# The Blessed Hope!

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;" –(Titus 2:13)

## Diamond & Nugget #169

In this Blessed Hope I thought I would shift focus on a more positive thread, after all we are living in some of the most tumultuous times. We are surrounded by skeptics and critics of the Word of God. Recently, a site came out and ridiculed Christians for not taking a greater role in push back against the globalist agenda. They went on to criticize Christians for their lack of activism based upon the Rapture. The site debunked the idea of the Rapture and further criticized believers for not fighting back. This lack of understanding by so many who seem to think they know the Bible better than its Author is common place in the world and is an insult to the Lord Who laughs at such derision of fools.

While we are called to believe and accept the Word of God on "faith" I can tell you that God has been far more generous in planting evidence to confirm His message, means and ways that bring the words of Scripture to life. The year 1948 is a marker point in modern-day Jewish history. On May 14<sup>th</sup>, 1948, Isaiah 66:8 was fulfilled in prophecy. "Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children." God's words in Isaiah 66:8 are like a doctor's defibrillation to the hearts of Christians being brought back to life! One of my former district superintendents once shared with his pastors at a Saturday morning district meeting years ago how it energized his churches in the district.

On November 29, 1947, in an historic event, the UN voted to create the nation of Israel. On this date, Israel was approved to become a nation – an event that was prophesied by God, more than 2000 years before, to one day occur. The people of Israel would not actually declare their independence until the next year on May 14, 1948 and did not finally take over Jerusalem until June 7, 1967 at the end of the 6 Day War – 6 days they fought and the 7th day they rested (67) – occurred on 6/7/1967.

The number 29 in the Bible is very consistently related to the symbolism of the return of the Lord when he comes to free His people. As impossible as it sounds, the Bible's DNA like perfection in numbering reveals that chapter and verse numbers of the Bible can be taken together to have a direct correspondence to messages contained in the text. Norm Patriquin often looks for common patterns in like referenced verses to understand a number's symbolism. Since I have found many historic dates that seem to have

numbers that associate to those same numbers in Biblical symbolism, I recently decided to look at the Bible's nineteen verses that have chapter and verse 11:29 to see if their theme somehow relates to the 11/29/1947 date when Israel took their first step to become a nation. The evidence of these verses being symbolically related to this historic event seems compelling and this article will hopefully demonstrate this possibility. On November 29th, it appears God was clearing the way for Israel to become a nation, and in the Bible's 11:29 verses we see many instances where the Lord seems to be, in various ways, calling and delivering his people.

Although the pattern is not obvious in every 11:29 verse, there is a preponderance of evidence in the text that speaks specifically of the Lord calling out and leading his people to the Promised Land. The Bible's DNA like pattern is so precise that it seems clear these verses are not just about people being delivered, but about the process of delivering them – a pattern that is pretty difficult to dismiss as coincidental.

Below is a list of the most compelling examples of these 19 verses having a reference of chapter 11 and verse 29 themes. Using the examples, you can confirm the pattern for yourself or evaluate them to discern if you see any sort of a pattern in them. Of course, most people's first reaction is that such supposed similarities are likely a result of coincidence - that might be a good explanation except that you can examine like referenced verses throughout the Bible, and for any verse chapter/verse combination, observe a common theme running in them. One such similar pattern that has been noticed and mentioned by many scholars (yet dismissed as coincidence) is the "God so loved the world" like message found in many of the Bible's 3:16 verses (John 3:16, 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 3:16, 1<sup>st</sup> John 3:16, Exodus 3:16, Ruth 3:16, 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 3:16, Joel 3:16...). This is a wondrous pattern you can examine for yourself in your own Bible.

While you are looking at the following list of 11:29 verses (or others you can find in your own Bible), be aware that numbers have both a positive and negative/opposite symbolism, so you will find some 11:29 related text that seems to refer to themes that represent the opposite meaning of being delivered. You might need to read through the list multiple times before the pattern starts to become clear to you. Be discerning, yet open-mined to the mysteries of God, as you examine the evidence.

