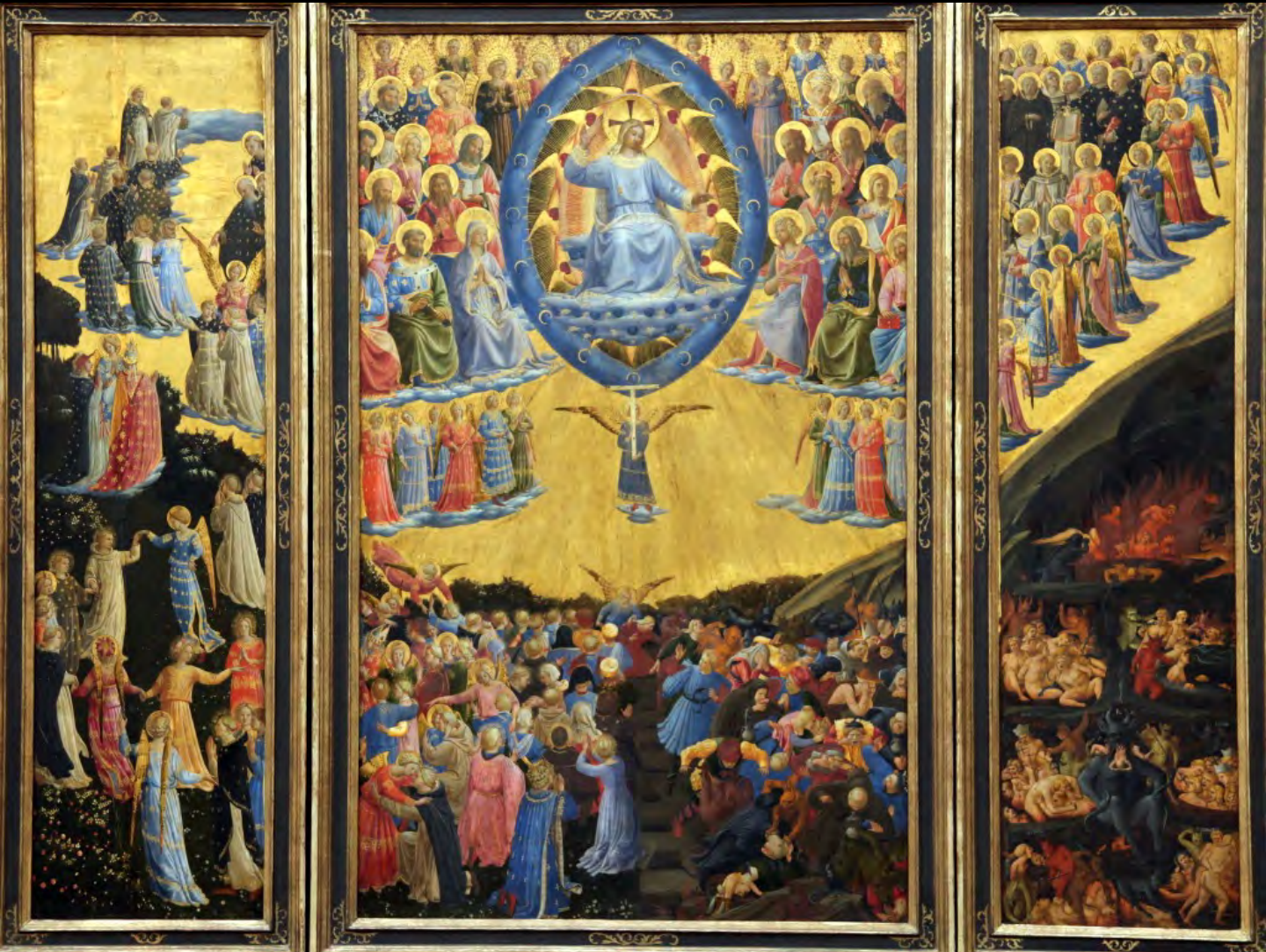


# Pentwater Bible Church

*Revelation Message 31*

*April 14, 2024*



The Last Judgment by Fr Angelico Cir 1435-1440

Daniel E. Woodhead – Pastor Teacher



# Pentwater Bible Church

Bulletin April 14, 2024

## Pentwater Bible Church

Pentwater Bible Church is a non-denominational Christian Church dedicated to teaching the Bible as fact. We strive to learn God's Will for this world and us as individuals through a clear line-by-line verse-by-verse exposition of the entire Bible.

