

Part 2 – How Long Will Jacob Be Devoured?

In part 1 we learned that this is another Psalm of Asaph and its subject/title is *the enemy being in God's Sanctuary*. Thus, we learned that it was written when the heathen came into God's inheritance (which is Israel), defiled His holy Temple and laid Jerusalem in heaps (ruins). They (likely the Babylonians) even slaughtered many Israelites (likely those in the southern kingdom of Judah) and wouldn't even allow their dead bodies to be buried, so they were eaten by the fowl of the air and the wild animals. And all Israel's (those in the southern kingdom of Judah) enemies did, when this was going on, was to *mock* them! And while this was clearly very difficult for the Psalmist to see, God had warned it was coming. In fact, these things were even promised to happen clear back in the cursings and blessings (Lev 26, Deut 28) *and* in the 'song of Moses' (in Deut 32), which were given *before* Israel even entered the Promise Land. God clearly warned that IF Israel continued to sin and would not repent, these things *would* come upon them. And we also learned how this is a critical lesson for us living today too. For while the physical destruction (captivity) of Israel, Jerusalem and the Temple of God was indeed quite horrible to see, the *coming* destruction will be *far worse* because it is *spiritual*. For the coming 'defilement' of God's people, city and Temple is when the enemy (Satan) will defile God's Sanctuary when he is kicked out of heaven, to earth, with his fallen angels (Rev 12). When he's here, he'll convince the world (through great lies, flattery, signs and wonders) to allow him to rule the world *and worship him* (and his wicked beast governing system) as though he is God Almighty (the Savior of the world, 2 Thess 2). So, while the Sanctuary was *physically* defiled during the days this Psalm (and Psalms 74) was written, the coming desolation will be far worse. For it'll be *Satan himself* defiling Jerusalem, the Sanctuary and (worst of all) the *hearts of God's children*, by his seducing them to worship him as he stands in the Sanctuary, in the Temple, proclaiming himself to be God (the Savior and King of *all*). And *that's* what we have to prepare for, so *we* are **not** deceived into worshiping Satan and lose our inheritance, as Israel of old did...

Psalm 79

5 How long, LORD? wilt thou be angry for ever? shall thy jealousy burn like fire?

The Psalmist now asks the Lord a question that's probably something you have asked Him as well, when you see what's going on in the world, even in your own country: how long will this go on? But, the *Companion Bible* points out that the questions in this verse are actually a figure of speech (*Erotesis*, apx 6) which is when a question is asked, not for information or even an answer, but *to make a point*. While the purposes for using this figure of speech vary, the likely reason here is that the Psalmist is *lamenting* for what he seeing going on: i.e. the defilement of the Temple, city (Jerusalem) and his people. For truly, through the prophets, God has already said His anger (and righteous jealousy) wouldn't go on forever. While there are many examples of this throughout the prophets, consider just one of them...

*7 For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee.
8 In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer.*

Isa 54:7-8

The word ‘**moment**’ here means *a wink* (of the eyes), i.e. *a very short space of time* (#7281). And since one of our days is as a thousand years to God (Ps 90:4, 2 Pt 3:8), the seventy years the southern kingdom of Israel was in bondage to Babylon really was just a ‘small moment’ to God. And even the several hundreds of years from Jerusalem’s fall (to the Babylonians) to the Christian Era (when God rose the Israelites, who are the Christian nations, to power again) are still just a ‘short time’ to Him. Check out the following studies explaining that the modern-day Christian nations are where the *true* Israelites live *now*...

Fulfilments of Israel in prophesy <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/824>

Lost Tribes of Israel <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/986>

We should also understand the word ‘**forsaken**’ in Isa 54:7. It means to *loosen, relinquish* or *permit* (#5800). So, God withdrew (relinquished) His protection from Israel and *allowed* them (permitted them) to be taken captive; first by the Assyrians and then (as this Psalm 79 is likely speaking of) to the Babylonians. But again, it really was only a ‘short time’ in God’s view of time. Not only were the Israelites allowed to return to Jerusalem seventy years later (when Cyrus conquered the Babylonians) but *all* of the tribes of Israel were brought back into superpower status during the Christian Era. To learn about who the *true* Israelites are, and *where* many of them live *today*, check out the study on Genesis 49 [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Genesis/633]. So again, the Psalmist is asking these questions (how long the Lord will be angry at them) simply as a way to lament for what he sees going on, and that’s why he then asks...

Psalm 79

6 Pour out thy wrath upon the heathen that have not known thee, and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon thy name.