Jeremiah 32:27 "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is anything too difficult for Me?"

Examples of the Bible's 11:29 verses showing a pattern of God in the process of delivering his people:

Deuteronomy 11:29 "It shall come about, when the LORD your God brings you into the land where you are entering to possess it" (The Lord leading the people out of bondage...to save them)

Judges 11:29 "Now the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, so that he passed through Gilead and Manasseh"...(very similar in nature to the Deuteronomy 11:29 passage)

Daniel 11:29 "At the appointed time he will return and come into the South, ... (the appointed deliverer will come for you)"

Matthew 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS." (The Lord calling His people)

Mark 11:29 Jesus said.."I will ask you one question...then I will tell you by what authority I do these things." (Jesus has come into Jerusalem, cleared the temple, and condemned religious leaders and more – demonstrating how he was delivering his people).

Luke 11:29 ..."This generation is a wicked generation; it seeks for a sign...no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah." (the sign to be given is that He will restore life as He did with Jonah)

John 11:29 "when she heard it, she got up quickly and was coming to Him." (Jesus had returned and was calling for Mary – later in this 1008<sup>th</sup> Bible chapter about being restored (18=9+9 or 2x9), Lazarus was restored to life.)

Act 11:29 "in the proportion that any of them had means, each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren" (a restoring contribution was "determined", not yet sent)

Romans 11:29 "for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable." (again, about God calling those He is, or will, restore)

Hebrews 11:29 "By faith they passed through the Red Sea as though they were passing through dry land" (The Lord delivering His people - again, like the Deuteronomy 11:29 example)

Above are the most compelling ten of a total of the 19 Bible verses with chapter and verse of 11:29. Others not shown here reveal a similar pattern. These examples are not intended as proof of the common theme running through 11:29 verses, but are intended to get you wondering if God could have designed such mysteries into His word? No one set of examples will convince you, but the more examples you observe, the more you will be convinced the patterns cannot be the result of anything but the design of a supernatural and divine and loving God.

It was many years later when I learned that our calendar differs from the Hebrew calendar. As we now know the year 1948 was the Hebrew year of 5708. Fifteen years ago I bought me a large-print King James Bible and I began numbering the verses in

the columns of the text of the Old Testament. Do you know that if we count 5708 verses into the Old Testament, we arrive at Deuteronomy 30:5? This very verse tells us about Israel being restored in the Promised Land. "And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers."

In Matthew 24:30-31, exactly one quarter of the way into the New Testament, we find the first reference to the "Harpazo" or Rapture. "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup>And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

We have hard evidence that God has broken up the Bible into 31 sections of 1000 verses each (31,102 verses - 102 left after the first 31,000). You can count the verses in any King James or similarly structured Bible. At the end of every 1000 verse section is what I call a transitional verse that denotes the end of one section of scripture and the beginning of another. For example, the 4,000<sup>th</sup> Bible verse is Numbers 10:11 where the Cloud moves signaling the exact beginning of Israel's wilderness wandering. In the 2,000<sup>th</sup> verse Exodus 17:16 Amalek is defeated. In the 9,000<sup>th</sup> verse at 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 8:14, the Work of building the temple is complete -- God just then appears in a cloud and enters the temple...all the people are blessed - 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 8:14. In the 24,000<sup>th</sup> verse at Matthew 24:42, Jesus declares for us to be on the alert for "*The Day of the Lord*" (24 hours?). All the other 1,000 verse locations have amazing similar transition verses.

For all these 31 sections to line up on obviously special transitional section marking verses requires a supernatural author. I think this evidence for the Bible's perfection was left by God for us to discover in these last days where Christianity is coming under greater attack. Today, even many believers have serious doubts about how accurate the Bible is...this evidence should help restore Christian's faith in God's Word and the messages and prophecies it contain. There is huge evidence that God has His own DNA structure and design to the Bible. There include multiple Bible Codes, Numerical, Gematria, ELS or Equal Distance Letter Spacing that all speak to the Divine Origin and Authentication means that confirm God is the Author of the Bible. God utilizes Typology as well to visualize its themes and meanings for the reader. In this Blessed Hope we will illustrate how some of these are abundantly placed in the text. Some Bible Codes are in the English text while others are in the Greek or Hebrew text of the Bible.