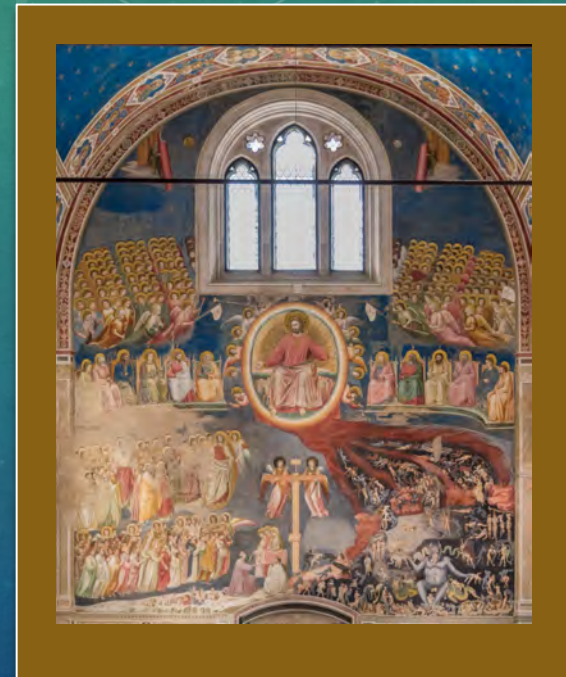
It is our desire to draw ever closer to the Lamb of God, Jesus Our Creator and Messiah. It is only through Him that redemption can be found.

Verse-by-Verse we draw closer to God and experience true freedom in the truth of His Word.



My sheep hear  
my voice, and I  
know them, and  
they follow me:  
John 10:27

Daniel E. Woodhead, Pastor



The Last Judgment by, Giotto Cir 1304-1305

*Learning God's Word One Verse at a Time*

# Dentwater Bible Church



## Announcements and What to Pray for:

Pray for an end to the war in Israel. Pray for the Christians stuck in Afghanistan, and Afghanistan. Pray for rescue efforts. God's Seminary Students, Our Elected Officials. The Lord's guidance received on our elected officials. For all the people who connect in with us through our on-line broadcasts and listen to and read our messages via the internet. Our children and their walk with God. Silent prayer requests. Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6),

## Next Week:

THE BOOK OF REVELATION MSG 32 CAMPAIGN OF ARMAGEDDON

Sermon audio: Doctorwoodhead  
Blog: doctorwoodhead Blog

UTube TV Shows Posted Weekly; Daniel Woodhead UTube  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/danwoodhead>

Join our Service Online. Here is the New Link.  
<http://tinysa.com/live/doctorwoodhead>

Share Your Church With Others

*Sunday April 14, 2024*

*11:00 AM*

Introduction Music: The First Christians  
Zola Levitt

Announcements & Prayer Requests

Opening Prayer:

Hymn #1: Break Thou The Bread of Life  
Mrs. Annie S. Hawks

Communion: Remembering Our Lord

Hymn #2: As The Deer  
Martin Nystrom

MESSAGE: THE CITY OF REFUGE

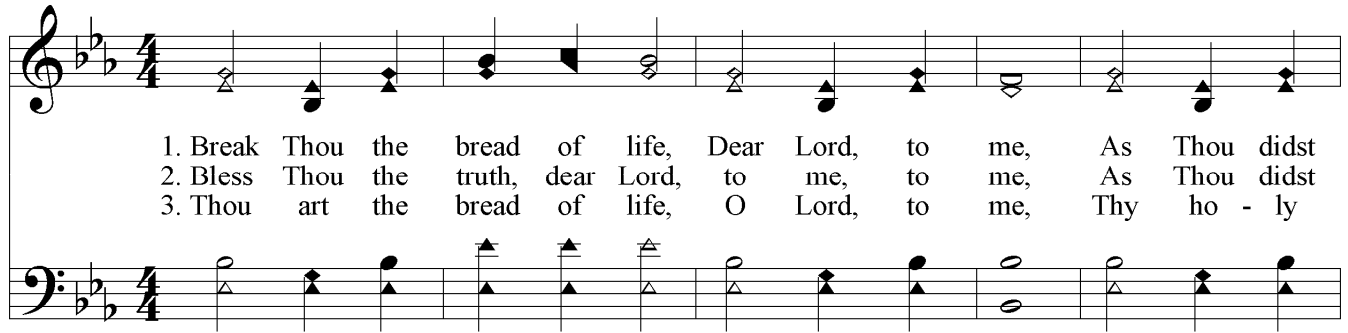
Hymn #3: God of Our Fathers  
Daniel C. Roberts