So, now the Psalmist asks for God to take vengeance upon the heathen who are destroying His inheritance (His people, Israel), His city (Jerusalem) and His Temple (which was in Jerusalem). After all, God made Himself known (through His Laws - His Word) to Israel, *not* to the heathen nations (Deut 4:7-8). So, why didn’t He pour out His wrath upon *them*? Well, He certainly would as many Scriptures foretold. In fact, God promised to punish *many* other nations, as Jer 25:15-16 prophesied of. He not only used the Babylonians to punish the Assyrians (who He used to punish the northern ten tribes of Israel) but, as Jer 50-51 prophesied, God would use the Meds and Persians to punish Babylon (who He used to punish the southern kingdom of Judah). Jer 51 also speaks of Babylon’s fall, which is also prophetic of how Satan’s wicked ‘beast’ governing

system will be destroyed (as is prophesied of in Rev 18). So, the other nations that were making fun of, and laughing at, those in Jerusalem when *they* were invaded... were then invaded, and subjugated, by the Babylonians as well. And decades later (70 years) the Babylonians were conquered by the Medes and the Persians. And then, God used the Greeks to punish them. And then God used the Romans to punish the Greeks. And this process was actually foretold of, by Daniel, in the interpretation of the Babylonian king's dream (Dan 2). But, we are also told that, during the days of the Roman empire, *the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall **never** be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever* (Dan 2:44). This 'setting up' a kingdom that would never be destroyed was when the Messiah, Jesus Christ, came and died for the sins of *all* mankind. It was Jesus Christ who set up the Kingdom of God that will *never* be destroyed. And while Jesus Christ went to heaven (after He rose from the dead), He is *coming back* to take over His kingdom. The parable of the vineyard explains this well (Mth 21:33-46). And this is why Christianity then spread throughout the world (per Jesus' instructions in Mth 28:18-20), even to the 'lost tribes of Israel' - who eventually migrated out of captivity (to the Assyrians) into the Europe and surrounding areas. And the spread of Christianity to the *true* 'lost tribes of Israel' is what gave rise to what we now call the Christian Era. So, most of the *real* 'Israelites' are not actually in the land of Palestine (although there's *a few* there, but *not many*), the majority of them are in the Christian nations of Europe, America and Canada. And, of course, God allowed those Israelites (mostly of Judah and Benjamin) in Babylon (whoever wanted to) to go back to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple and its walls, as Ezra and Nehemiah document.

So, while God *would* pour out His wrath upon the heathen nations, the time for that had not yet come (at the time this Psalm 79 was written). Those in the southern kingdom of Judah had to endure their punishments because truly, most of them *deserved it*. While this Psalmist says that the heathen didn't know God, truly, for much of Israel's history they didn't know Him either, *because they refused* to learn and obey His Laws. As God said to his people (Israel) through His prophet Jeremiah: *Thine habitation is in the midst of deceit; **through deceit they refuse to know me**, saith the LORD* (Jer 9:6). So, **whenever we reject the *truth*** (John 6:62, 17:17, 2 Thess 2:10-12) **we refuse to know God**. And that's bad because we cannot have eternal life if we don't know God and Jesus Christ (John 17:3). That's why so many of the Israelites were slain when the Babylonians attacked them in their final invasion, as this Psalmist pointed out in verse 2-3. They refused to surrender to the Babylonians, as God had warned them to do (Jer 24:5-10). But, as God said in Isa 54:7-8, their punishments would truly only last a 'small moment' in time (compared to eternity anyhow). And God did have great plans for Israel, even though He was (at the time this Psalm was written) allowing them to be punished for their sins. As He said through the prophet Jeremiah...

*For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: **but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished.***

Jer 30:11

27 But fear not thou, O my servant Jacob, and be not dismayed, O Israel: for, behold, I will save thee from afar off, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and be in rest and at ease, and none shall make him afraid.

*28 Fear thou not, O Jacob my servant, saith the LORD: for I am with thee; for I will make a full end of all the nations whither I have driven thee: **but I will not make a full end of thee, but correct thee in measure; yet will I not leave thee wholly unpunished.***

Jer 46:27-28

So, even though God allowed His inheritance (His people Israel) to be punished, He wouldn't make a full end of them, as He would the other nations. Which is ISrael did *not* amalgamate into the heathen nations that carried them away; but instead, migrated out of captivity (years afterwards) into Europe and even over to the Americas (Canada and the US). And, after Jesus Christ came and died for the sins of Israel (*and* the world, Mth 13:44) the Holy Spirit was given to those who believe upon Him (both those of Israel *and* the Gentiles alike, as Acts 10 proves). And that's what gave the 'lost tribes of Israel' the 'heart' to seek, and obey, the Lord (finally), as Jer 24:7 prophesied of. And that's why He then caused them to rise to power in what we now call the 'Christian Era'. It's also important to remember that great technological advancements happened during that time; and that was *no coincidence*. It was God blessing His people, Israel (who had migrated to Europe and the Americas) *because* they had accepted Jesus Christ. Of course, the Christian nations (*true* Israel) have (again) fallen back into apostasy. Seems that our people have a way of doing that when the 'good times come'. And *that's* why we are again being enslaved.

