

# Word of Prophecy Fellowship



## THE GOOD NEWS - LETTER

### GOD'S STRANGE WORK AND STRANGE ACT

#### Part 1 of 2

The text for this message is a great prophecy found in the 28th chapter of the book of Isaiah, which God is already in the business of fulfilling: “For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, **that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act.** Now therefore be ye not mockers, lest your bands be made strong: for I have heard from the Lord GOD of hosts a consumption, even determined upon the whole earth.” (Isaiah 28:21-22). Isaiah is speaking about this end time, when God will destroy the works of men. God promised that he would never again destroy the earth as he did in the days of Noah—with a cataclysmic flood—but there is coming a time when God will send destruction upon man and consume the whole earth with judgments of another kind, and it will happen near the end of the age in which we are living. Therefore Isaiah says, *Do not be mockers! Do not think that God will not respond to those who mock him!* He will respond, by fulfilling this prophecy with his strange work, and his strange act. Paul warned in Galatians 6:7, “Be not deceived; *God is not mocked*: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

#### CONSUMPTION

How does Isaiah describe God's strange work, and his strange act? “**...I have heard from the Lord God of hosts a consumption, even determined upon the whole earth.**” The word “consumption” means: *a progressive bodily wasting away; the act of consuming, or using up.* Back when I was young, that deadly disease *tuberculosis* was often referred to as “the consumption,” because it would consume a person's lungs and destroy their health, and cause their body to gradually waste away. Now there is a vaccine to help stave off new outbreaks, but tuberculosis is becoming like many other old-time diseases that are returning with renewed strength, as the viruses and bacteria that once caused epidemics are appearing in new, drug-resistant strains. See, the world tried to circumvent the judgments of God through technology and the inventions of impudent scientists; but God is not mocked, and whatever a man sows, he is still going to reap. Galatians 6:8 says if he sows to his flesh, he is going to reap corruption (that means rotten flesh, or consumption). But if he sows to the Spirit, then the Word of God says he will reap life everlasting. Praise God, what a difference!

## ALTERNATIVES

The prophet Isaiah tells us the reason why God has to deal with mankind in this manner (Isaiah 28:20): “For the bed is shorter than that a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it.” Here God is referring to people who are trying to hide their sins and their sinful ways, just like someone trying to hide themselves beneath the scanty coverings of a bed which is too short for them. But you cannot hide from God! People today have invented all kinds of alternatives to serving God, and have come up with many forms of religion that have been brought down to the level of just about any type of individual, and which can accommodate every person's private perception of what is acceptable to God. They like to think that while God may not particularly appreciate what they are doing, they can still “get by” simply because they have a form of religion. Therefore God is preparing to bring his strange work and his strange act to fulfillment, and he will use it to separate the chaff from the wheat. He is going to separate those who serve him from those who do not, and his true saints from those who are mockers. Now I want to show you from both the New and Old Testaments how God will bring this to pass.

## SEVEN SEALS

We will begin in the New Testament book of Revelation, and then come back to the same revelation as it is expressed in the Old Testament. John said, beginning in Revelation 5:1-7, “And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, **sealed with seven seals**. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to

loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.”

## THE LAMB

That Lamb which the Apostle John saw was symbolic of Jesus Christ, and the book with seven seals contains the judgments of God; it is filled with heartaches, and woes, and lamentations. And no man in heaven or earth was worthy to take the book and open it except for Jesus, because the scripture says that God has committed all judgment to the Son (John 5:22). Continuing in Revelation 5:8, “And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb...and they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation...and every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. And the

four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever. 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.”

## FOUR BEASTS

Those four beasts John saw are the heavenly creatures he mentions earlier in Revelation 4:6-8, when he writes, “. . . in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were **four beasts full of eyes before and behind**. And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.” John used the word “beasts” here to typify these angelic beings, but elsewhere in the Bible, in the prophecies of Isaiah and Ezekiel, they are referred to as *cherubims* or *seraphims* (Isaiah chapter 6, Ezekiel chapters 1 and 10). In heaven, the cherubims are stationed nearest to the throne of God, and they are the ones who announce the opening of each of the seven seals, and the judgments of God that follow.