Hymn #4: To God Be The Glory  
Fanny Crosby

Closing Music: Yeshua  
Zola Levitt

SING: All Three Verses

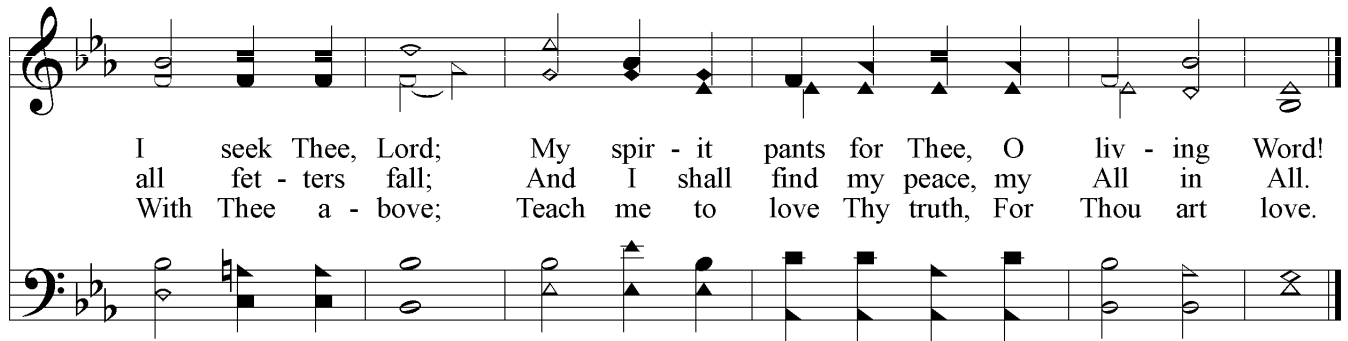
## BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE



1. Break Thou the bread of life, Dear Lord, to me, As Thou didst  
2. Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me, As Thou didst  
3. Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me, Thy ho - ly



break the loaves Be - side the sea; Be - yond the sa - cred page,  
bless the bread by Gal - i - lee; Then shall all bond - age cease,  
Word the truth That sav - eth me; Give me to eat and live



I seek Thee, Lord; My spir - it pants for Thee, O liv - ing Word!  
all fet - ters fall; And I shall find my peace, my All in All.  
With Thee a - bove; Teach me to love Thy truth, For Thou art love.

AS THE DEER (From Psalm 42)  
Songwriter Martin J. Nystrom

As the deer panteth for the water  
So my soul longeth after Thee  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee  
You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee  
As the deer panteth for the water  
So my soul longeth after Thee  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee  
You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee  
You're my friend  
And You are my brother  
Even though You are a King  
I love You more than any other  
So much more than anything  
You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee



# Pentwater Bible Church

Revelation Message Thirty-One

THE PLACE OF REFUGE

April 14, 2024

Daniel E. Woodhead

Now we come to the protection and provision God makes for the Remnant that encompasses the cities of refuge. We will see that Petra in Jordan is one of these.

God is here promising to preserve the Remnant in the midst of the Antichrist's persecutions of the Tribulation.

Isaiah 41:8-16

*<sup>8</sup>But thou, Israel, my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend, <sup>9</sup>thou whom I have taken hold of from the ends of the earth, and called from the corners thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant, I have chosen thee and not cast thee away; <sup>10</sup>Fear thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. <sup>11</sup>Behold, all they that are incensed against thee shall be put to shame and confounded: <sup>12</sup>they that strive with thee shall be as nothing, and shall perish. Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contend with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought. <sup>13</sup>For I, Jehovah thy God, will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee. <sup>14</sup>Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith Jehovah, and thy Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel. <sup>15</sup>Behold, I have made thee to be a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth; thou shalt thresh the mountains, and beat them small, and shalt make the hills as chaff. <sup>16</sup>Thou shalt winnow them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them; and thou shalt rejoice in Jehovah, thou shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel (ASV).*

God also makes a provision for the remnant during the Tribulation since anyone not receiving the mark of the Beast is unable to purchase or sell goods and services. Isaiah 41:17-20 states the means by which God will accomplish this provision.

Isaiah 41:17-20

*<sup>17</sup>The poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst; I, Jehovah, will answer them, I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them. <sup>18</sup>I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. <sup>19</sup>I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, and the myrtle, and the oil-tree; I will set in the desert the fir-tree, the pine, and the box-tree together: <sup>20</sup>that they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of Jehovah hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it (ASV).*

Just as God provided for the Jews in their wilderness wandering during the Exodus He will do the same miraculous provisioning during the Tribulation for them. This second passage demonstrates that God will withhold His provisions from the non-remnant.

