

The Kingdom of Heaven Destroys the Kingdoms of this World, Part 2

2021 Kingdom Series, by Leon King

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As we closed last time, we saw the Lord coming back from heaven with his armies and destroying the beast and his armies who were gathered together against him who sat on the horse. What a foolish thing. Now for the next point, I want you to consider the place on this earth to which Jesus comes with his saints and where is he coming to?

I read a man's comments about this yesterday and he poked fun at this. I don't want to offend people by the word of God but sometimes it's necessary when you preach the word to say, "I believe that!" All my life I've heard old people say things like this, "I don't think I'll ever be able to stand up in the face of the antichrist." Now that was back in the 1940s or '50s. People back then knew [to expect to see the antichrist]. I think every child of God knows this [in his heart] because the Spirit is pushing him in that direction.

Now where does Jesus come back to? I want you to get this. Turn to Zechariah 14. I have to read the whole chapter, 21 verses. *"Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark: But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light. And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be. And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one. All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king's winepresses. 11 And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited. And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that*

have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the LORD shall be among them; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbour, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbour. And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance. And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague. And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar. Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the LORD of hosts: and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and seethe therein: and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts."

I want you to consider with me some of the points that are in this 14th chapter. In this chapter, God will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle. Let me say this, you can read that, I won't get to it today, don't have time, this is in the 14th chapter: I am convinced that the 12th chapter records the invasion of Gog from the land of Magog and all of his confederates that come down against Israel. There God rains on him an overflowing rain of fire and brimstone and destroys all but a sixth part of that great army.

So Jerusalem is going to be taken, the houses are going to be rifled, the women ravished, and half of them go into captivity. Then the Lord shall go forth, the coming of the Lord to fight against those nations which came against Jerusalem which we read about in chapter 19 of Revelation. The Lord's feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives. This mountain is going to split in two and create a great valley. This is so special to me. I've stood upon the top of the Mount of Olives and looked across the brook Kidron toward the walls of Jerusalem and I could see how this will take place. When the Lord's feet touch that mountain, it's going to split right in half, half of it moves north, half south, and there will be a great valley going out from Jerusalem, out toward the Jordan River Valley. This is important.

So the people of Jerusalem are going to flee through that valley and it says that that day will be neither clear nor dark, day or night, but a special day known unto the Lord. I don't know if I understand all that or not but I'm looking at it. It says that living waters will go out of Jerusalem, half of them toward the former sea, the Mediterranean, and half of them toward the hinder sea, the Dead Sea. This will happen year-round in summer and in winter.

Now I want to stop right there and interrupt. I want you to turn to the book of Ezekiel 47 and let's read verses 1 through 12. There's going to be a great temple complex built. *"Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under from the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar. Then brought he me out of the way of the gate northward, and led me about the way without unto the utter gate by the way that looketh eastward; and, behold, there ran out waters on the right side."* Coming from the altar. *"And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through; the waters were to the loins. Afterward he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over. And he said unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen this? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river. Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other. Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed. And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and every thing shall live whither the river cometh. And it shall come to pass, that the fishers shall stand upon it from Engedi even unto Eneglaim; they shall be a place to spread forth nets; their fish shall be according to their kinds, as the fish of the great sea, exceeding many. But the miry places thereof and the marshes thereof shall not be healed; they shall be given to salt. And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat,"* For food. *"whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.*

So that water comes out from the right side of the new altar of the temple, out through the Eastern Gate, out through that valley to the Jordan River Valley where it turns south and goes down into the Dead Sea. Now today there's not even a microscopic creature in the Dead Sea. There's no fish of any kind. There's no living creature. I saw one of our men put on a swimsuit and went out and laid down on the Dead Sea and his body was just lifted up. It was up two inches. He lay right on top of the water because it is so dense with salt and chemicals. My hand had a scratch on it so that when I put it into the water it felt like it burned with fire. I had to go and wash my hand off. But this river is going to wash that Dead Sea out because the land up north is going to be lifted up and the river will wash it out and fishermen will gather all around that sea.

We're told in chapter 14 that the Lord will be King all over the earth, this earth. This earth! We're told that the land south of Jerusalem is going to be lifted up and inhabited. For any of you that have been to Jerusalem and looked south, you'll see that it's all just a wilderness, great chasms and deep valleys, rocks, etc. It's going to be lifted up and inhabited and men are going to live there. We're told about the plague that will destroy

those that come against Jerusalem. We're also told that everyone that's left of the nations which came against Jerusalem, these are Gentile nations, their armies will go and their armies will be destroyed, but the people back in their homes, they will go up every year to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of Hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And I know what you're going to say, "Why?" Because the Lord said so. They're going to do it or else they won't get any rain. Listen, these people are going to be there in their natural body with the old sin nature and some of them are going to say, "Me, go to keep the feast of tabernacles? Go to Jerusalem?" Nah! And the Lord will shut the sky off and they will get no rain.

