



## THE DAY OF THE LORD

### 1. "THE FIRE & THE FLAME" (RECURRING 'METAPHORICAL' THEMES)

Another consistent theme repeatedly used in these apocalyptic end-times prophecies is "THE FIRE and THE FLAME". While these references are often understood to be the product of 'divine judgment' (through the *forces of nature*), we would contend that, in the vast majority of passages these are accurate and vivid depictions of the evil that 'mankind' will soon unleash on himself (in the form of *nuclear war*). We will consider a 'lengthy' series of bible passages to illustrate this.

However, even a consideration of the terms "FIRE" and "FLAME" and their ancient Hebrew meanings provide no less than a "breath-taking" level of evidence that categorically proves beyond 'any doubt' that God's Word is clearly forewarning of this approaching 'nuclear nightmare'. Throughout the many old testament passages where the "THE FIRE" and "THE FLAME" are used together, the same Hebrew words for 'Fire' and 'Flame' are used (in almost every instance)

As will be immediately noticed [below], the word for "FIRE" is translated from the identical Hebrew word (H784) that was also the primary root for the word "FIRE" in the 'nuclear war prophecy' of Zechariah Ch.5 (which was mis-translated as 'woman'). While the use of this same Hebrew word may not be surprising, it does display the unwavering consistency of scripture (when translated correctly) in all the prophecies that describe these 'nuclear events' during the final tribulation.

"FIRE" - **H784** אֵשׁ 'esh aysh A primitive word; **fire** (literally or figuratively): - *burning, fiery, fire, flaming, hot*

Even more astonishing is the translation for the word "FLAME" in these occurrences where "fire and flame" are used in conjunction with each other. As will be seen in the Strong's Concordance renderings below, the Hebrew word (used in almost every instance) is H3852 that actually means "a flaming head [of a spear]". Simply staggering!

"FLAME" - **H3852** לַחֲבֹהּ lehâbâh leh-aw-baw', Feminine of **H3851** meaning the same: - **flame** (-ming), **head** [of a spear]

- **H3851** לָהָב lahab lah'-hab From an unused root meaning 'to gleam, a flash'; figuratively a sharply **polished blade** or **point of a weapon**: - *blade, bright, flame, glittering*

When we consider the reality of a nuclear war and (the design and configuration of) the missiles that will be used, we could not ask for a more accurate and emblematic representation than a 'spear . . . with a flaming / fiery head' (or tip)!! This perfectly detailed 'word-picture' of these modern day weapons is actually found 'in' the Hebrew meaning for FLAME. All the more remarkable when we remember these extraordinary words and visions were written by an ancient prophet . . . well over 2,000 years ago!!

In only 3 instances is the alternative meaning H3851 for 'FLAME' used. These also define a visual 'flash' (or gleam) from a sharply polished blade - or - point of a weapon (ie. spear / arrow) further underlining the allusion to a man-made 'weapon' that actually delivers the 'FIRE' (H784). So we see "THE FLAME" is not merely a bland 'repetitive description' echoing the meaning of "THE FIRE" each time, but rather a separate and highly specific word-picture. Accordingly, as we proceed through an examination of passages wherein these two words are used together, these deeper underlying meanings and their visual imagery need to be remembered when reading of "THE FIRE" and "THE FLAME".

## PROPHECY of JOEL (Ch's 1 – 2)

We are all familiar with this short and explosive prophecy that is unquestionably describing the final tumultuous events in the lead up to (and the events of) the 'Day of the LORD'. The clearly defined pretext is established in Joel 1 v 6 wherein

Yahweh through his prophet Joel declares . . . “ *For A NATION ( ie. Russia ) is come upon my land ( Israel )* ”. Further on in Verse 12 , the involvement of ‘ *all nations* ’ in this *impending battle* is distinctly implied through the symbolic reference to the vine and “ *ALL THE TREES of the field* ”.