#### GOD PRUNES HIS PEOPLE

Isaiah 65:8-16

*<sup>8</sup>Thus saith Jehovah, As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith, Destroy it not, for a blessing is in it: so will I do for my servants' sake, that I may not destroy (ASV, 1901).*

In verse 8, God uses the illustration of pruning grape vines. He says “do not destroy even a single cluster of grapes on a vine-stem that stem, but spare it.” The speaker could be the one that supervises the pruners, or the owner of the vine speaking to his servant. By sparing the vine because there is life and sap in it, it may grow and bring forth more fruit. Likewise, God says He will do the same thing when He is engaged in large scale “pruning” of people and He sees even a small promise of a person bearing good fruit. This is comforting to the truly godly and gracious people that might be distressed seeing God’s impending judgments of wrath and destruction.

#### THE REMNANT WILL BE SAVED

Isaiah 65:9–10

*<sup>9</sup>And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains; and my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there. <sup>10</sup>And Sharon shall be a fold of flocks, and the valley of Achor a place for herds to lie down in, for my people that have sought me (ASV, 1901).*

Returning to Isaiah, the threats of the first seven verses in this chapter appeared to state that God was going to wipe the children of Jacob off the map, but that impression is incorrect. He clearly states that the entire nation of Israel will produce “seeds” who are chosen by Him to be saved to enter the Messianic kingdom. Those who trust God will be blessed by God (to possess, inherit) and be a blessing to others.

In verse 9, “Sharon” and “the valley of Achor” represent the extent of God’s blessings in several ways. Geographically, “Sharon” is a region on the Mediterranean coast in the west of Israel, whereas “Achor” is in the far eastern part. They both stand for the entire land in an east-west orientation. (Dan to Beersheba stands for a north-south orientation). “Sharon” is a fertile plain that is associated with the fruitfulness of the land, whereas “the valley of Achor” is a barren wadi that is most famous as the location of the stoning of Achan (Joshua 7:24–26). Isaiah has envisioned a devastated Sharon as a result of God’s judgment (Isaiah 33:9), followed by its renewal (Isaiah 35:2). Hosea used Achor to symbolize God’s transformation of a bad memory to a place of hope

(Hosea 2:15). In addition to the geographical perspective, these two sites symbolize God's power to overcome the past and bring about new Millennial life.

#### WOE TO THE UNSAVED

##### Isaiah 65:11–12

*<sup>11</sup>But ye that forsake Jehovah, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for Fortune, and that fill up mingled wine unto Destiny; <sup>12</sup>I will destine you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter; because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but ye did that which was evil in mine eyes, and chose that wherein I delighted not (ASV, 1901).*

Verses 11-12 spell out the opposite of seeking the Lord. In verse 11, “*arranging tables*” and “*filling mixed wine*” is what the Romans did when offering a “ritual meal” to the gods who were placed on cushions and seated around a table. In verse 12, God makes it clear the what the future of those who forsake and forget God will be. They have abandoned the pure worship of God that demands, obedience and have gone to other “gods”, seeking the blessings that they can supposedly give. Rather than respond obediently to God's call, they preferred that which is evil in God's eyes. They will never possess God's mountains because they have forgotten God's holy mountain and the proper worship centered there, and are no longer among God's “chosen people”. God gives us evidence of His past faithfulness and asks us to trust Him to keep a variety of good promises for the future. Many people who do not trust Him or His Scriptures look to self-help or fortune tellers to guide their way through this life. So, they who are living in self-induced darkness seeking the nonexistent gods of “*Fortune*” and “*Destiny*” in an attempt to make an appeal to them for good luck in the future.

#### CONTRAST OF BLESSINGS AND CURSINGS

##### Isaiah 65:13–14

*<sup>13</sup>Therefore thus saith the Lord Jehovah, Behold, my servants shall eat, but ye shall be hungry; behold, my servants shall drink, but ye shall be thirsty; behold, my servants shall rejoice, but ye shall be put to shame; <sup>14</sup>behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart, and shall wail for vexation of spirit (ASV, 1901).*

Verses 13-14 is a series of contrasts between two classes of people, the believers and the unbelievers in all times and in all places throughout history. God's servants will be sustained with spiritual food, and “*rejoice and sing for joy of heart.*” In contrast, His adversaries will feel a craving for the “meat” and “drink,” which alone satisfies the body, but instead will be oppressed, coupled with a sense of shame, and suffer a depression of spirit.