So I just love this; that God will rule with a rod of iron. We're told in that day that there will be bells on the horses and on the pots, "Holiness unto the Lord," where they, what's the word? Sacrifice in. I was talking to a man not long ago, a dear friend of mine. He said, "Brother Leon, I don't believe there will be any such thing as the reinstatement of the sacrifices." I said, "Well, then you don't believe the Bible." He said, "Well, why?" I said, "I don't know. The Lord didn't tell us. He didn't tell us that, he just said it was going to happen." So I take him at his word. The scriptures won't be broken. The scriptures won't be broken.

And on that day there will be no more of the Canaanite in the house of the Lord of Hosts. When I studied this, I found out that the word "Canaanite" is sometimes translated "merchant." One of the great things of the whore church is merchandising and it controls most of the merchandising in the world. That's going to come to an end and I think in this day, that most of the whole world will be in what we would call an agrarian society where every man sits under his own fig tree.

I want you to notice the next point, that Satan will be bound at this time a thousand years and Jerusalem will be the place of worship in the earth. Now turn to Revelation 20:1-6, *"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season."*

Now the devil is certainly not bound today, is he? He's defeated, there's no question about that. His works are destroyed but he goes about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour, but at this point he's going to be cast into the bottomless pit and locked up. Verse 4 says, *"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished."*

We have a host of people that say there's just a general resurrection, we all come up at one time and God judges us all and casts out the wicked people. That's not the way it happens. The saints have already been taken up to be with the Lord. They're with him in Jerusalem

and when the devil is bound, we're told that they're going to reign with Christ a thousand years and the rest of the dead are not going to be raised until the thousand years are finished. Verse 6, "*Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.*"

That's as plain as it can be plain. It's true that the martyrs are going to reign with Christ but everyone who has part in the first resurrection is going to reign with Christ, and during this time the devil is bound.

Now the kingdom is set up, Christ is King over all the earth; consider that the wicked who remain in the kingdom shall be removed as foretold in the kingdom of heaven story. Matthew 13:37-43, is the Lord's explanation of the parable of the tares. "*He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.*" Or this age. "*The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather*" Notice this, "*out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.*"

Now read the next part in verse 47, the parable of the dragnet. "*Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.*"

This is different than a rapture theory, is it not? The angels shall gather out of his kingdom the wicked. Obviously there will be people living like that who are wicked when the Lord returns.

You can read this later in Matthew 25. Let me just outline this right quick. It tells us when the Son of man sits on the throne of his glory as King over the earth, which is the throne of David, that before him shall be gathered all nations, all the nations of the earth. These are living nations. The Son of man shall separate them one from another as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. You will see as you read this that their judgment is based on the treatment of these, my brethren, because as they are, so will they treat God's people. And we're told that to those on the right hand, he says, "*Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*" Verse 41, "*Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.*" He's gathering out of his kingdom all things that offend, just like he says in Matthew 13. We're told that the sheep nations will inherit the kingdom.

Now the next point I want you to consider is that Israel shall be given repentance and faith

and be brought into the bond of the new covenant. This is where Israel shall be saved. I want you to notice, first of all, that the Lord pours out on them, on the inhabitants of Jerusalem and of the house of David the spirit of grace and of supplication. Turn back to Zechariah again, chapter 12, verses 9 through 14. All of Israel shall now have been gathered back to their land which was promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and their descendants forever. They've all been gathered back from all the nations to this place. Now notice chapter 12, verse 9, *"And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon. And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart."*

Israel sobbing, broken because God gave them the spirit of supplication.

Now at the end of this 12th chapter, we're going to see that the Lord saves them. Chapter 13:1, 2, *"In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness. And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, that I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall no more be remembered: and also I will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land."*

Now if you would, please, turn to the book of Ezekiel 20 and this will explain what God does with them when he brings them back. Verse 33-44, *"As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out, will I rule over you: And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out. And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face. Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD. And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country wherethey sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD. As for you, O house of Israel, thus saith the Lord GOD; Go ye, serve ye every one his idols, and hereafter also, if ye will not hearken unto me: but pollute ye my holy name no more with your gifts, and with your idols. For in mine holy mountain, in the mountain of the height of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, there shall all the house of Israel, all of them in the land, serve me: there will I accept them, and there will I require your offerings, and the firstfruits of your oblations, with all your holy things. I will accept you with your sweet savour, when I bring you out from the people, and gather you out of the countries wherein ye have been scattered; and I will be sanctified in you before the heathen. And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall bring you into*

the land of Israel, into the country for the which I lifted up mine hand to give it to your fathers. And there shall ye remember your ways, and all your doings, wherein ye have been defiled; and ye shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for all your evils that ye have committed. And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have wrought with you for my name's sake, not according to your wicked ways, nor according to your corrupt doings, O ye house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD."

When he gathers them back, he'll plead with them face to face. He'll purge out the rebel sin the nation and bring them into the bond of the covenant.