#### Why is this important: Many reasons including:

Demonstrates the Bible is the Word of God

Shows another set of "God intended" divisions of Scripture.

Demonstrates the Old Testament and New Testament go perfectly together (see Matthew 24:42, the 24,000th Bible verse below.

Helps show the symbolism of numbers 1-31

Helps study the Bible in God defined sections

Is a type of encryption validation that shows nothing has been added or removed from the Bible.

....and many more reasons.

There are 31,102 verses in the Bible...Would you believe these 31,102 verses have very specific transitions in topics and events at precisely every 1000 verse boundary? More incredibly, this pattern is maintained perfectly across the Old and New Testaments. For example, the "23,000<sup>th</sup> verse is Zechariah 8:"23" "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'In those days ten men from all the nations will grasp the garment of a Jew, saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.". This 23,000 transition verse and all verses up until the 23,999<sup>th</sup> verse speak of God coming to be with His people and how He will restore them. This 1000 verse set begins in the Old Testament and ends in the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew where Jesus starts explaining about the coming "Day of the LORD". These 1,000 verse sets appear to be absolute truth the Bible was planned from the beginning as one complete that had two sections, the Old Testament and New Testament.

This 24,000<sup>th</sup> verse is the transition verse from one topic to another. Previous to this verse the text speaks about Jesus life through how He speaks about the day He will return to judge - The Day of the Lord. After this verse (the 24001<sup>st</sup> through the 25,000<sup>th</sup> verse) begins to speak of the death, resurrection and appearances of Jesus again on earth.

When you examine any one of these cross Bible 1000 verse section "transition verses" they may seem a likely coincidence, but when you examine the consistency of all these amazing topic transitions across every 1000 verse, you will know the Bible is the actual supernatural words of God.

### Thirty-One 1000 Multiple Transitional Verses

The following examples of the 31 verses in the Bible whose cross Bible verse numbers fall on one thousand verse boundaries. I call these transitional verses where one season or series of events is ending and another is about to begin. They in effect divide the Bible into 31 sections and are one of the many DNA like numbers guiding interpretation. Note how each of these verses point to significant and transitional events.

**1000**<sup>th</sup> - #1 is about being set apart -- Here, Israel is no longer set apart for God - Genesis 34:19 is the precise verse that speaks of how Israel stopped being a set apart nation and began to unrighteously mix with other peoples. In Genesis 34:19 the young man did not delay to do the thing, because he was delighted with Jacob's daughter... TRANSITION: He was agreeing to the Jews plan for them to live together.

**2000**<sup>th</sup> - The appointed redeemer - The defeat of Amalek and the end of the beginning of the Bible in this precise verse - but the Lord says this battle will go on again and again through generations - Joshua defeats Amalek but The Lord says - Exodus 17:16 ...the LORD will have war against Amalek from generation to generation.