## WHITE HORSE

Now those judgments are beginning! That terrible consumption that Isaiah wrote about has been foreordained by God, and written in a book that Christ himself must open—and has evidently already opened—and now, we know that this strange act and strange work of God is on its way. John goes on to explain how it happens, beginning in 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.” In the past century, more blood has been shed in this nation and the western nations of the world than has been shed in all the wars in history. The 20<sup>th</sup> century was the bloodiest century in recorded history! In World War II alone there were over 70 million people killed. And the rider of that white horse has been given a bow, and is sent forth conquering and to conquer. His bow is typical of the weapons of war, and the weapons of terror. Terrorism is already here! Revolution is in the air! And it is all just carried over from the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

We have had our Hitlers and our Stalins, our Mussolinis and our Titos, our Francos and our Mao Zedongs: they are all dead, but that will not keep these prophecies from being fulfilled, because there are more violent men, more ruthless men on the horizon, men who will rule many nations of the world with dictatorial power. There is something rising today that will be more dramatic than any drama we have seen in the past—the violent operation of violent men and their armies, going forth conquering and to conquer.

## RED HORSE

In Revelation 6:3-4, John goes on to describe the appearance of a second horseman and his rider, which will help the first horseman to bring to pass this terrible world-wide violence. “And when he [Jesus] had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. **And there went out another horse that was red**: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.” Now, this one is worse than the first! The red horse and his rider will stir up old hatreds among different

cultures and religions, and turn them against each other. Barriers of language, geography, and political persuasion which have served to separate the peoples of the earth in past centuries are no longer able to fence in these hatreds and violent intents, and even now they are spilling over: one ethnic group against another, one color against another, one culture against another, one religion against another—the world is full of it, and what is the cause? God is beginning to do his strange work and his strange act! That red horseman is riding today, and he is taking peace from the earth.

## BLACK HORSE

Then John writes, in Revelation 6:5-6, “And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, **and lo a black horse**; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.” Those balances in the hand of the black horse’s rider are symbolic of worldwide famine and its devastating consequences: government rationing, economic collapse, disease, widespread death, and all manner of destruction. And this now leads to the opening of the fourth seal: Death and Hell coming right here upon the earth!

## PALE HORSE

Revelation 6:7 says, “And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked, **and behold a pale horse**: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him.” Death and Hell are literally going to come upon this earth, and this horse and rider symbolize

even greater terror than what we are going to encounter from the riders of the white, red, and black horses. Verse 8: “And power was given unto them [Death and Hell] over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.”

## CAUSES

The important thing to remember is, we cannot resist God in his purpose, or presume to charge him foolishly and say, “God, you are just not going to do these terrible things!” Instead, we have to try to understand God’s motivation, and his causes for sending these judgments, as well as the goals he is trying to accomplish. There are things that God cannot accomplish by just being nice to people. He has already tried that! He has given peace, he has given affluence, he has allowed us to have all kinds of innovations—especially in the western world—and yet people have only become more rebellious, more unbelieving, and more corrupt in their morals and ethics, to where everything in our society and culture has been corrupted. The knowledge of God and the fear of God are scarce in this generation because Americans have become so ignorant of the true word of God.

## BIBLE ILLITERACY

In our nation, ignorance of the Bible has become a national disgrace. Bible illiteracy—people being raised up without a Bible or without the knowledge of God’s true Word—is not just a problem in other nations of the world. America’s public schools have become nothing but hell-holes that teach all kinds of humanistic values and moral relativism, without the morality of the Bible. “Oh, you don’t have to

abstain from sex, just make sure you have *safe sex*,” is what we teach our youth, while teachers and preachers are handing out condoms left and right. “Safe sex” is a hellish doctrine of devils, and neither sex education nor medical science are going to stop the spread of sexually transmitted diseases in this generation. Did you know that AIDS is now killing over 5,000 people every day, and that young people account for half of all new HIV infections? God have mercy! Educators and medical researchers are not going to beat AIDS: it is going to devour millions. And God is going to have the last word. What young people really need is to be turned to the Bible—the blessed old King James Version—and find the knowledge of God!