Isaiah 65:15-16

*<sup>15</sup>And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen; and the Lord Jehovah will slay thee; and he will call his servants by another name (ASV):*

Within Scripture, and generally in the world, people place great emphasis upon a “name”. In the beginning of Scripture, the line of Cain is contrasted with the line of Seth, in whose days people “*began to call on the name of the LORD*” (Genesis 4:26). The great sin which occurs at the tower of Babel when people decide to “*make a name*” for themselves rather than call on God (Genesis 11:4). Abraham, on the other hand, receives a promise that God will make his “*name*” great (Genesis 12:2). The Law classifies misusing “*the name of God*” as a serious offense (Exodus 20:7; Leviticus 19:12; 22:32; 24:16). So, those apart from God in non-belief typically seek to make a “name” for themselves without honoring “*the name of God*” by calling on Him alone or seeking His glory. They are bound to fail.

Verse 15 says those who have forsaken God receive the legacy of a “*your name*” that signifies “*a curse*”. Like Abram, Sarah, and Jacob, however, God’s servants will receive “*another name*” that signifies a new level of relationship with God. The resulting situation in the promised land is that God alone will be honored as the one in whose “*name*” blessings are invoked and oaths are taken. He alone is the true God. Since the rejection of God has caused Israel’s problems, the recognition of God will introduce a new situation in which the past troubles will be forgotten.

Isaiah 65:16

*<sup>16</sup>so that he who blesseth himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of truth; and he that sweareth in the earth shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from mine eyes (ASV, 1901).*

In verse 16, God states that “*he who blesseth himself in the earth*” means he who shall invoke blessings on himself, and “*shall bless himself in the God of truth*”, or by the true God. A true believer shall not seek a blessing from a false god, but he shall come before the true God, and seek a blessing from Him only. God continues saying, “*And he that sweareth*”, which is to say that every oath that is taken in the land shall be by the true God. There shall be no swearing by idols. “*Because the former troubles are forgotten*” means the former punishments and calamities shall be passed away and the favor of God shall be restored. His pure worship shall be re-established, and His “*name*” shall be celebrated again in the land. The image here is one of returning prosperity and favor resulting in a state when the happiness will be so great that all the former trials and tribulations will be regarded as not worthy of recalling.

THE CITY OF REFUGE

The words of Jesus in His Olivet Discourse state that there will be a particular city the Jews will be moving to for protection during the last half of the Tribulation when the Anti-Christ unleashes his all-out war against the Jews. It is possible to locate its exact location. This will be the Antichrist’s version of Hitler’s “Final Solution.”

There are three primary verses that provide insight as to the location of the City of Refuge. The first is Christ's command to the Jews from His Olivet Discourse in Matthew's gospel.

Matthew 24:16

*<sup>16</sup>Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains (KJV).*

Now Jesus spoke these words in the famous Olivet Discourse. He was approached by a small group of His inner circle, namely Peter, James, John and Andrew. They all sat on the Mount of Olives just to the east of the Temple Mount across the valley of Jehoshaphat. While they admired the Temple Christ told them that the Temple in the future, would be dismantled, stone by stone. They then asked three questions:

When shall the destruction of the Temple be?  
What shall be the sign of your second coming?  
What shall be the sign of the end of the Age?

Jesus first answer to His apostles was that they be not deceived about these things. (Matthew 24:4)

Matthew 24:4

*<sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you (KJV).*

The Olivet Discourse came chronologically after He had denounced the leadership of Israel for their guilt in leading the nation Israel astray particularly in rejecting His Messiahship. In this discourse he laid down the conditions of His Second Coming. One of these conditions was for the Jewish leaders to ask Him to return just as they once rejected Him and led the nation astray.

Matthew 24:16

*<sup>16</sup>Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains (KJV).*

According to Jesus' words the place of escape is unto the mountains. There are two more verses that give us clues in the book of Revelation:

Revelation 12:6

*<sup>6</sup>And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days (KJV).*

Revelation 12:14

*<sup>14</sup>And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent (KJV).*

The second verse lets us know that the second characteristic of the refuge is to be in the wilderness. Finally, the last clue we are given indicates that God prepared the place of refuge in advance indicating its adequacy and preexistence. The following passage adds information to the location of the City of Refuge.