But, the worst of all punishments is soon to come. And that is, of course, when Satan himself is kicked out of heaven, to earth (with his fallen angels, Rev 12). For he'll not only be physically enslaving the world, but also *spiritually* enslaving them. For, while the Assyrians and Babylonians enslaved the world (even Israel) *through force*, Satan (who IS *the* antichrist - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/345>) will use lies and deception to enslave the world, by deceiving them into thinking that *he* is the 'real' God and thus the 'Savior' of the world (Rev 13, 2 Thess 2, etc.). And *that* will cause the whole world to 'wonder' after the 'beast' (Satan's wicked governing system) insomuch they'll actually *give him* control over the *entire* world. But thankfully, he won't go unopposed. God has reserved (as Rev 7 explains) some people on earth who will be fighting against Satan *with the truth*. Not only will He send the two witnesses to testify against Satan (Rev 11) but Jesus also told us others will witness against Satan *and* the other wicked rulers on earth (Mth 10:18-22, Mk 13:9-13, Lk 21:12-19). And the purpose is so

that the Gospel of Jesus Christ can be shared to the *entire* world. As Jesus said, *the Gospel must first be published among all nations* (Mk 13:10) *for a witness unto all nations*; and **then** shall the end come (Matt 24:14). So, just as Jeremiah, and the other prophets, warned what was coming in year past, so too does God have faithful servants who will live during the ‘great tribulation’ (Mth 24:21) so they can warn others to repent for worshiping Satan, and the ‘beast’, *before* the true Jesus Christ returns. You can learn more about this in the following studies...

When Does Satan Appear <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/339>

When Do the Two Witnesses Appear <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/338>

The Two Witnesses and Many Other Witnesses <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/373>

So, God’s wrath *was* poured out upon Israel, Jerusalem and His Temple for a ‘small moment’. And, as it was back then, so it shall be again. For when Jesus Christ returns, God’s wrath will be poured out again. But, it too will only last a small moment (long enough to punish the wicked, arrest them and destroy all the ‘evil elements’ in the world, as 2 Pt 3 speaks of). Yet, just as back then, God’s wrath was, and will **not** be, directed at those who love and fear Him. As Paul said, *God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ* (1 Thess 5:9). For, when we are *justified by his blood*, *we shall be saved from wrath through him* (Rom 5:9) ...

Psalm 79

7 For they have devoured Jacob, and laid waste his dwelling place.

So, after the Psalmist asks that God would stop pouring out His wrath upon His own inheritance (people), city and Temple (vs 6) - and asks that He would instead pour it out on those heathen nations who never knew Him nor called upon His name (worshiped Him) – he now points out (*again*) what the heathen are doing to God’s inheritance, which is His people, Israel. Now, Jacob is another name for Israel; or better said, Israel is another name for Jacob (Gen 32:28). So, the Scriptures sometimes refer to Jacob as ‘Jacob’ ... but sometimes as ‘Israel’ (as we saw also in Psalm 22:23) - *and the reason for doing so is very important*. As the *Companion Bible* points out in the side notes for verses in Gen 32:28, Gen 43:6 and Gen 45:26, 28... the name Israel is used to refer to ‘*spiritual* Israel’ and their ‘*strength*’ *in faith* in God and *submitting* themselves to *God’s will*. But, the name ‘Jacob’ (which means contender) is used of the *natural* Jacob and his *natural* seed; yet it also refers to weakness of man, *especially* that of Jacob’s *natural* seed, which is *one* reason why it’s being used here.