## JOEL 1

v15 - *Alas for THE DAY! for the DAY OF THE LORD is at hand  
and 'AS' a destruction from the Almighty shall it come*

v19 - *O LORD, to thee will I cry : for ' THE FIRE ' hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness → H784 “ Fire ”  
and ' THE FLAME ' hath burned all the trees of the field → H3852 “ Flame (-ming), Head of a SPEAR ”*

v20 - *The beasts of the field cry also unto thee : for the rivers of waters are dried up  
and ' THE FIRE ' hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness. → H784 “ Fire ”*

But of vital importance is in Verse 15 the ‘ proclamation ’ of the arrival of the ‘ *Day of the LORD* ’. This pronouncement is then immediately followed by ‘ *a simile* ’ ( “ *AS* ” ). This simile is crucial because it ‘ qualifies ’ the nature and origin of this event. Repeatedly mentioned in vs. 19-20 “ *THE FIRE* ” and “ *THE FLAME* ” are compared to “ *a destruction from the Almighty* ” by the prophet deliberately inserting the word “ *AS* ”. The correct sense should be , it’s “ *AS if ....* ” this destruction was sent by God himself. We can therefore reasonably conclude that this is NOT ‘ *fires and flames* ’ sent direct from the heavens by God ( or even from volcanoes etc.) but when considered in the accompanying context of Joel Ch.2 and also the deeper meaning of the words “ *THE FIRE and THE FLAME* ” ( previously discussed ) , this passage is speaking solely and indisputably of a cataclysmic war ( ie. nuclear ) between the forces of men .

Similarly , every aspect of Joel Ch.2 also points undeniably to the references of “ *THE FIRE* ” and “ *THE FLAME* ” being the evil ‘ *by-product* ’ of man’s weapons of war ( ie. missiles ). In Vs.1 the ‘ *blowing of the trumpet* ’ and ‘ *sounding of an alarm* ’ are age old Hebrew practices to herald the beginning of a battle ‘ *between armies* ’. At length this chapter speaks of the actors “ *a great people and a strong* ” , “ *their appearance . . . as horsemen . . . and horses* ” , “ *the northern army* ” , “ *with FIRE that devours before THEM* ” and “ *FLAME that burns after THEM* ” , all indicators that this is a formidable army , who themselves possess the power of “ *THE FIRE* ” and “ *THE FLAME* ” harnessed principally in the form of missiles.

Similarly , all the ‘ *sensory effects* ’ catalogued in Joel Ch. 2 are also the direct results of man-made explosive detonations - whether nuclear weapons or conventional. The prophet Joel paints a bleak picture of the ‘ *darkness and gloominess* ’ , ‘ *clouds and thick darkness* ’ , ‘ *the noise of chariots* ’ , ‘ *the noise of a flame of fire* ’ , a ‘ *devouring fire* ’ and ‘ *burning flame* ’ all of which renders the wilderness ‘ *desolate* ’. All these elements are a vivid description of the after-effects of a military conflict. So even in Joel 2 there appears to be simply no scope for ‘ *fires or flames of judgment* ’ coming directly from God or the unleashing of the forces of nature , at least UNTIL after Verses 15-16 ( *appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ and the glorified saints* ) and Verse 20 ( *the removal of the ‘ northern ’ army* ) onwards.

## JOEL 2

v1 - *Blow ye the trumpet in Zion & sound an alarm in my holy mountain :  
let all the inhabitants of the land tremble:  
for THE DAY OF THE LORD cometh , for it is nigh at hand . . .*

v2 - *A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness,  
as the morning spread upon the mountains ;  
a great people & a strong ; there hath not been ever the like,  
neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations*

v3 - *A ' FIRE ' devoureth before them ; and behind them ' A FLAME ' burneth  
the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness*

v4 - *The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses ; and as horsemen, so shall they run.*

v5 - *Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap,  
like ' THE NOISE ' of a FLAME OF FIRE that devoureth the stubble,  
' as ' a strong people set in battle array*

- v11 ... *And the LORD shall utter his voice **before HIS ARMY** : for his camp is very great :*
- v15 ... *Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly :*
- v16 ... *Gather the people, sanctify the congregation , assemble the elders , gather the children ... let **THE BRIDEGROOM go forth** of his chamber & the bride out of her closet*
- v20 ... *But I will remove far off from you '**the northern army**' and will drive **him** into a land barren and desolate with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part*

So we have consistent and compelling evidence across a range of perspectives that point unwaveringly toward man's own culpability in these dreadful events. Therefore , while these events do constitute the ' *DAY of the LORD* ' , we see through all these prophecies , the actual ' *fiery judgments* ' are principally carried out by man. Herein rests the irony and the lesson :

***It is a hallmark of God's interactions with mankind that - rather than repeatedly meting out His divine punishments for man's wickedness and disobedience - the LORD will invariably allow His children to ' reap the consequences ' of their own foolishness and ungodliness. If man forsakes the unsearchable wisdom of God's Ways , then he is condemned to suffer the consequences of both his own foolishness and ultimately God's righteous judgments upon this untoward and godless world. Should we expect the final judgments upon the ' kingdoms of men ' to be administered any differently ?***

We also know that man's ' flawed nature ' will render him utterly incapable of finding any lasting solutions to the morass of violence and death sweeping the globe . . . therefore necessitating the righteous and all-powerful intervention of the Lord Jesus Christ to put an end to the terminal death spiral that will soon threaten all humanity.



