

New Hope Chapel
Sunday, August 26, 2012

Apocalypse Now? Interpreting Biblical Prophecy - Part 1

Three key principles of biblical prophecy.

Principle #1 _____

Principle # 2 _____

Principle #3 _____

Daniel 7

1. Four beasts came up out of the sea

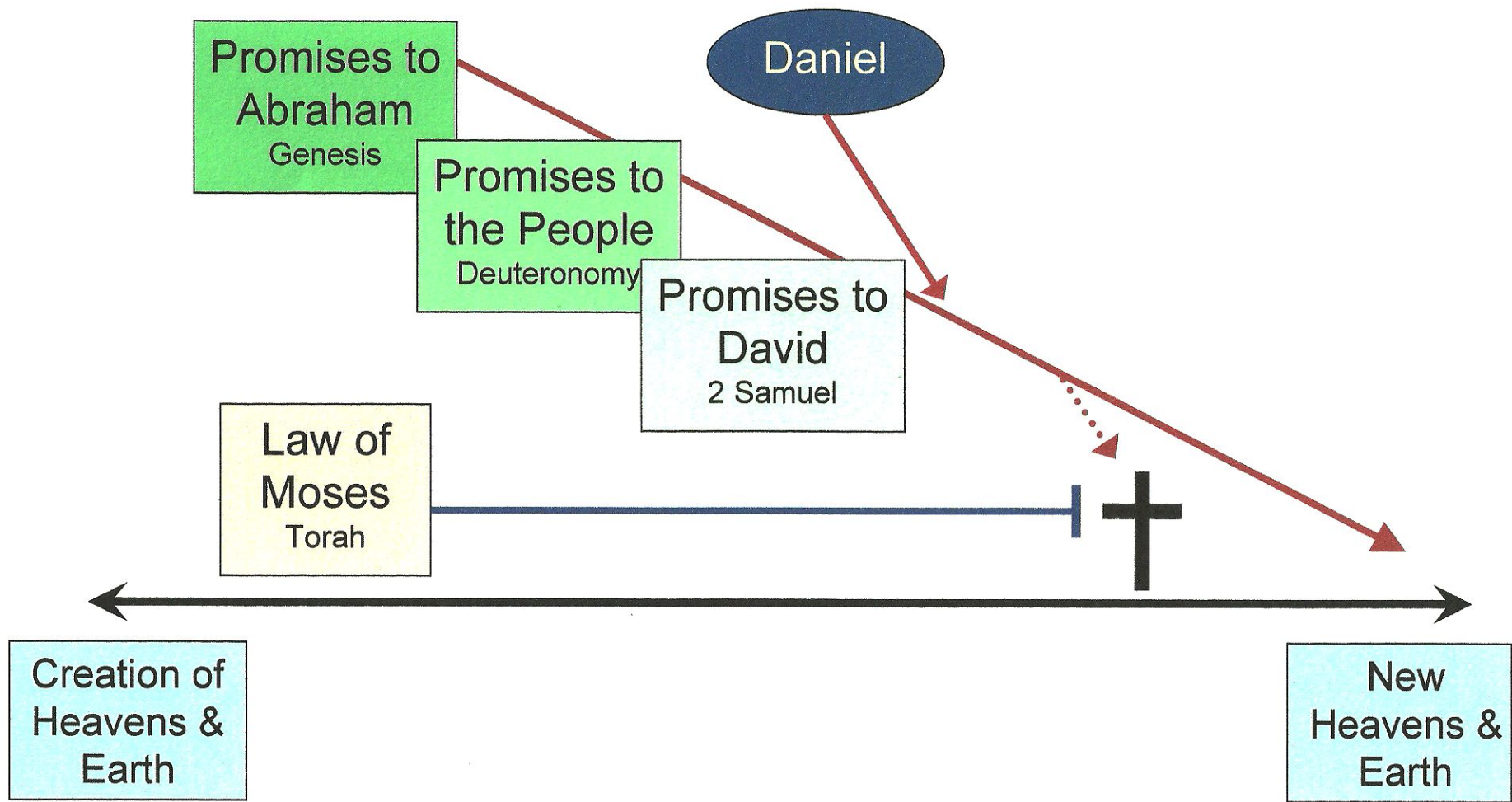
- _____ with wings like an eagle
- _____, raised up on one side, with three ribs in his mouth
- _____ with four wings and four heads
- Terrifying beast with iron teeth and ten horns