- **3000**<sup>th</sup> God's Holiness God begins to teach Israel about the clean and unclean -- Leviticus 11:2 "...These are the creatures which you may eat..."
- **4000**<sup>th</sup> (MOST\_amazing 1000th verse transition example) Wilderness Wandering and testing begins the cloud moves for the very first time Numbers 10:11 ...the second year, in the second month, on the twentieth of the month, the cloud was lifted from over the tabernacle. ... TRANSITION: In this precise 4000<sup>th</sup> verse, Israel's wilderness wandering actually begins.
- **5000**<sup>th</sup> Consequences Five is about statutes and covenants, blessings and curses consequences for sin Moses pleads to enter the land but is denied. In Deuteronomy 3:24-25 "Let me, I pray, cross over and see the fair land that is beyond the Jordan..."
- **6000**<sup>th</sup> (Amazing 1000th verse transition example) Sin exposed and removed #6 is about sin and turning from sin Israel's sin exposed and articles kept under the ban are laid out before God In Joshua 7:23 They took them from inside the tent...and they poured them out before the LORD. ...
- **7000**<sup>th</sup> Preparing for Godliness 5 men from Dan are sent to spy out the land and ask a Levite priest (Jesus) seek to enter Judges 18:6 The priest said to them, "Go in peace; your way in which you are going has the LORD'S approval."
- **8000**<sup>th</sup> -The Godly are blessed David and his men return from Battle to welcome those too tired to fight to join them -1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 30:21 David came to the two hundred men who were too exhausted to follow...they went out to meet David...then David approached the people and greeted them.
- **9000**<sup>th</sup> (MOST amazing 1000th verse transition example) Work of building the temple is complete -- God appears in a cloud enters it...all the people are blessed—1<sup>st</sup> Kings 8:14 Then the king faced about and blessed all the assembly of Israel.
- **10000**<sup>th</sup> (amazing 1000th verse transition example) The Lord declares judgment on Israel and the exile begins 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 17:16 They forsook all the commandments of the LORD their God and made for themselves molten images...and served Baal...vs 18 "So the LORD was very angry with Israel and removed them from His sight.."
- **11000**<sup>th</sup> David dies, Solomon made king and charged with building the temple -1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles 23:16 (middle of a list of names of Levites being counted).
- **12000**<sup>th</sup> (amazing 1000th verse transition example) Judgment Judah Led Away Captive; and the Babylonian Exile 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 36:6 Nebuchadnezzar ...bound him with bronze chains to take him to Babylon.
- 13000<sup>th</sup> #13 spiritual battle/confusion ... Job 6:21 "Indeed, you have now become such, You see a terror and are afraid...." Notice that you can see 1st Corinthians as

the "love is not" chapter of the Bible - clearing up confusion about what love is.

14000<sup>th</sup> - #14 Jesus the King, Passover.. Psalm 7:4 "If I have rewarded evil to my friend, Or have plundered him who without cause was my adversary,"

15000<sup>th</sup> - #15 related to resurrection - Psalm 71:23 "My lips will shout for joy when I sing praises to You; And my soul, which You have redeemed."

16000<sup>th</sup> - #16 re the Godly - Psalm 119:101 "I have restrained my feet from every evil way, That I may keep Your word."

17000<sup>th</sup> - (flood/blood Lifted Up/Thrown Down) Proverbs 21:15 "The exercise of justice is joy for the righteous, But is terror to the workers of iniquity" .... Number 17 is related to resurrection, lifting up, saving and also the opposite meaning which is justice and punishment for the unsaved. Joseph at age 17 was "resurrected". Jesus rose from the grave on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The flood began on the 17<sup>th</sup> and the ark rested on the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month; The Bible's 171<sup>st</sup> verse is Genesis "7:11" on the seventeenth day of the month.. "the fountains..burst open..the floodgates of the sky were opened;" #17 and water/blood - Again associated with judgment by water, in Exodus "7:17" "I will strike the water that is in the Nile with the staff that is in my hand, and it will be turned to blood;" Acts 17 is a "Resurrection" chapter; The term "The Mystery" occurs 17 times in the Bible; Revelation 17:7 "I will tell the mystery of the woman w/seven heads and ten horns (17?)"; #17 is a #BLOOD number; The 107th chapter; Lev 17:11 "the life of flesh is in the blood.. the blood.. of the life makes atonement;" #17="Flood verses" Psalm 77:17/117 1st verse Clouds poured out water thunder - lightning; #17 = "Flood verse" 17 17th verse/7 70<sup>th</sup> of Proverbs 27:1 you don't know what tomorrow brings. 17 = "Flood verse" 17 07<sup>th</sup> verse -174<sup>th</sup> of Exodus -"7:21" Nile Fish died, water was foul; #17 = "Flood verse" 17<sup>th</sup> verse - Exodus 8:6 Aaron stretched out hands over "waters".... and many more examples. Watch the Bible's 17:17 verses.