## THE PROPHECIES of ISAIAH

We've already considered Isaiah's comprehensive ' end-times overview ' in chapter 24 and the global conditions that will lead to " *THE CURSE* " devouring the earth, burning the inhabitants and leaving " few " behind. Yet , beyond Isaiah Ch.24 , and throughout the full volume of prophecies contained within the book of Isaiah , there is a chain of revealing passages that further prove the blighted hand of man is the pre-eminent source behind this coming global carnage.

Right from the outset , in Isaiah chapter 1 the prophet provides a clear and unbridled account of the end of ' *those* ' who disobey God , describing the common fate of the ' *transgressors and sinners* ' whose lot will be to " *BURN together* ". This is NOT a reference as the misguided ' churches ' would suggest , to the " unquenchable fires " of Hell or Purgatory , rather it is the end of days " *reward of the wicked* " as described in Psalm 91. This is the same ' *discriminatory purging* ' ( previously discussed ) of those who " *steal* " and " *swear falsely* " as declared by the prophet Zechariah. How appropriate and just that the ' *godless* ' religious institutions that teach the ' *mythological falsehoods* ' such as the literal existence of ' *The Devil* ' , ' *Satan* ' and the ' *eternal fires . . . of Hell* ' will indeed be destroyed " *by FIRE* " of man's own making. It will be through " *THE FIRE* " and " *THE FLAME* " of this catastrophic nuclear conflict that the vast majority of the (ungodly) inhabitants of the world will perish.

### ISAIAH 1

v28 - *And the '**DESTRUCTION**' of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be **TOGETHER**, and they that '**forsake**' the LORD shall be consumed.*

v31 - *And the strong shall be as **tow** ( 'straw' ), and the maker of it as a spark, and they shall both '**BURN TOGETHER**' and none shall quench them.*

If we require more proof of this , Isaiah chapter 9 provides additional commentary , specifically focusing on “ *THE FIRE* ”. Once again , the context is critical. In Verse 5 the prophet references ‘ *the battle of the warrior* ’ anchoring the narrative in military conflict between armies. Further in Verse 12 we have the prophetic details of the coming ‘ end-times ’ attack by the Syrians and the Philistines ( Palestinians ) on Israel , a conflict we may well be on the threshold of witnessing in 2019.

Verses 13-17 are a commentary of the faithlessness and ungodliness prevailing ‘ *in the land* ’ ( *of Israel* ) in the last days before judgment comes in verses 18-19. In these two verses we see the outbreak of conflict , characterised by ‘ *fire / burning / smoke* ’ and the land being ‘ *darkened* ’ ( scorched ). This ‘ *fiery judgment* ’ in the form of war , will consume much of this wickedness ‘ *in the land* ’. In verse 19 we then have confirmation this is a conflict ‘ *between men* ’ as Isaiah states :

*“ THE PEOPLE shall be as THE FUEL of ' THE FIRE ' ... NO MAN shall ' SPARE ' HIS BROTHER ”*

Then Verse 20 portrays the terrible aftermath ‘ *in the land* ’ as anarchy and desperation overwhelm the people. So over and over we see the scriptural record pointing forward to the ‘ *scourge of wars* ’ in the last days sweeping the earth and wreaking death and destruction. So it is *man’s own evil deeds* being the ‘ just and righteous ’ means Yahweh uses to recompense the disobedience and godlessness of mankind.