## ZECHARIAH’S VISION

In the book of Zechariah, we can see that the Old Testament also contains a prophetic revelation of God’s strange work and strange act. The prophet wrote in Zechariah 6:1, “And I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came **four chariots** out from between two mountains; and the mountains were mountains of brass.” This vision found in Zechariah chapter 6 is very similar to John’s vision in Revelation chapter 6. The four horseman of the book of Revelation are preserved in Zechariah’s vision of four chariots, which proceed from between two mountains of brass. Brass, in Bible symbolism, represents God’s fierce judgment, and that judgment is going to absolutely engulf this world with violence, terrorism, revolution, hunger, pestilence and epidemics. These rebels who think they can defy God and break Bible morality and escape the judgment of God are going to have a rude awakening!

## FOUR SPIRITS

Continuing in Zechariah 6:2-5, “In the first chariot were red horses; and in the second chariot black horses; And in the third chariot white horses; and in the fourth chariot grisled and bay horses.” The chariot with grisled and bay horses represents Death and Hell, just as the pale horse and rider of John’s Revelation (ch.8:8). “Then I answered and said unto the angel that talked with me, What are these, my lord? And the angel answered and said unto me, ***These are the four spirits of the heavens***, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth.” These spirits have been up in heaven standing before God and they have been prepared to come down to earth and go forth; the red horses, to take peace from the earth; the black horses, to cause government-enforced rationing, because of the scarcity of the commodities of life; the white horses, conquering and to conquer; and the grisled and bay horses, to bring Death and Hell on the earth. But the greatest significance of Zechariah’s vision is the revelation of where these horses go, and to what parts of the earth they will be sent.

## NORTH COUNTRY

In Zechariah 6:6 the angel said to Zechariah, “The black horses which are therein go forth ***into the north country***.” That means they will go into the countries north of Israel—and that means Russia. And then he said “the white go forth after them.” Both are headed in the same direction. And Russia is where the manifestation of the white horses (representing that spirit of conquest) will primarily originate. We will see this in more detail when we look at Ezekiel 38. But first let us find out how Zechariah’s revelation concludes, in verses 6-

7. He writes, “and the grisled go forth toward the south country. And the bay went forth, and sought to go that they might walk to and fro through the earth: and he said, Get you hence, walk to and fro through the earth. *So they walked to and fro through the earth.*”

## NO LIMITS

Notice how those bay horses, like the pale horse and rider of John’s vision, can walk through the earth wherever they please! “Get you hence, *walk to and fro through the earth.*” This means that Death and Hell are not limited to a single geographic area. Those other horsemen and chariots have some limitations, but Death and Hell—no limitations! God have mercy, what a terrifying situation is coming upon this earth, as God performs his strange act and brings to pass his strange work so that people everywhere will see it, and recognize that God is getting back in business!

## PREPARE WAR

Now let us see what follows, as revealed by another Old Testament author, the prophet Joel. He writes, in Joel 3:9-14, “Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; **Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up.**” Joel was a Jewish prophet, but here he is prophesying to the Gentiles—and that includes America. “Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong.” We can see that this is already happening worldwide! Many third-world countries do not have sufficient technology or raw materials to produce plowshares and pruning hooks, or to build the plows and tractors they need to raise the food necessary to support their own people. So, how will this take place?