**18000**<sup>th</sup> - #18 related to #666 & Sin...Announcing the Lord's return and Judgment to come - Isaiah 18:1-2 To a people feared far and wide, A powerful and oppressive nation whose land the rivers divide.

19000<sup>th</sup> - #19 relating to need for a redeemer? Jeremiah 2:34 "Also on your skirts is found The lifeblood of the innocent poor; You did not find them breaking in. But in spite of all these things,"

**20000**<sup>th</sup> - Anticipation of Jesus return. Jesus the Savior of the World is coming - Jeremiah 43:2 Azariah the son of Hoshaiah, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the arrogant men said to Jeremiah, "You are telling a lie! The LORD our God has not sent you to say, 'You are not to enter Egypt to reside there';"

**21000**<sup>th</sup> - God's wrath on the wicked - (#20 waiting for the promised messiah) Ezekiel 22:23-31 *"And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,...'You are a land that is* 

not cleansed or rained on in the day of indignation.... "I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, so that I would not destroy it; but I found no one. v31 "Thus I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; their way I have brought upon their heads."

22000<sup>th</sup> - (amazing 1000th verse transition example) A curse on the nation of Israel (911?) - (#22 Jesus the Lamb of God) Daniel 9:11 "all Israel has transgressed Your law and turned aside, not obeying Your voice; so the curse has been poured out on us...for we have sinned against Him."

**23000**<sup>th</sup> - (Amazing 1000th verse transition example) (#23 God with us, where two or three are gathered) Before the Day of the Lord people from all nations seek protection with the Jews - Zechariah 8:23 "Ten men from all nations seek to go with the Jews for God was with them"

24000<sup>th</sup> - (MOST amazing 1000th verse transition example) (#24 the "DAY" of the LORD") - Matthew 24:42 Believers taken up and a warning of the coming Day of the Lord - Matthew 24:40 "...two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left....Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left....(24,000<sup>th</sup>) verse 42 "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. ...(see also the 31,000th verse -- Rapture, catching up?)

**25000**<sup>th</sup> - (amazing 1000th verse transition example) (#25 appearances of Jesus on earth - IE Christmas) **The firstborn male baby Jesus presented at the temple -** Luke 2:26 "And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ."

**26000**<sup>th</sup> - **(#26 God?)** Disciples realize for the first time Jesus has risen! - Luke 24:8 *"And they remembered His words."* 

**27000**<sup>th</sup> - The Disciples begin to preach and heal the Gospel message (witness-27=72) - Acts 3:3 "When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he began asking to receive alms."

**28000**<sup>th</sup> - (#28 Jesus the redeemer) Jews warned all are guilty under sin - Romans 3:8...Their condemnation is just.... v9... both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; v10..."THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;"

**29000**<sup>th</sup> - (#29 related t 99/999 waiting for Jesus return) Paul will continue to preach the truth and battle those who keep people from God – 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 11:10 "As the truth of Christ is in me, this boasting of mine will not be stopped"

**30000**<sup>th</sup> - Jews are called to consider Jesus - Hebrews 3:3-4 "For He has been counted worthy...the builder of the house has more honor than the house."

(30,000<sup>th</sup>) verse 4 "For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God."

31000<sup>th</sup> - (amazing 1000th verse transition example) The faithful in Israel were just called out and now judgment is about to begin (like the 24,000th verse) - Revelation 18:4 "I heard another voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues;" (31,000<sup>th</sup>) Revelation 18:6 "Pay her back even as she has paid..."

The 500<sup>th</sup> Bible chapter - The Jubilee chapter, Psalm 22 the 500<sup>th</sup> where Jesus pays for our sins -The year of Jubilee is every 50<sup>th</sup> year and 500 is an intense form of the number 50 thus pointing out with the cross Bible chapter number that Jesus has freed us through his action on the cross. Jubilee is explained in Leviticus 25:10 "You shall thus consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim a release through the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, and each of you shall return to his own property, and each of you shall return to his family." Psalm 22 is one of the most famous chapters in the Old Testament that point to Jesus on the Cross. Not likely coincidence that it is the 500<sup>th</sup> Bible chapter.