2. A little _____ came up among the ten horns and uprooted three

3. Forth beast is killed and thrown into the fire

4. Interpretation: the beasts were four kingdoms that will rise, but the people of God will ultimately possess the kingdom forever

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The Promises to Abraham in Genesis

("Abrahamic Covenant")

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Aspect 1</u> The many natural descendants (Jewish nation)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will make you into a great nation (Genesis 12:2) • I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth (Genesis 13:16) • Count the stars ... So shall your offspring be (Genesis 15:5) • I ... will greatly increase your numbers (Genesis 17:2, 4-7) • Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation (Genesis 18:18) • I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore (Genesis 22:17)
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Aspect 2</u> The land (Canaan)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To your offspring I will give this land (Genesis 12:7) • All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever (Genesis 13:15) • I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it (Genesis 15:7) • To your descendants I give this land (Genesis 15:18) • The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you (Genesis 17:8) • Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies (Genesis 22:17)
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Aspect 3</u> The universal blessing (The Savior, Jesus Christ, available to individuals from all nations through faith)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All peoples on earth will be blessed through you (Genesis 12:3) • All nations on earth will be blessed through him (Genesis 18:18) • Through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed (Genesis 22:18)

The Promises to the Children of Israel in Deuteronomy

(“Palestinian Covenant”)

Deuteronomy 29:1 through 30:10

- They will eventually turn their backs on the Lord to follow other Gods
- God will remove them from the land and disperse them
- He will restore them to the land and make them more numerous and prosperous than their fathers
- He will “circumcise [their] hearts and the hearts of [their] descendants,” so that they will love God with all their heart and soul

The Promises to David in Second Samuel

(“Davidic Covenant”)

2 Samuel:7:1-17

- The Children of Israel will be given rest from all their enemies
- David’s throne established forever
- From his offspring a king will occupy the throne forever

Some Related Promises

1. Jeremiah 31-33 (Promise of the “New Covenant”)

Promises salvation for the nation Israel

Example text--chapter 31:33-34

“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD.

“I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God, and they will be my people.

No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’

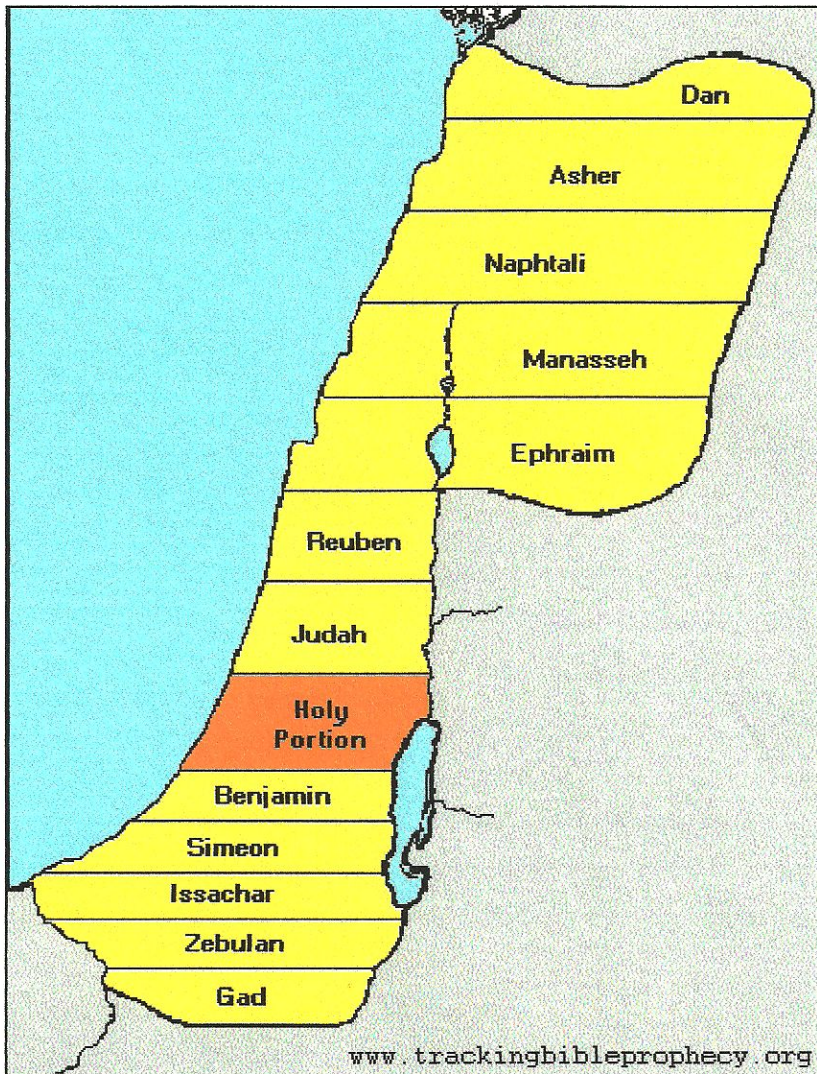
because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD.

