 11th horn to whom the 10 and the world give their power
 - The unfaithful woman riding the beast is the instrument of the little horn, through whom the world joins in her worship of the beast upon which she rides. The world is drunk on the wine of her fornication.
 - ☐ This hints at the fervency with which they will be committing idolatry and the combination of who they are idolizing and his undefeated status causing the world to give him their power. Something about the woman's zeal in idolizing brings them to join in.
 - Historically the 7 heads represent regional nations controlling Jerusalem in Israel's apostasy.
 - ☐ As will be covered later, the 10 horns on the seventh head represent the political situation as the antichrist rises to power. (The precursor to the

antichrist kingdom of Revelation 13 is seen in Daniel 7) A 10-kingdom alliance will exist that has controlling power over Jerusalem. The woman riding this 1/4 of the earth's global governance, specifically focused on the area of the 10 horns will have a little horn leading her that will come up among the 10, subdue three of them and take control.

- The woman riding this beast then represents apostate Israel headed by the little horn taking control politically in the region.
- Revelation 17:2,4,6 Drunk on blood of the saints
 - □ She has a cup full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication
 - ☐ She is drunk on the blood of the saints and martyrs of Yeshua
 - ☐ The world is drunk with the wine of her fornication
 - ☐ Matthew 23:33-37 "I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: ... O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee..."
 - □ Luke 13:31-35 "it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee..."
- In the end, the 10 horns hate the woman and destroy her. Are there 10 regional kingdoms that would hate Israel?
 - □ Why would they tolerate the woman in the first place? Revelation 17:17 says that "God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled." It is after the seventh bowl of God's wrath is poured out that "it is finished" and His will has been fulfilled. The 10 are no longer bound to fulfill God's will and in their hatred they make her desolate and naked and burn her with fire.
- The great deception then fits perfectly in the Israel context of end time prophecy because the expectation of Israel is for a messianic figure to conquer their enemies and set up his kingdom.
- The combined picture of Daniel 7 and revelation 17 display this symbolically in agreement with Daniel 11:40-12:1 and the first 5 seals, etc.
- Writing on foreheads
 - Faithful woman
 - □ <u>Exodus 28:36-38</u> "And thou shalt make a plate of pure gold, and grave upon it, like the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD... And it shall be upon Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things, which the children of Israel shall hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall be always upon his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD."
 - Revelation 7:1-3 "And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads."
 - □ In the context just before the wrath of God begins, speaking of the 144,000 of the 12 tribes of Israel: "Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads."
 - Unfaithful adulterous woman
 - □ Revelation 17:5 "And upon her forehead [was] a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE FARTH."
 - Mystery is used in the mystic or hidden sense of an image seen in a vision.

- Much of the symbology of Revelation and elsewhere is like this, hidden in a mysterious symbolic creatures or people like this woman.
- Genesis 11:9 "Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth."
- ◆ The name Babylon came from the place called Babel, whose name was given it because it was there the LORD confounded the languages of the earth. It is therefore synonymous with confusion.
- Mother of harlots would denote the source of all harlotry, which in the context of spiritual things would be the source of all idolatry or worship of other gods. In the further context of the Bible, there was only one people that was married to God, yet played the harlot and went after other gods. That people was God's chosen people out of the nations, His allotment from the people of the earth. The rest of the kingdoms were not in relationship with God or set apart to become a royal priesthood and a holy nation representing God on the earth and to show forth His praises to the earth.
 - ♦ **Isaiah 1:18-27** "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken [it]. How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water: Thy princes [are] rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them. Therefore saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies: And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin: And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city. Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness."
 - ♦ Isaiah speaks to Israel of Zion, Jerusalem, the faithful city becoming a harlot. While it was once full of judgement and righteousness, it's now full of murderers.

 - ♦ Israel's own wickedness will correct her, through their history God saved her and she promised not to transgress, but she wandered playing the harlot.