The 1000<sup>th</sup> Bible chapter is John chapter 3 who many would agree might be the most popularly read chapter of the Bible and the one that has the primary verse on Salvation – John 3:16 "for God so loved the World…". This is the exact 1000th chapter and Josephus said number one thousand was God's number of perfection. Another significance of a key Bible chapter that you would think would be difficult to quickly dismiss as coincidence.

There are at least twenty-one different chapter 5, verse 24 passages where Rapture or Catching Up and Away From Judgement - Or Judgment Related!

Ten years ago I wrote an eBook 'The Season of the Rapture: God's Three-Fold Witness'. God revealed His Message to humanity in three forms:

- 1. Gospel in Stone
- 2. Gospel in the Stars
- 3. Gospel in the Written Word

If you click on the link below, it will take you to Chapter 1. Once you open the link below scroll down to pages 13-16. This is one of the greatest proofs in the Bible's credibility. The focus is on the words of Isaiah 19:19-20. The Gematria [numerical value] of the 30 Hebrew words in Isaiah 19:19-20 is = 5,449. 5,449 also is equal to the height of the uncapped Pyramid in British inches. Need I say that this does not seem to be another coincidence?

The Season of the Rapture, Part 1

In researching Jewish thought on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av and its future events and meanings, I have discovered a lot more than just the curse of this date and all the Biblical history concerning events that confirm it is an important date for Jews. One of the surprises that lend to its importance as a potential Rapture date was considered to be the happiest and most important Jewish festival in ancient times. It also stressed that unlike all the other festivals, it was forward looking to an as yet unfulfilled event ...the wedding of the Messiah.

The 9<sup>th</sup> of Av has many traditions associated with it that are parallels for the Rapture. One of the most compelling is that the Jews while wandering in the desert were according to the Midrash commanded by Moses to sleep in their graves as punishment for not believing the spies who were sent to scout out the Promised Land. The Jews who slept in their graves each year would arise from their graves and discover that 15,000 of the older generation had died in the night. This continued to happen until all of the older generation had died off. It was decreed that Israel should not enter the Promised Land according to *Taanit 29a*, in Numbers 13:25. The 9<sup>th</sup> of Av was celebrated because they knew that at long last they were freed from the curse of the grave and now free to enter the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua.

Among the details of ancient traditions although sketchy hints the Sages of old saw signs of "promise" arising out of those forty years of wandering in the wilderness. The 9<sup>th</sup> of Av commemorates when all the chosen people rose from their graves alive! When no one had died in their graves thus signifying that at last they were free to enter the Promised Land! As God was punishing them for their disobedience, we have a word-picture of Typology implying their Messiah would deliver them from the curse of the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av. The Messiah comes to redeem Israel from her state of (spiritual and physical) bondage, is like a groom to his bride. He reveals Himself to His bride and betroths her on the 15<sup>th</sup> of Av.

Wedding Typology theme is a central picture of God's love story for His people throughout the Bible. The Jews celebrated by allowing the virgins to dress in white and dance in the vineyards to attract husbands. The tribe of Benjamin was allowed to snatch brides on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av and that the word "snatched" is that of our word for Rapture - "harpazo"! The Promised Land is a picture of Heaven. The name Jesus is a cognate of Joshua. This early biblical Hebrew name יְהוֹשֶׁעַ (Yehoshua) underwent a shortening into later biblical יֵשׁוּעַ (Yeshua 'IY'shua'), as found in the Hebrew text. Who was it who led the Israelites into the Promised Land? It was Joshua and it will be their Messiah Jesus of Nazareth that will bring them home!

In many conservative and Ultra-orthodox communities of Judaism, the celebration of the 9<sup>th</sup> Av became closely associated with courtship, marriage and the triumph of life over death. And some rabbis link it with marriage of the Messiah. After the Jews had entered the Promised Land, each year the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av was celebrated as one of the most important holidays. It was a time of their greatest, happiest celebration yet it occurred in the month that was considered the lowest, solemnest of the year!