“For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

2. Ezekiel 36:16 through 37:28 and 47:13 through 48:35

Reinforces promises regarding possession of the land, the new heart from Jeremiah 31, and the permanent king to rule Israel (on David’s throne)

Millennial Land Allotment - Ezekiel 47:15-21



Note that all of the sets of promises to Israel (i.e., covenants) discussed above are called eternal. The Mosaic Law ("Mosaic Covenant") is declared to be temporary, continuing only until the coming of the Messiah.

- (1) The Abrahamic Covenant is called "eternal" in Genesis 17:7, 13, 19; I Chronicles 16:17; Psalm 105:10;
- (2) The Palestinian Covenant is called "eternal" in Ezekiel 16:60;
- (3) The Davidic Covenant is called "eternal" in II Samuel 23:5; Isaiah 55:3; and Ezekiel 37:25; and
- (4) The New Covenant is called "eternal" in Isaiah 24:5; 61:8; Jeremiah 32:40; 50:5; and Hebrews 13:20.6

Some Prophecies of Jesus' First Coming--Fulfilled Literally

He would be from the tribe of Judah
(Genesis 49:8-10; Hebrews 7:14; Revelation 5:5)

He would be a descendent of David.
(2 Samuel 7:4-5,12-13; 1 Chronicles 17:11-14; Psalm 132:11; Luke 1:32-33,67-69; Acts 2:29-30; Matthew 1:17; Romans 1:3)

He would be born in Bethlehem
(Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:4-6; John 7:42)

His name would be Immanuel. Immanuel in Hebrew means "God with us."
(Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:21-23)

He would be rejected by His own people Israel (corporately).
(Psalm 69:8; 31:11; 88:8,18; Job 19:13; John 1:11; 7:3,5)]

The ministry of Jesus would be in Galilee.
(Isaiah 9:1-2; Matthew 4:12-16,23)

His ministry would be to heal the sick, set the captives free, and preach deliverance. (Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 4:16-21; Matthew 4:23; 9:34-35; Acts 2:22)

He would ride into Jerusalem on a donkey.
(Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:5)

He would die for our sins.
(Isaiah 53:5; 1 Corinthians 15:3; 1 Peter 2:24)

He would die with the transgressors.
(Isaiah 53: 12; Mark 15:27-28)

He didn't open his mouth when accused.
(Isaiah 53:7; Matthew 26:63-64; 27:12-14)

He would rise from the dead.
(Psalm 16:10; Luke 24:6,31,34; Acts 2:27-31; 13:35)

He would ascend into Heaven.
(Psalm 68:18; Acts 1:9; Luke 24:50-51)