Now for just a few minutes consider with me the character and nature of the kingdom. First, please, turn to Isaiah 2:1-4. *"The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."*

I want to ask you: has this happened yet? Are we still learning war? And we're going to continue to learn war until this happens, until the Lord comes back to reign.

Now chapter 11 in Isaiah, verses 1 through 9. *"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea."*

What are we hungering for even in our land today? Righteousness! Let's do right! But it's coming then. I want to ask you: have you ever seen the wolf and the lamb lie together? Or the lion eat straw like an ox? When is this going to happen on this earth? When the Lord comes back and when he reigns; it's going to be peace like a river. The trees will clap their hands. There will be showers of blessing.

Isaiah 65:17-25, "*For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth:*" Keep that in mind. Remember the prophet is looking down through time. "*and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.*" Now watch this. "*And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.*"

Praise God.

Let me show you a very important thing. We're told here that in that day no one would die under 100 years of age. What's the problem with applying that to the new heaven and a new earth? Because when the new heaven and the new earth come and eternity begins, there's no more death. Death has been destroyed at the Great White Throne Judgment. Death and hell are cast into the lake of fire, the last enemy. But Christ must reign until all his enemies are killed and the last enemy is death. Here we're told that they'll build houses, there will be children, and they're not going to do it in vain. But no one will die under 100 years old.

I won't read this section, Isaiah 66. You can read that yourself, the whole thing from verses 15 through 24.

Now turn to Jeremiah 31:6-10. "*For there shall be a day, that the watchmen upon the mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the LORD our God. For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel. Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together: a great company shall return thither. They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.*"

Again, a gathering of them back to their land.

Now just a few scriptures here and we'll try to close this out. Turn, please, to Ezekiel 34:23-26 speaking about Israel. *"And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd. And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it. And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods. And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing."*

Now Hosea 3:4, 5, *"For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim: Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days."*

Hasn't happened yet but it's going to happen. It's going to happen!

Let's read Micah 4:1-5. *"But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it. For all people will walk every one in the name of his god,"* Leader. *"and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever."*

Let me just give you these prophecies about Israel in the last days from the book of Ezekiel. The mountain, hills, rivers and the desolate waste and the forsaken cities of Israel are going to be built and filled with people again, chapter 36, Ezekiel. The nation will be brought back together on the mountains of Israel so there's no longer a divided nation or two nations as described in Ezekiel 37: one nation, Judah and Israel back together. A huge confederate army led by Gog in the land of Magog will be drawn of the Lord down on the mountains of Israel there to be destroyed, except for a sixth part of it, and the dead will be buried on the east of the Dead Sea.

A third temple will be built in the land of Israel and it is described in chapters 40 through 43 of Ezekiel. Now this is important. The glory of the Lord which came on the temple built by Solomon to signify the Lord's approval of the place he had chosen to place his name there, the glory of the Lord departed from Solomon's temple as we're told in Ezekiel 10 and 11. The inhabitants of Judah were being taken captive to Babylon. You all know that after 70 years some of them came back and built another temple, but the glory of the Lord did not come to that temple. But we're told in Ezekiel 44 the glory of the Lord does return to the new temple built at that time, and he enters the Eastern Gate; then the gate is

closed. The Lord comes in and he eats bread with the prince, who is David.

The land of Israel is going to be greatly enlarged according to the promise made to Abraham. It's going to extend from the river of Egypt all the way to the river Euphrates. The land will go straight across. There will be an offering in the middle of it for the city, for the temple, and for the Levites to live and do their work. All the offerings – are you listening – which the children of Israel offered in the old covenant will again be offered, including the sin offering, the peace offering, the trespass offering, the burnt offering, and the meat offering. Ezekiel says the sons of Zadok will be the priests who will do the sacrifice. We're told that the Sabbath and the Passover will be celebrated, chapters 44 through 46.

We've already talked about the river that comes out and goes down through that valley and into the Dead Sea. Last of all and I'm done with this. There will be a city built in the middle of Israel's land and it will have, like the new Jerusalem, three gates on each side named after each tribe, and we're told that the circumference of the city is 18,000 measures. A measure in the book of Ezekiel was approximately 11 feet, so that's 198,000 feet. When dividing this number by 5,280 feet, the number of feet in a mile, we find out that this city is just over 58 miles in circumference. This city is in the land of Israel and it's called "*The Lord is there.*" It's not like the new Jerusalem that comes down from God out of heaven to the new earth. That city measures 12,000 furlongs. If that measurement refers to each side of the city, then it is 1,500 miles wide, long and high, otherwise it is 375 miles square. So Ezekiel's city is on this earth and is not the new Jerusalem.

I know you're not going to remember all of this but I hope you will take the notes and you will look at them and will consider it. If you don't have them, I'll be glad to give you a copy of the whole thing. I really appreciate your kindness in letting me preach today. Thank you so much. It's been a real blessing to me. Thank you so much.