The Typology word-pictures supports the view that there is no closer parallel to the Rapture than the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av and with Dr. Barry Awe's presentation on the New Wine Pentecost, it alludes to the Rapture of the Bride of Christ, the Church. The Bible writers expressed promise-shaped typology. As Dr. Barry Awe discovered that if we are sincerely watching the Jewish feasts and festivals, shouldn't we all be watching the same festival that the Jewish sages say is the festival that celebrates the future wedding of the Messiah?

When asked by King Louis XIV of France to provide proof of God's existence, Blaise Pascal responded, "Why the Jews, Your Majesty, the Jews!" (The same statement is ascribed to insightful individuals in England and Russia.) The point is that in spite of their suffering, the Jews are still here. Their very presence proves that God's promises are "Yes and Amen" (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1:20).

And, although Satan was the instigator of all those historic tragedies, God repeatedly turned ashes into beauty for the Jewish people. He did that through Joseph's life. He did it again through Ruth. He will do it again when yet another threatened catastrophe will lead the Jewish people to cry out, "Baruch haba b'shem Adonai" — Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the LORD". That prophecy in Luke 13:35 points forward to a time that will lead up to Jesus' glorious Second Coming, His establishment of the Millennial Kingdom, and His reign from David's throne on Mount Zion in Jerusalem.

The Cross represents another historic catastrophe from which came victory for God. Following Jesus' death, His disciples despaired. When the Shepherd was arrested and then struck down, they scattered — just as He had foretold. Peter had denied Him three times, in spite of his own vehement profession of allegiance. The death of God's own Son seemed to represent an unprecedented victory for Satan and unmitigated disaster for the people of God.

God turned that tragedy into the greatest victory in human history. The disgrace of the Cross became our freedom from sin. The humiliation of Christ's shameful death became the Good News that we call the Gospel — because it provides the salvation of God to all who believe.

The 9th of Av will fall on July 26<sup>th</sup> this year. Jewish people will spend the day reflecting and mourning. The Christian sacrament of Communion offers us a regular opportunity to reflect and mourn — but our mourning is surmounted by the joy we have in knowing that Jesus lives. As Dr. Dave Reagan has pointed out, Death could not hold Him. The tomb could not keep Him. Satan could not lock Him away.

When Jesus stood in the synagogue in Nazareth, He read from Isaiah 61:1 and the first half of verse 2:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent ME to bind up the brokenhearted, to

proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners; to proclaim the favorable year of the LORD...

Jesus stopped reading at that point, sat down, and said to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" -(Luke 4:16-21). At that moment, the rest of verse 2 and all of verse 3 still awaited fulfillment:

"...and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn in Zion, giving them a garland instead of ashes; the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."

World events do not bode well for Israel presently, and they have had good reason to doubt the ability of the U.S. to guarantee its peace and security. The convoluted geopolitical thinking has to be unnerving to the Israeli government, especially with recent evidence that Iran continues to develop its nuclear ability to strike a blow to Israel. The Bible assures us that will not be the case; however, Ezekiel 38 looms in the shadows of Israel's survival.

I believe that the Rapture will strike fear in the heart of every Jew driving them to their knees and in desperation they will as Luke 13:35 says, "Baruch haba b'shem Adonai" — Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the LORD". The Typology of the Bride Motif is so pronounced in the Bible that all can see it if they open their eyes.

The Bible discusses Types and Symbols as I have discussed previously in other articles.

The categorization of Biblical Types can be classified: Typical Persons, Offices, Events, Places, Objects, Offerings, and Occasions. The use of Types in the Bible becomes clearer when you do Word Studies in the Bible. Some are more explicit than others, such as the use of the "Lamb". We find that the word "Lamb" is found **105X** times in **98** verses of the King James Bible. Interestingly, both the number of times and number of verses are also divisible by "seven".