And then the word ‘**devoured**’ simply means *to eat*, but it can be used literally or figuratively (#398). Clearly, it’s being used figuratively here. The *Companion Bible* also has a note explaining that Jacob’s name being used here is another figure of speech (*Metonymy*, of subj., apx 6) which is when one name, or noun, is used instead of another, to which it stands in a

certain relation. So, ‘Jacob’ is being used here for *the riches* of his descendants in the Promise Land. So, what the Psalmist is saying is that, the riches of the Promise Land (Israel’s dwelling place) were being devoured (eaten up) simply because it was being plundered (looted). The words ‘**laid waste**’ mean to *stun, grow numb, devastate* or *stupefy* (#8074), all of which explain how the southern kingdom of Judah felt when they were invaded, plundered and then taken captive. The *Companion Bible* also suggests this word ‘**dwelling place**’ should have been rendered as *pasture* because that is actually one of its meanings (#5116); and doubtlessly, Israel’s pastures (full of grains) were also pillaged by the Babylonians, as well as the city of Jerusalem.

And again, there’s nothing new (Ecc 1:9). For, just as the Babylonian’s devoured (ate up) Jacob’s riches and laid waste to his dwelling places (even their pastures), so too will the coming ‘army’ do to our people (*true* Israel, i.e. the Christian nations) yet again. As the prophet Joel warns, *that which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten* (Joel 1:4). What he’s referring to can be found in Rev 9, where we’re told about the ‘locust army’ - who are simply fallen angels who serve Satan - and who are cast out of heaven (to earth) with him, as Rev 12:9 tells us. And we know that they are Satan’s fallen angels because Rev 9:11 tells us that *they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon*. The word ‘**Abaddon**’ in the Greek means *a destroying angel* (#3) and the word ‘**Apollyon**’ is even more clear about this ‘king’ over the ‘locust army’ (fallen angels), for in the Greek it means *a destroyer* (i.e. **Satan**) (#623). And it comes from the same word (#622 which means to *destroy fully, perish* or *lose*) that the word ‘perdition’ comes from - in 2 Thess 2:3 - where Paul warns us about the ‘son of perdition’ (who is ‘that man of sin’, i.e. Satan) coming to earth to deceive people into worshiping him. So, ‘Jacob’ (i.e. the modern-day Christian nations) will again be devoured and laid waste. Only this time, the devouring is *spiritual* more so than physical, as Joel 1:4 warns us. You can learn more about this in the line-by-line study on the 1st chapter of Joel [<https://t.me/TheMinorProphets/75>] as well as the following special studies...

The Locust Army <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/333>

The Armies <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/351>

But, what we should remember is that, just as God protected those who loved, feared and obeyed Him back in the days Babylon invaded, plundered and burnt Jerusalem (i.e. Jereimiah, Daniel, Ezekiel and the Psalmist who wrote this Ps 79), so too will He protect those who love, fear and obey Him from the coming ‘locust army’. As Rev 9:4 clearly tells us, they can only hurt those *which have not the seal of God in their foreheads*. Therefore, if we want to be protected from the coming deception of the locust army (and from Satan himself) then we’d better work to put on that seal of God! But, how do we do this? It’s really quite simple. Isa 8:16 says: *Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples*. So, it is the Law of God (i.e. God’s Word) that must

be ***sealed in your heart*** (desires, emotions, intentions, motivations) ***and mind*** (thoughts). And, as Jer 31:33, Heb 8:10 and 10:8 all explain, this is simply ‘writing’ God’s Word in your heart and mind. Essentially that means studying God’s Word, believing in it and sincerely striving to obey it *each day* (Lk 9:23). And, ***you’ve got to stick with it***. It’s a change of life *and* a change of heart that must be sincere and must continue on throughout *the rest of your life*. Paul calls it putting off the ‘old man’ (Rom 6:6, Eph 4:22, Col 3:9, Luke 9:23) and putting on the ‘new man’ (Eph 4:24, Col 2:10). John the Baptist also told us that, those who have received the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Jesus’ testimony) hath ‘*set to his seal*’ that God is true (John 3:33). And Paul also says that, *the foundation of God standeth sure, **having this seal**, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity* (2 Tim 2:19). Jesus also explained what the ‘seal of God’ is, in the parable of the sower, when he said that: those who have, *an honest and good heart, having heard the word, **keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience*** (Luke 8:15). You can learn more about this in the following studies...

The Seal of God in Your Forehead <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/475>

The Four Winds and the Sealing of God’s Elect <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/203>

Oil Needed; Be Sure You’re Ready <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/286>

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

*4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that **by these** ye might be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world **through lust**.*

*5 And beside this, giving all diligence, **add to your faith virtue** [courage]; and to virtue knowledge;*

*6 And to knowledge temperance [self-control]; and to temperance **patience**; and to patience godliness;*

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

*8 **For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ**.*

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

*10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, **give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall**:*

*11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly **into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ**.*

2 Peter 1:3-11

We’ll pick this up in part 3...

AMEN.