### ISAIAH 9

v5 - For EVERY ‘ ***battle of the warrior*** ’ is with confused ‘ ***NOISE*** ’ ,  
and garments rolled in blood;  
but this shall be with ‘ ***BURNING*** ’ and ‘ ***FUEL OF FIRE*** ’.

v18 - For ‘ ***WICKEDNESS*** ’ burneth as ***THE FIRE*** : ‘ ***IT*** ’ shall devour the briars and thorns,  
and shall kindle in the thickets of the forest,  
and they shall mount up like the ***lifting up of smoke***

v19 - Through the wrath of the LORD of hosts is the land ‘ ***darkened*** ’ ( ‘ scorched ’ )  
and ***THE PEOPLE*** shall be as ‘ ***THE FUEL of THE FIRE*** ’  
***NO MAN*** shall ‘ ***SPARE HIS BROTHER*** ’.

v20 - And he shall snatch on the right hand, and ***be hungry*** ; and he shall eat on the left hand,  
and ***they shall not be satisfied*** : they shall eat every man the ***flesh of his own arm***

In these approaching days of the ‘ final tribulations ’ military conflicts between the nations will be widespread. We know the principle theatre of battle and the world’s attention will be centred upon God’s people Israel , as widely foretold in scripture. Israel’s involvement will begin as a regional battle as it defends itself against hostile attacks from Syria and the Palestinians. Although she will prevail , we are told Israel will be ‘ *greatly weakened* ’ afterwards. This will precipitate the next war. Israel’s sudden vulnerability will be the *window of opportunity* Russia and its confederate host have waited for. Already positioned in the Middle East ( in Syria , Iraq ) Russia together with the nations enumerated in Ezekiel 38 will seize upon this moment and upon on Israel.

In Isaiah chapter 5 just a small handful of verses provide a highly detailed insight into these coming events : -

### ISAIAH CH. 5

v24 - Therefore as ‘ ***THE FIRE*** ’ devoureth the stubble → H784 “ fire ”  
and ‘ ***THE FLAME*** ’ consumeth the chaff → H3852 “ flame (-ming), head of a spear ”  
so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust  
***BECAUSE they*** ( Israel ) have ‘ ***cast away*** ’ ***THE LAW of the LORD*** of hosts  
and ‘ ***despised*** ’ ***THE WORD of the Holy One of Israel***.

v25 - Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled ‘ ***against his people*** ’  
and he hath stretched forth his hand against them and hath smitten them  
and the hills did tremble and their carcasses were torn in the midst of the streets.

v26 - And he will lift up ‘ ***an ensign*** ’ ( Gog / Russia ) to the nations ‘ ***from far*** ’  
and will hiss unto them ‘ ***from the end of the earth*** ’  
and behold , ***they*** ( *Russia-led nations* ) shall come ‘ ***with speed swiftly*** ’

v27 - *None shall be weary nor stumble among them;  
none shall slumber nor sleep;  
neither shall the girdle of their loins be loosed,  
nor the latchet of their shoes be broken:*

v28 - *Whose 'ARROWS' are sharp, and all their 'BOWS' bent,  
their horses' hoofs shall be counted like flint,  
and their wheels like 'A WHIRLWIND' (Russia)*

v29 - *Their roaring shall be like 'A LION' (Russia - 'latter-day Assyrian')  
they shall roar like young lions : yea, they shall roar,  
and lay hold of the prey, and shall carry it away safe, and none shall deliver it.*

- Verse 24 is a dramatic account of “ *THE FIRE* and *THE FLAME* ” that will precede these nations, ( illustrating the fearful firepower that will be used ) and then v.24 spells out Israel’s sin that has invoked this ‘ *judgment from God* ’.
- Verse 25 ( in light of God’s righteous anger towards His people ) further confirms this smiting of Israel is ‘ *from God* ’
- Verse 26 unveils ‘ *the instrument* ’ Yahweh will use to execute His righteous judgment upon Israel , through a series of revealing ‘ phrases ’ ( when cross-referenced to many other bible passages ) irrefutably identify ‘ *Russia* ’.
  - “ *from far* ” - ( see also - Deut 28v49 , Isa 10v3 , Jer 5v15 , Hab 1v8 )
  - “ *from the end of the earth* ” - ( cp. Deut 28v49 )
  - “ *they shall come with speed swiftly* ” - ( cp. Deut 28v49 , Jer 4v13 , Lam 4v19 , Hab 1v8 )
- Verse 28 Once again, the use of familiar symbols ‘ *ARROWS* and *BOWS* ’ to foreshadow ‘ *modern missiles* ’ followed by yet another representation of *Russia* in the ‘ *WHIRLWIND* ’ ( [see our article ‘ WHIRLWINDS of the LORD ’](#) )
- Verse 29 Finally to seal the vision, Isaiah uses the symbol of a ‘ *LION* ’ as a fitting emblem for *Russia*, the power that will bring together the *military* might of the *Assyrian Empire* and the *religious/ecumenical* might of the *Roman* .

