

YOUR PERSONAL STAKE IN THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

You know, there's something so wonderful about the Hebrew alphabet and the Hebrew Bible and what the Lord gave the world through the Jewish people. But the world isn't appreciative, in fact the world hates the God of Israel and His People and is manifesting this hatred (as it did in the Holocaust) right now in anti-Israel rallies and political meetings all over the world, so we see everything coming to a crescendo and a climax, as it says in Zechariah 14:2 where the God of Israel says (quote) **וְאֶסְפְּתִי** ("And I will gather") **אֶת-כָּל-הַגּוֹיִם** ("all the Goyim/all the Gentiles/all the non-Jewish Nations") **אֶל-יְרוּשָׁלַם** ("against Jerusalem") **לְמִלְחָמָה** ("to battle, for war") and then in Zechariah chapter 14, verse 3 it says that the Lord will go forth and fight against those same people and the Lord will fight on the side of God's people in Jerusalem.

So here we have the coming of the Lord, which is spelled out in various scriptures: Deut 30:3; Daniel 7:13-14; Mt 16:27; 24:3-14, 27,36-39; 25:31,32; 26:64; Luk 21:25-28; Acts 1:9-11; I Cor.1:7,8; 4:5; I Tim.6:14; II Tim 4:1; Titus 2:13; Heb 9:28; I John 2:28; Rev. 3:11; 16:15; 22:7,20.

Then v. 5 of Zechariah chp 14 starts talking about you perhaps:

וְבָא ("And will come") **יְהוָה אֱלֹהָי** ("The Lord my God") **עִמָּךְ** ("with You [i.e.the Lord]"), [many medieval Hebrew manuscripts and different ancient versions have **עִמּוֹ** ("with Him [i.e. the Lord]").

Is that talking about you?

επειτα ("then") ημεις ("we") οι ("the") ζωντες ("living, alive ones") οι ("the ones who") περιλειπομενοι, ("remain/are left [on the earth]") αμα ("together") συν ("with") αυτοις ("them [i.e. the dead in Moshiach]") αρπαγησομεθα ("shall be caught away/raptured") εν ("in [the]") νεφελαις ("clouds") εις ("for [the]") απαντησιν ("meeting") του ("of the") κυριου ("Lord") εις ("in [the]") αερα ("air") και ("and") ουτως ("thus") παντοτε ("always [through the eternity of eternities, i.e. forever]") συν ("with [the]") κυριω ("Lord") εσομεθα ("we shall be"). Will you be among the faithfully departed αυτοις? If not, will you be among the ημεις οι ζωντες? If not, in Gehinnom, you will be in the most dark, desolate, G-d forsaken place imaginable, the whirlpool, drain hole, abyss most people are heading toward on the worldly, much-traveled superhighway they are racing on now. The jostling stream of humanity on that road (some are religious and think mistakenly that they are on the Derech Hakodesh) are guided by a traffic patrol which is the "false prophets who arise and deceive many" (Matt.24:11). An endless sea of deceived dead-looking faces with dead-looking eyes have a mocking expression on their mouths, as if they were "in the know" about something, but whoever thinks he knows something (knowledge puffs up pride), "he knoweth yet nothing as he ought to know" (I Cor 8:2) and there is no special knowledge to boast of or secrets in hell (Luke 12:2). If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing he deceives himself. Many of these disgruntled religious people think they are Christians but they have a spirit of jealousy and envy and rivalry (Phil.1:17), a party spirit making them such a humorless and pompous and self-important little group of snobby Christian pharisees. They have a religious spirit, a form of religion, yes, but they deny G-d's power. They spend all their time looking for the speck in their Charismatic brother's eye, while they don't see the log in their own anti-Charismatic eye. They want a powerless little independent and unaccountable religion of convenience with the emphasis on how learned and correct and faultless such religious specimens as themselves are. In Luke 18 Yeshua says flatly that such are not saved. Read the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee. The Pharisee says, "I thank G-d that I'm not like these other people." Yeshua says that such is not saved. The superiority complex shows as much. But the Publican says, in effect, "I'm the chief of sinners, I'm the worse; if G-d can save me, He can save anybody, I'm no better than anybody."

Do you believe that?

Pray this prayer. G-d of Israel, I now ask Yeshua to be my kaparah (atonement) and my Moshia (Savior) and HaAdon of my life, Moshiach and Immanu-El.

Amen.