The exporting countries—the wealthier, morally corrupt nations that are going to help bring famine to the earth—they will supply arms to the poorer ones. Although there are nations in every part of the world today that barely have enough resources to sustain their economies, many of them already have armies with tanks and guns and planes that have been funneled in through other countries. Why? Because that white horse and his rider are stirring them up to prepare for war!

## THE HEATHEN

This prophecy continues in Joel 6:11-13, which says, “Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD. **Let the heathen be wakened.**” The word “heathen” refers to all the people of the world who do not serve Jesus Christ; and God is sending those four horsemen to waken the heathen to war, to accelerate this time of great trouble that is descending upon us. “Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about. Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great.” God is saying to those four spirits, *Go around, and stir up the heathen, because the extent of their rebellious ways is about to come to an end!*

## GOG AND MAGOG

Now we come to Ezekiel the 38<sup>th</sup> chapter, which shows how the nation of Russia will play an important role in accomplishing God’s strange act and his strange work. Beginning in Ezekiel 38:1-3, “And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face against

Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.” Meshech and Tubal are the ancient names of two great cities in Russia, *Moscow* and *Tobolsk*. And the names **Gog and Magog** are also references to Russia. Magog is a descendent of Noah who was born after the flood. Genesis 10:2 tells us that Noah’s youngest son Japheth had two sons, named Gomer and Magog. After God dispersed all of Noah’s descendants at the tower of Babel, Magog travelled into the land to the north of Israel and began to populate that region. *Gog and Magog* refer both to the nation and to the ancient rulers of what is now Russia.

## RUSSIA’S ALLIES

And who will be accompanying Russia? It will be those other nations in the region, which are almost totally oblivious to the operation of the Spirit of God. Remember, the white and black horses went forth into that north country; and Zechariah 6:8 says, “Behold, these that go toward the north country *have quieted my spirit in the north country.*” That is why the Holy Ghost can do no great work there, because of the influence of those spirits. That also sets the stage for revolution and terrorism to be exported from that part of the world. Iran, Syria, Turkey, Afghanistan... all those terrorist-producing countries are north of Israel. And that is where this terror is going to arise from, which will descend upon Israel like a cloud.

And here, in Ezekiel 38:4-5, God tells us who is going to be allied with Gog and Magog. “And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed

with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: **Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya** with them; all of them with shield and helmet.” Russia’s closest allies in the coming aggressions will mostly consist of Muslims—all those nations and tribes that used to be known as “Arabs”. You can see all this coming to pass today, as Russia exerts its influence over the nations in that region for the purpose of bringing them into alignment with her ultimate goal: the destruction of Israel.

## EUROPEAN ALLIES

Who else will be with Russia? Ezekiel 38:6 says it will be “**Gomer**, and all his bands; the house of **Togarmah** of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee.” Gomer is the brother of Magog, who migrated to Europe and fathered the German-Prussian nations. They will join with Russia, along with the house of Togarmah. Genesis 10:3 tells us that Togarmah was Noah’s great-grandson, and the youngest son of Gomer. His descendants settled in what is now Turkey. These nations and many others are all going to be involved in the great catastrophe that is going to befall the land of Israel: but God will give Israel the victory over it.

## GOD WILL ROAR

All these nations will join Russia to descend upon Israel and crush her, and they will succeed if God does not stop them. But he will intervene before Israel can be destroyed, and men and nations will know that God is the one who is doing it—and that he is still in control. God is going to be sanctified in the eyes of the nations of the world when he does this strange work, and strange act. Right now, he is quiet. But

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Joel 3:16 says when this invasion takes place, *“The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem;* and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.” Praise God!

**This message will be concluded in our  
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## **GOOD NEWS!**

We have just finished updating our website, and we highly recommend that you visit us online ([www.wordofprophecy.org](http://www.wordofprophecy.org)) and see the wonderful changes and improvements that have been made!

Now it is even easier for someone to find an answer when they have questions, or when God is dealing with them in the middle of the night, or when they just need some comfort. You can log onto our website any time and hear the Word of God preached by Bro. Ray Pringle.

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