Some Prophecies of Jesus' Second Coming

1) The Psalms

- *Psalm 67*— The psalmist speaks prophetically of the time when the nations of the world will *"be glad and sing for joy."* This will be when the Lord comes to *"judge the peoples with uprightness."* He will *"guide the nations on the earth"* so that *"all the ends of the earth may fear Him."*
- *Psalm 110*— David says a time will come when God will make the enemies of the Messiah a footstool under His feet. This will occur when the Messiah stretches forth His *"strong scepter from Zion."* At that time He will *"rule in the midst of His enemies,"* for... *"He will shatter kings in the day of His wrath, He will judge among the nations."*

2) Isaiah

- *Isaiah 2:1-4*— Isaiah says that *"in the last days"* the Messiah will reign from Mount Zion in Jerusalem and the entire world will experience peace.
- *Isaiah 9:6-7*— The Messiah will rule from the throne of David, giving the world a government of peace, justice, and righteousness.
- *Isaiah 24:21-23*— When the Messiah returns, He will punish Satan and his demonic hordes in the heavens and then will punish *"the kings of the earth, on earth."* He will then *"reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem"*

3) Jeremiah

- *Jeremiah 23:5*— *"Behold, the days are coming," declares the Lord, 'when I shall raise up for David a righteous Branch; and He will reign as king and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the land.'"* (Note: The term, "Branch," is a Messianic title.)

4) Ezekiel

- *Ezekiel 39:21-29*— The Lord says that following the battle of Armageddon (verses 17-20), *"I will set My glory among the nations; and all the nations will see My judgment which I have executed, and My hand which I have laid on them."*
- *Ezekiel 43:7*— While being given a tour of the future Millennial Temple, Ezekiel is told by the Lord: *"Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet; where I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever."*

5) Daniel

- *Daniel 7:13-14, 18, 27*— Daniel says he was given a vision in which he saw the Messiah ("*Son of Man*") given dominion over all the earth by God the Father ("*the Ancient of Days*"). And then he adds in verses 18 and 27 that

the kingdom is shared *"with the saints of the Highest One,"* and they are allowed to exercise sovereignty with Him over *"all the kingdoms under the whole heaven."*

6) Hosea

- *Hosea 3:4-5* — The Jews will be set aside *"for many days,"* but a time will come *"in the last days"* when they *"will return and seek the Lord their God and David their king."*

7) Joel

- *Joel 3:14-17,21* — Joel says that following the battle of Armageddon (verses 14-16), the Lord will dwell *"in Zion, My holy mountain."* In verse 17 He identifies Zion as the city of Jerusalem.

8) Micah

- *Micah 4:1-7* — Micah repeats in greater detail the prophecy contained in Isaiah 2. Like Isaiah, he says the Lord will make Jerusalem the capital of the world. The world will be flooded with peace and prosperity. All believing Jews will be regathered to Israel, and *"the Lord will reign over them in Mount Zion."*

9) Zephaniah

- *Zephaniah 3:14-20* — This entire book is devoted to a description of the day the Lord will return to the earth in vengeance. The prophet says that at the end of that day, when the Lord's enemies have been destroyed, the Jewish remnant will shout in triumphant joy because *"the King of Israel, the Lord,"* will be in their midst.

10) Zechariah

- *Zechariah 6:12-13* — When the Messiah (*"the Branch"*) returns, He will build a temple and *"rule on His throne,"* and the offices of priest and king will be combined in Him. Thus, *"He will be a priest on His throne."*
- *Zechariah 8:2-3* — The Lord promises that when He returns to Zion, He will *"dwell in the midst of Jerusalem,"* and Jerusalem will be called *"the city of Truth."*<
- *Zechariah 14:1-9* — The Messiah will return to the Mount of Olives. The Mount will split in half when His foot touches it, and the Jewish remnant left alive in Jerusalem will flee the city and hide in the cleavage of the Mount. Verse 9 says that on that day, *"the Lord will become king over all the earth."*