- ♦ If a man put away his wife and she becomes another mans will he return to her? Israel has played the harlot with many lovers yet she returns to the Lord.
- ♦ Ezekiel 16:1-3, 8-22 "Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know her abominations, And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto Jerusalem; Thy birth and thy nativity [is] of the land of Canaan; thy father [was] an Amorite, and thy mother an Hittite. ... Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time [was] the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine. Then washed I thee with water; yea, I throughly washed away thy blood from thee, and I anointed thee with oil. I clothed thee also with broidered work, and shod thee with badgers' skin, and I girded thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk. I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets upon thy hands, and a chain on thy neck. And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thine head. Thus wast thou decked with gold and silver; and thy raiment [was of] fine linen, and silk, and broidered work; thou didst eat fine flour, and honey, and oil: and thou wast exceeding beautiful, and thou didst prosper into a kingdom. And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty: for it [was] perfect through my comeliness, which I had put upon thee, saith the Lord GOD. But thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot because of thy renown, and pouredst out thy fornications on every one that passed by; his it was. And of thy garments thou didst take, and deckedst thy high places with divers colours, and playedst the harlot thereupon: [the like things] shall not come, neither shall it be [so]. Thou hast also taken thy fair jewels of my gold and of my silver, which I had given thee, and madest to thyself images of men, and didst commit whoredom with them, And tookest thy broidered garments, and coveredst them: and thou hast set mine oil and mine incense before them. My meat also which I gave thee, fine flour, and oil, and honey, [wherewith] I fed thee, thou hast even set it before them for a sweet savour: and [thus] it was, saith the Lord GOD. Moreover thou hast taken thy sons and thy daughters, whom thou hast borne unto me, and these hast thou sacrificed unto them to be devoured. [Is this] of thy whoredoms a small matter, That thou hast slain my children, and delivered them to cause them to pass through [the fire] for them? And in all thine abominations and thy whoredoms thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth, when thou wast naked and bare, [and] wast polluted in thy blood."
- ♦ Reminding Jerusalem of her abominations, God gave Israel all they have from nothing and made her beautiful and renown among the

heathen for her beauty. But she played the harlot because of it and poured out fornications on every one that passed by. She played the harlot on her garments and turned the jewels, gold, and silver into images of men. She set her meat, flour and oil and incense before them. She sacrificed her children to pass through the fire. In all her abominations and whoredoms she didn't remember the days of her youth when she was naked and bare and polluted in her blood.

- Abominations of the earth is a foul or detestable thing of idols and idolatry.
 - ♦ It is the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet that we saw historically was setting up of an idol, or representation of a false god, in the temple of God, where He dwells. This abomination causes His presence to leave as it is no longer consecrated and holy until rededicated. Desolation is the reference to lack of presence.
- If we put all this together we have a picture of the unfaithful woman of Revelation 17 on the mountain of Jerusalem who is confused and confounded into returning to the idolatry of her historical roots and committing the same kinds of abominations of old taking the worship of the One True God and giving it over to a false god.
- Given that this is written on her forehead, the same word in the Septuagint of that in Exodus 28:38 regarding the high priest wearing HOLINESS TO THE LORD, this seems to paint a distinct picture of the harlot of Revelation 17 being the blind priesthood leading the blinded people of Israel into worship of a false god in place of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- ◆ In their fervor, just as in the days of old, their obedience to the perceived messiah will lead to the bloodshed of the actual saints of God who are not deceived by this anti, or in place of, christ, the man of sin.
- ◆ "The judgment of Jerusalem for the purpose of purification that occurs just before the Millennium is mentioned in several other places (Zechariah 14:1-5, 13:1-9; Revelation 16:18-21; Zephaniah 1:4-18)." Chris White, False Christ
- Revelation 13:16-17 "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."
- Revelation 14:9-12 "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive [his] mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."
- Dragon casts water (peoples) after the woman, but the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.
 - Numbers 16:25-40 "And Moses rose up and went unto Dathan and Abiram; and the elders of Israel followed him. And he spake unto the congregation, saying, Depart, I pray you, from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing of theirs, lest ye be

consumed in all their sins. So they gat up from the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, on every side: and Dathan and Abiram came out, and stood in the door of their tents, and their wives, and their sons, and their little children. And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works; for [I have] not [done them] of mine own mind. If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; [then] the LORD hath not sent me. But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that [appertain] unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD. And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that [was] under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that [appertained] unto Korah, and all [their] goods. They, and all that [appertained] to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation. And all Israel that [were] round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, Lest the earth swallow us up [also]. And there came out a fire from the LORD, and consumed the two hundred and fifty men that offered incense. And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, that he take up the censers out of the burning, and scatter thou the fire yonder; for they are hallowed. The censers of these sinners against their own souls, let them make them broad plates [for] a covering of the altar: for they offered them before the LORD, therefore they are hallowed: and they shall be a sign unto the children of Israel. And Eleazar the priest took the brasen censers, wherewith they that were burnt had offered; and they were made broad [plates for] a covering of the altar: [To be] a memorial unto the children of Israel, that no stranger, which [is] not of the seed of Aaron, come near to offer incense before the LORD; that he be not as Korah, and as his company: as the LORD said to him by the hand of Moses."