There are many advantages of teaching and preaching from Biblical Types:

- Types teach the Word of God
- Typological preaching holds interest
- It establishes the unity of the Testaments
- It undergirds the doctrine of inspiration
- It lends itself to the use of visuals
- It teaches most Biblical truths pictorially
- It illuminates otherwise uninteresting Old Testament passages
- It captures interest of children in the Old Testament
- Most types are evangelistic

The Typology of the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av has a "blessing within the curse" and as I pointed out in a previous Blessed Hope, I sub-titled that particular segment, focusing on what is a largely obscured or hidden dualism. Ancient Jewish sources allude to the fact that the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av is related to the birth of their Messiah. That reference has been associated with the birth of Jeremiah on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av.

Dr. Barry Awe did a presentation, actually a couple presentations, alluding to the idea of a wedding motif and the New Wine Pentecost occurring on the 8<sup>th</sup> of Av, or the day before the most feared date by the Jews. This picture of a wedding the day before the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av intimates that Jesus Christ could call His Bride home in the Rapture as well as send a message to the Jews that could strike terror and fear into the religious community of Israel. Keep in mind, most Jews, 80% at least are secular in nature and ignorant as to the larger picture of their national judgment and punishment for failing to follow God's lead with Caleb and Joshua. Joshua and Caleb were the two spies who brought back a good report and believed that God would help them succeed. They were the only men from their generation permitted to go into the Promised Land after the time of wandering.

The Twelve Spies, as recorded in the Book of Numbers, were a group of Israelite chieftains, one from each of the Twelve Tribes, who were dispatched by Moses to scout out the Land of Canaan for 40 days as a future home for the Israelite people, during the time when the Israelites were in the wilderness following their Exodus from Ancient Egypt. The account is found in Numbers 13:1–33, and is repeated with some differences in Deuteronomy 1:22–40.

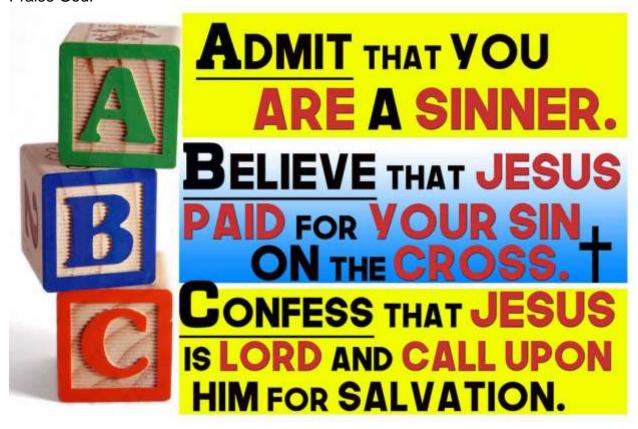
God had promised Abraham that there would be a Promised Land for the nations to come out of his son, Isaac. The land of Canaan that the spies were to explore was the same Promised Land. Moses asked for an assessment of the geographic features of the land, the strength and numbers of the population, the agricultural potential and actual performance of the land, civic organization (whether their cities were like camps or strongholds), and forestry conditions. He also asked them to be positive in their outlook and to return with samples of local produce.

We know from various sources such as C.J. Lovik, Mark Biltz, and other Bible chronologists that humanity is are at the end of the 120 Jubilee ( $120 \times 50 = 6,000 \text{ years}$ ) cycles, or at least closing in on the Great Tribulation, where God can deal with the disobedient "chosen" ones. We can conclude from the threads of evidence that we can expect to be Raptured out of here on one of the two dates below. I continued to think the  $9^{th}$  of Av is the more probable for reasons I have noted in this and previous Blessed Hope segments.

The "Key" days are: 9th of Av on July 26th and Rosh HaShanah on September 15th.

Days to July 26<sup>th</sup> as of 7/11/23 – 15 Days Days to September 15<sup>th</sup> as of 7/11/23 – 66 Days

#### Praise God!



Blessings in the Precious Name of Jesus Christ,

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