Isaiah 33:13-16

*<sup>13</sup>Hear, ye that are far off, what I have done; and, ye that are near, acknowledge my might. <sup>14</sup>The sinners in Zion are afraid; trembling hath seized the godless ones: Who among us can dwell with the devouring fire? who among us can dwell with everlasting burnings? <sup>15</sup>He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from taking a bribe, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from looking upon evil: <sup>16</sup>He shall dwell on high; his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks; his bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure (ASV, 1901).*

The context of these verses is the End Times. Since the protection is focused upon the faithful Remnant, we see how this is accomplished in the last verse of these passages, verse 16.

He shall dwell on high;  
His place of defense shall be the mountains of rocks;  
His bread shall be given him;  
His waters shall be sure;

Here, there is first a reaffirmation of the provisions of water and food. Then it is stated that the location will be “on high,” that is, a mountain, which reaffirms the Lord’s words in the Matthew passage. Next the place of Refuge is stated to be the “munitions of rocks.” So, we have then four separate characteristics of the place of refuge.

In the mountains  
In the wilderness  
A place prepared in advance;  
Very defensible.

Finally, the following verse provides the exact location of the City of Refuge.

Micah 2:12

*<sup>12</sup>I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of [the multitude of] men (ASV, 1901).*

The Remnant is gathered “as the sheep of Bozrah.” This means that they are to be gathered in Bozrah. Israel is the flock of God and they will be gathered in Bozrah. Ancient Bozrah was

located in the region of Mount Seir, which means “hairy mountains.” They are very rocky mountains. This meets the requirements of the Matthew passage being in the mountains. It is located in the wilderness area of ancient Edom which fulfills the Revelation passage. The Mountains of Seir are quite defensible which fulfills the Isaiah passage. This area today is in Southern Jordan. The most likely city today that meets all the qualifications set forth so far is modern day Petra. Petra is located within Mount Seir and is surrounded by mountains and cliffs. The only way in and out of the city is a narrow passageway. It must be entered on foot or on horseback. This makes it very easy to defend. Its surrounding cliffs confirm Isaiah 33:16. Only three abreast can enter the passage simultaneously, which provides great defensibility. The name Bozrah means sheepfold and most modern Bible translations simply exchange that word Bozrah for sheepfold. The ancient sheepfold had a very narrow entrance so the shepherd could count his sheep.

The Anti-Christ will conquer the whole world. Three nations will escape his domination according to the following passage.

Daniel 11:41

*<sup>41</sup>He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many [countries] shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, [even] Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon (ASV, 1901).*

The ancient nations of Edom, Moab and Ammon are all presently located within Jordan. Since Bozrah, (Petra) is located in ancient Edom it is logical for the Jews to flee to this location for safety during the last half of the Tribulation. God will provide Petra for the Jews as a city of refuge outside of the Antichrist’s domain. It will be defensible and located in Mount Seir. As they flee, they will be given food and water, which will be miraculously provided as God did for them in the Exodus.

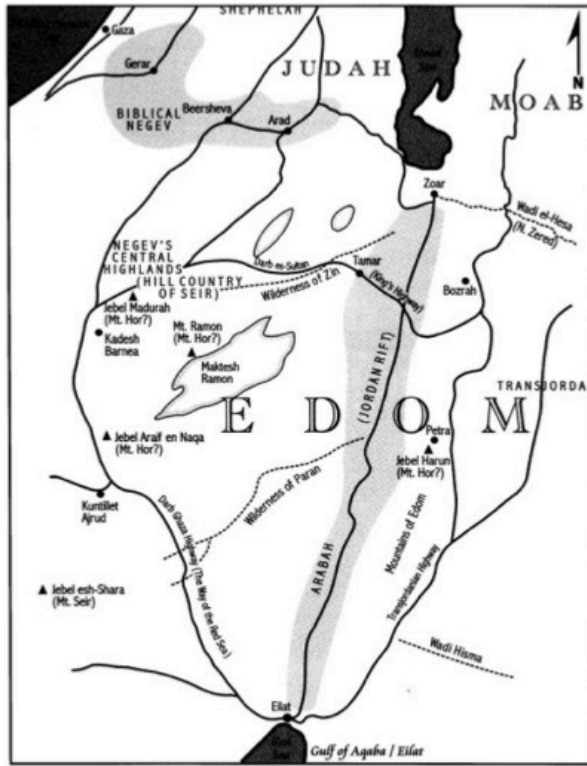


Petra





The Entrance to Petra



Ancient Edom

NEXT WEEK: REVELATION MSG. XXXII

Please call or e-mail with any questions or comments

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