

THE GLORY OF GOD

Week 12 – JROC - Petra...The Gospel of the Kingdom...AND MORE

August 3, 2025

Deut. 32:10 - *In a desert land He found him, in a barren and howling waste. He shielded him and cared for him; He guarded him as the apple of His eye....*

Israel is the “apple of God’s eye.” The Hebrew word for apple means “the pupil” God is guarding Israel! And, don’t we all wonder how Israel is going to survive as a nation with all the persecution and antisemitism coming against them? What do we know about Israel in the future? The UNFOLDING of God’s plan for the world through Israel is in the Bible – beginning in Genesis! Check out the Abrahamic Covenant (Gen. 12:1-3; Gen. 15:6; Gen. 17). The promises God made to Abraham and his physical descendants are also found in the Land Covenant (Deut. 30:1-6), the Davidic Covenant (II Sam. 7:12-16), and the New Covenant (Jer. 31:31-35; Eze. 36:24-27) which will be fulfilled in the future – in the Millennial Kingdom/the Kingdom of God!

AND, In the Prophetic books – Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Zechariah, Micah...and in Matthew and some of the other Gospels we are told about what’s happening NOW (Matt. 13 addresses what is occurring in the Church Age; see also I Tim. 4:1; II Tim. 3:1-5; Jude....) – and into the FUTURE!

The very existence of Israel today in our world is evidence of God’s protection. And, end times? READ Daniel 9:24-27!!!! FOUR VERSES which include Satan’s demise!

Isa 66:22 – written to a Jewish audience, ‘*For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me, says the Lord, So shall your descendants and your name remain.*’

The book of Revelation tells us when Jesus will return physically at His Second Coming – He will return with a sword – ready to “strike down the nations” (Rev. 19:15). AND He will come from Edom/Bozrah with His garments bloodied

Isa. 63:1-3 - *Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah, this One who is glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength?— ‘I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save.’² Why is Your apparel red, and Your garments like one who treads in the winepress? ³ ‘I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with Me. for I have trodden them in My anger, and trampled them in My fury; their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, and I have stained all My robes.’*

Bozrah means sheep pen/sheep fold. I am strongly suggesting that Petra is in Bozrah.

Micah 2:12-13 - *I will surely assemble all of you, O Jacob (Israel), I will surely gather the remnant of Israel (Jewish believers); I will put them together like sheep of the fold, like a flock in the midst of their pasture; they shall make a loud noise because of so many people.¹³ The one who breaks open will come up before them; they will break out, pass through the gate, and go out by it; their king will pass before them, with the Lord at their head.*

Who are the sheep? Who is the Good Shepherd?

Who are the “so many people”?

Who is “their” and who is “king”?

2

Isa. 34:5-6 - *For My sword shall be bathed in heaven; indeed it shall come down on Edom, and on the people of My curse, for judgment.⁶ The sword of the Lord is filled with blood, it is made overflowing with fatness, with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For the Lord has a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Edom.*

When Jesus returns to fight – at Armageddon (Har Megiddo) – it appears that He will position Himself at the entrance of the Siq – the long extremely narrow entrance to Petra. The great slaughter will be among those who come against the Jewish people in Petra.

Rev. 12:1-6 – we see Satan’s attempt in the past to destroy Jesus the Messiah as a young child - *the dragon stood before the woman (who is a picture of Israel - a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars (Joseph’s dream about his father, Jacob, his mother, Rachel, and his 11 brothers) (The scene switches to Mary of Nazareth giving birth to Jesus)² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. (King Herod sent out soldiers to kill Hebrew male babies two years and younger).⁴ His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth (the fallen angels when Lucifer was cast out of heaven – the stars of heaven [angels] came with him).⁵ She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron (Psa. 2:9). And her Child was caught up to God and His throne (Jesus’ ascension into heaven to sit at the right hand of God – at the right hand of God the Father’s throne [Heb. 1:1 – sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high]).⁶ Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days. (During the last half of the tribulation) Will the antichrist come after the woman and the Jewish remnant?*

Daniel 11:41 – *He (the antichrist) shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people (chief of the sons) of Ammon.*

BUT – WHO ARE THE “THEY” IN v. 6 of Rev. 12 – the “they” who are going to feed her and ALL the Jewish believers (the remnant) who will be with her?

Matt. 24:15-20- Jesus had just declared that not one stone of the Second Temple in Jerusalem would be left upon another, that shall not be thrown down. The disciples asked Jesus, *Tell us... when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming* (Parousia – Your presence, Your arrival, Your manifestation of Your glory – this is what the disciples were thinking), *and of the end of the age?”*

Matt. 24:4-20 - *And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. ⁵ For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. ⁶ And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. ⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. ⁸ All these are the beginning of sorrows. ⁹ “Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. ¹⁰ And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. ¹¹ Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. ¹² And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³ But he who endures to the end shall be saved. ¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.*

3

Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand), ¹⁶ “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷ Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. ¹⁸ And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. ¹⁹ But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ²⁰ And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

In understanding Scripture, be aware of context:

Since Matthew 24 covers the Tribulation following the rapture of the Church (Jewish and Gentile believers in Jesus), the parables and teachings in Matthew 25 are a continuation of the flow of the previous chapter which means that the Matthew 25 parables are related to Israel not to the church.

Regathered Israel (Matt. 24:31) will be judged to determine who is saved and who is unsaved...to determine who will enter into the Kingdom that Jesus will establish following His Second Coming. And regarding the Gentile nations in Matthew 25, they will be judged as well. So, following the Tribulation there is the judgment of Israel and the judgment of the Gentiles.

The Jewish people left behind will go through the Tribulation. The gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations (perhaps preached by the born again 144,000 Jewish men [Rev. 7; Rev. 14]). At His physical Second Coming, Jesus will establish the Kingdom of God/the Millennial Kingdom when He comes on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory (Matt. 24:29-31)...

Because of Matthew 24...Matthew 25 carries the end times chronology forward. The timeframe remains - after the Tribulation.

Matthew 25 can be divided into three sections: the Parable of the Ten Virgins (Matt. 25:1-13); The Parable of the Talents (Matt. 25:14-30); and the Judgment of the Gentile nations (Matt. 25:31-46).

The Parable of the Ten Virgins and the Talents address Israel's faithfulness in light of her responsibility while the remainder of Matthew 25 deals with the Messiah's judgments of the nations which will relate to how they treat the Jewish remnant during the tribulation. In both instances re: Israel and the nations, there will be a mixed response. Some will be prepared and faithful, while others will not.

In the Parable of the Talents, the third servant was not a genuine believer as he was slothful and had no true knowledge of his master.

To be ready for Jesus' return, whether that person is in the Church Age or the time of the Tribulation, faith in Jesus is what saves. This is highlighted in the Parable of the Ten Virgins. The five wise virgins had oil for all their lamps; the five foolish virgins had no oil. Only by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit can one enter the Kingdom of God (John 3:3ff). But – all ten virgins slumbered and slept (Matt. 25:5) while the bridegroom was delayed – all weren't watching. Here in this parable the oil is what gains one entrance into the Kingdom.

When I came upon Matt. 25:31-40 – the judgment of the Gentile nations – the question re: WHO ARE THE "THEY" in Rev. 12:6 - was in NEON!!! *When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.* ³² *All the nations*

will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' ³⁷ "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? ³⁸ When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

Who are Jesus' brethren?