- Rebellion of Korah happened the same way where the earth swallowed the rebellious of Israel.
- (Different placement in presentation) In order for the dragon to deceive Israel, he must conform to prophecies of the actual Messiah.
 - Yeshua began his ministry in 26/27 AD and lasted for 3 or 2 1/2 years. (Antichrist will
 confirm a covenant with many, after which he will go forth and conquer Israel's
 enemies that revolt at this event.)
 - After that Yeshua died on the cross and was resurrected 3 days later. (After the wars
 of the antichrist, he will return to Jerusalem where he is killed and resurrected.)
 - After Yeshua's resurrection, He appeared to many for 40 days and the Holy Spirit came on Pentecost 50 days later. (After the antichrist is resurrected and declares himself god, he will appear to those who believe he is the messiah as such and for the next 30 days will persecute those who do not believe. This is a time cut short at the return of Yeshua in glory to gather His bride, seal His people in the wilderness and carry out the judgements written in the scroll the seven seals were broken off of.)
- Faithful Israel must repent before Yom Kippur in order to not advance another 40 year period. (Messiah 2030)
- Integrate above somewhere if not already present
 - The elect is an eternal term of identification of those that are Christ's whom He will lose none of and will dwell in eternity.
 - Israel in the sense of Bible prophecy are those Jews who have remained blinded to Yeshua. Some of them are elect-in-waiting while other are the unfaithful that will be cut off. Those that remain blinded to Christ's coming will be protected in the wilderness after the time of Jacob's trouble and through the wrath of God until the end of the 70th week when they will emerge from the wilderness and come into the Promised Land to live under the Messiah during His Messianic reign on earth.

- Those Messianic Jews who have already accepted Yeshua are the elect now along with all the believing Gentiles who have been grafted onto the root, which is Christ. These together will be caught up when Christ returns before the wrath of God is poured out.
- In the Messianic and eternal kingdom, the elect will live with God.
- Throughout all of Israel's generations the daily sacrifice, which is perpetual, will continue in the Messianic Kingdom as foretold in Ezekiel 40-48 and the elect will be participants in the relationship with God at the appointed place in the appointed times.
- As we wait for that time, scripture is clear that our relationship with God is not about keeping the feast days and the other restrictions in diet along with the other things put on the children of Israel. Christ's yoke is easy and His burden is light.
- There is a distinct benefit in understanding how God will use these times in the redemption of His people in the end times.
- Pop culture reference Two movies recently came out that when watching I couldn't help but
 associate with this transition period. There are two groups that will see this transition and their
 reaction will be quite different. The first group will be convinced in their deception that the false
 christ is the promised messiah. The second group will be repulsed by this and see through the
 deception and reject him, for many to their deaths.
 - ◆ The first group I saw represented in the movie *Dune: Part 2*. There is a reluctant messiah figure, whose rise has been planted by a shadowy group to have the people accept this figure. He wants none of it, he's just doing what's right for the people. A small group whispers of him being the fulfillment while the majority laugh it off until things start lining up more and more with what they were taught. It comes to a head when he drinks the liquid from a sand snake and dies, but is resurrected by his girlfriend. After he is resurrected, he enters the hallowed meeting place of the Fremen to much clamor. There he fully accepts the mantle of messiah and demands they accept it. The initial reaction is hesitation, but he speaks to their desire for conquering their enemies and taking the world that is theirs and a powerful army rises up behind him and goes through the gathered armies like a hot knife through butter.
 - ♦ This group is representative of the unfaithful deceived of Israel, who accept the false christ and become an unstoppable army serving him willingly.
 - ◆ The second group I saw represented in the movie Wish. A society entrusts their leader with guarding their wishes, but he is corrupted by an evil power and begins using their wishes to control some of them who turn on their friends and hand them over to the evil king. The blinded people are suddenly confronted with an evil leader enforcing their bowing down to him.
 - ♦ This group is representative of faithful Israel. They're still blind in the betrayal and in a state of panic about their future, being hunted by their own families for the rejection. These are then taken by God on wings of an eagle to the wilderness to a place prepared for them.

Associated studies

- Abomination of desolation
- <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u>

References

- <u>False Christ | Will the Antichrist Claim to Be the Jewish Messiah?</u> by Chris White (Audible Audiobook | Kindle | Paperback)
- Abraham Accords: The Beginning of Peace for Israel? | FULL EPISODE | Abraham Accords on TBN
- THIS Is Why Jewish People REJECT Jesus as the Messiah Rabbi Schneider discusses with Allen Parr aspects of Jewish culture.
- What would happen if the Ark of the Covenant was discovered under Jerusalem? Rabbi Natan Shlomo

Associated Dat •	es		
Tags			
Script			