We note so many of these metaphorical allusions pointing to *Russia* ( ie. Ensign , Whirlwind , Lion etc. ) are in fact ALSO prefigurements of an even greater ‘ manifestation of power ’ yet to come , that being of the Lord Jesus Christ who will crush the Gogian host of nations and subsequently establish his kingdom and dominion over the whole earth.

Another interesting use of this term “ *THE FIRE* ” ( H784 ) is found in Isaiah Chapter 26. Some translations of Verse 11 do vary markedly, but the King James Version seems unambiguous when ( concerning ‘ *the source* ’ of the fiery judgment ) it states : “ *THE FIRE* ’ of *THINE* enemies ’ shall devour them ”. While some translations do offer alternative renderings [Webster's Bible Translation](#) also provides a near identical translation “ *THE FIRE* of *THY ENEMIES* shall devour them ”.

Notwithstanding the wide variation in bible versions , the translations in both the KJV and Webster’s do align quite perfectly with these “ *FIRE* ” coming from the ‘ enemies of Israel ’ ( and of God ) rather than ‘ fire ’ being cast down from heaven.

## ISAIAH 26

v11 - *LORD, when thy hand is lifted up, they will not see;  
but they shall see, and be ashamed for their envy at the people ;  
yea, THE FIRE 'of THINE enemies' shall devour them.*

Some may suggest that the phrase “ *LORD, when thy hand is lifted up* ” is indicative that this is only ‘ *after* ’ the Lord’s appearance to the world and His presence open and visible ; at a time when *ONLY* ‘ *divine judgments* ’ ( via the Lord’s hand ) will be evident and prevailing over the ‘ kingdoms of men ’. We would assert that this is not the case and such a view only creates a nuanced understanding of this passage. More accurately , we would submit the said statement , “ *when thy hand is lifted up . . .* ” is a ‘ *figurative allusion* ’ to the LORD’s providential involvement and His divine will being incontestably active in the grievous developments wracking the nations. It is another clear scriptural reference , warning that ‘ *the world* ’ will only see these global calamities solely as the product of man’s own doings and will not recognise God’s hand in these burgeoning events , nor see them as the long foretold ‘ *pre-cursor* ’ to Christ’s imminent and glorious return.

## PSALM 83

Similarly , Psalm 83 provides a fascinating overview of these unfurling events that lead to the coming ' *Day of the Lord* '. This well-known Psalm is ' *the authoritative bible passage* ' that outlines the end-times conspiracy devised by Israel's neighbours to utterly eradicate the Jewish people. The words of the Psalmist are penned ' *as if* ' from the lips of these Arab co-conspirators as they discuss their heinous deeds and their plan to take possession of the Holy Places :

### PSALM 83

v12 - *Who said, Let us (Arabs) take to ourselves the houses of God in possession*

v13 - *O my God, make them like a wheel ; as the stubble before ' THE WIND '*

v14 - *As ' THE FIRE ' burneth a wood, and*

→ H784 " Fire "

*as ' THE FLAME ' setteth the mountains on fire;*

→ H3852 " Flame (-ming), Head of a SPEAR "

v15 - *So persecute them with ' THY TEMPEST ' ( Russia )*

*and make them afraid with ' THY STORM ' ( Russia )*

In verse 13 the Psalmist interjects and pleads to God to act on behalf of , and save His people. We see the same figurative language of " *THE FIRE* and *THE FLAME* " used , and ( *by no means co-incidently* ) it is then ' *coupled with* ' unmistakable symbolic references to Russia once again. Allusions to ' *THE WIND* , *THE TEMPEST* , *THE WHIRLWIND* ' are all very common and repeatedly found throughout scripture and point forward to Russia ( . . . and ' ultimately ' to the Lord Jesus Christ ). So what is made abundantly clear in Psalm 83 is whatever ' *remnants* ' remain of these hostile anti-semite nations ( after their defeat at the hands of Israel ) will be persecuted and utterly consumed by " *THE FIRE* and *THE FLAME* " of these rampaging ' Russian-led ' armies that God has appointed to execute His vengeance.

In the midst of the long series of military battles that represent the great ' Time of Trouble ' , it is generally accepted that events in ' SYRIA ' will form a ' *major inflection point* ' and be the cataclysmic starting point ( for Israel ) that will lead to the ' Day of the LORD ' . Since its spiral into chaos in 2011 and the brutal civil war that has raged ever since , Syria has turned into a geopolitical powder keg , with ' *well over 20 foreign nations* ' ( including 2 global super-powers ) vying militarily for power and strategic ascendancy within its borders. Several prophecies point to this Syrian crisis exploding very soon and unleashing world-wide chaos. Among the most notable of these is Jeremiah Ch. 49 which provides a disturbing account of a catastrophic event soon to befall the 5,000 year old Syrian capital , such that the whole city will *no longer exist*.

### JEREMIAH Ch. 49

v23 - *Concerning Damascus. Hamath is confounded, and Arpad: for they have heard evil tidings : they are fainthearted ; there is **SORROW ON THE SEA** . . . it **CANNOT BE QUIET** ( ie. ' sea-launched ' missiles )*

v24 - *Damascus is waxed feeble, and turneth herself to flee, and fear hath seized on her : anguish and sorrows have taken her, as a woman in travail.*

v25 - *How is the city of praise **NOT LEFT**, the city of my joy !*

v26 - *Therefore her young men shall fall in her streets, and all the men of war shall be **cut off** [perish] **IN THAT DAY**, saith the LORD of hosts.*

v27 - *And I will kindle ' **A FIRE** ' in the wall of **Damascus** → → H784 " fire " and ' **IT** ' shall consume the palaces of Benhadad.*



So if we ' briefly analyse ' each verse , a whole new understanding emerges :

- Verse 23 Based on reports from her sister cities of Hamath ( *Hama* ) and Arpad ( *Aleppo* ) , a fearful sentence of doom is declared upon Syria's capital Damascus. An entire city is about to be destroyed.. Two cryptic clues are given ... " *There is SORROW on the sea* " and " *it CANNOT be quiet* ". Could these two peculiar phrases be describing ' anything else ' other than a ' *submarine-launched* ' ballistic missiles ??

- Verse 24 Panic stricken at the news of its impending doom , the city of Damascus and its people are overcome and paralysed with fear.
- Verse 25 The complete annihilation and destruction of Damascus. The event is not described. Only the aftermath. Quite simply , the ancient city is ' gone '.
- Verse 26 A vision of 'mass slaughter' of "*ALL the men of war*" in Damascus , consistent with the whole city being destroyed in one event. Once again - *other than divine power* - what other ' conceivable ' source of evil could wreak such a catastrophic scale of death and destruction in an instant ?? Could '*anything*' other than man-made ballistic / nuclear missiles be responsible ?? Also note carefully, the identical parallel phrase repeatedly used in Zechariah 5 to describe the deaths of those killed by missiles ( "*cut off*" ) is used here of those who '*perish*'.
- Verse 27 Acknowledgement by God Himself that it is actually '*HE*' who will ignite this "*FIRE*" in Damascus that will utterly consume the ancient walls and royal palaces found in her. Notice also , the pronoun describing this horrific event is labelled "*IT*", exactly as it was done consistently in the '*nuclear war prophecy*' that is found in Zechariah 5 , when it '*consumed the houses*'.

Finally , from whence would this '*submarine-launched*' nuclear missile come from ?? While it is difficult to foresee a scenario where Russia would attack and destroy the capital city of its own long-standing ally Syria , this devastating vision is found '*in the middle*' of Jeremiah Ch's 46 to 51 which detail the destructive path of the latter-day Assyrian in the last days.

There is also a compelling biblical and geopolitical case that could be made for another nation being the destroyer of Damascus. What other '*nuclear-armed*' nation would have the geopolitical circumstances , the conviction , the resolve and the courage to launch such a catastrophic strike against the capital city of Syria , *knowing* the Russian behemoth is both a staunch ally and fierce protector of Syria ?? Could it be any nation other than Israel ?? This is not without precedence. In recent months , despite vigorous protestations and even threats from both Russia and Iran , Israel has been frequently bombing Syrian and Iranian militia targets within Syrian territory. Moreover, accounts in Isaiah Ch's 9 and 17 also describe Damascus being reduced to a "*ruinous heap*" amid a war between Israel and Syria/Philistines ( Palestinians ). While there are strong arguments for both possibilities , the evidence for both remains in-conclusive and , as such any determination of this aspect would be '*speculative*' and outside the immediate purpose of this article.

[ Please see PART 5 of our series ]

**Global Nuclear War . . . the ' new ' Bible Evidence**