

## **Lesson No. 112 – In The Last Days**

Hosted by Donald Croswell  
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A while ago I taught a lesson, in fact it was Lesson No. 94 – In That Day, The Ultimate Prophecy. One of the things I learned as I was researching that lesson is that there are numerous Biblical phrases such as “in that day” that the pastors and teachers of “the Household of Faith”, and other congregations that believe themselves to be of “the Household of Faith”, do not emphasize in their doctrines. I believe there are reasons for this.

You may recall that it appears that there are Europeans within “the Household of Faith” that may ignore this because the prophecies associated with this subject create serious doubts to their teachings on the physical and historical identity of the Children of Yisrael (COY).

Well, as members of “the Household of Faith”, our commission is to be led by the Spirit of Truth and grow in the knowledge of every WORD out of the mouth of ELOHIM. We have been given a part, the WORD of ELOHIM”, of which we are commissioned to bear fruit. The phrase “in that day” is but a part the WORD. As we have grown in our understanding of what that phrase is teaching us, we also know that we must remain as little children so that we are open to receive additional truths.

Tonight, I want to address another Biblical phrase that caught my attention recently as I listened to a sermon on the Temple and the Ingathering. I didn't listen to the entire sermon because in that sermon, the teacher taught that the prophecies given by the Prophet Ezekiel regarding a millennial temple worship system are not to be taken literally. Yet in listening, tonight's subject, Lesson No. 112 – In The Last Days, caught my attention. I have heard others teach various doctrines about this phrase, which for the most part was based on congregational doctrines generated by the founders and leaders of these groups, rather than on scripture.

In the last year, I heard a pastor whom I have known for years say this: “Let me tell you when the last days began. They began in 1948 when the Jews returned to their land.” Obviously, he was referring to the Europeans that came to the physical land of Yisrael in 1948 claiming to be the descendants of Yisrael. Apparently, he believes them to be descendants of the COY.

Well, the title phrase, “in the last days” or “the last days” only occurs seven (7) times in ELOHIM’s WORD. If you remember, the phrase “in that day” was spoken of by the prophets on 91 occasions. Had this pastor studied each instance of this phrase, he would recognize the major flaws in his statement, unless like the European teacher I referred to earlier reading Ezekiel’s prophecies, he believes that the Biblical teachings surrounding the phrase “in the last days”, are not to be taken literally. And, if this is to be our approach to ELOHIM’s WORD, I submit that we are not walking in accordance with the Spirit of Truth, but for our own personal benefit. As such, we should all just agree to disagree. However, the Household of Faith has been commissioned by YESHUA HAMASHIAC to “become as one”.

We are commissioned to fulfil 2 vital instructions given to us to: 1) prove all things (1 Thessalonians 5:21) and 2) study to show ourselves approved unto ELOHIM (2 Timothy 2:15). When we don’t do these two things as little children, we fail to carry out the commanded commission of “the Household of Faith”. Remember these words by YESHUA.

- Joh 15:1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Joh 15:2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

In order to bear fruit in a continuous and growing manner, we must prove all things and study to show ourselves approved.

Now on first glance without proof or study, the two phrases “in the last days” and “in that day” might appear to be referring to the same time period; and if you understand one, you probably understand both. However, we are supposed to prove whether or not this is so.

Without any preconceived understandings, let’s review these 7 instances to see what we can learn. I wrestled with where to start this discussion and finally decided to just start at the beginning. This phrase was first spoken by Abraham’s grandson Jacob (Yacob), later renamed Yisrael.

- Gen 49:1 And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you *that* which shall befall you **in the last days**. Gen 49:2 Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father.

This is the first instance of our title phrase. It involves Yacob, telling his 12 sons what would befall them “in the last days”. Many have introduced a variety of interpretations on this. I pray I will not do so.

- Gen 49:3 Reuben, thou *art* my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power: Gen 49:4 Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's bed; then defiledst thou *it*: he went up to my couch.

Let’s briefly understand what this is talking about.

- Gen 35:22 And it came to pass, when Israel dwelt in that land, that Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine: and Israel heard *it*. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve:

Because of this apparent sexual indiscretion, Europeans created the narrative that the nation France, known for its promiscuity, is Reuben.

- Gen 49:5 Simeon and Levi *are* brethren; instruments of cruelty *are in* their habitations. Gen 49:6 O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united: for in their anger they slew a man, and in their selfwill they digged down a wall. Gen 49:7 Cursed *be* their anger, for *it was* fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.
- Gen 49:8 Judah, thou *art he* whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand *shall be* in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Gen 49:9 Judah *is* a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? Gen 49:10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be. Gen 49:11 Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes: Gen 49:12 His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

We need to better understand what Yacob is prophesying about Judah (Yehudah).

- Isa 65:9 And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains: and mine elect shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there.

David and his seed came out of Yehudah. Who was David's seed? We know that this ultimately is speaking of MESSIAH. We will come back to Yehudah a little later.

- Gen 49:13 Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he *shall be* for an haven of ships; and his border *shall be* unto Zidon.
- Gen 49:14 Issachar *is* a strong ass couching down between two burdens:

- Gen 49:15 And he saw that rest *was* good, and the land that *it was* pleasant; and bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant unto tribute.
- Gen 49:16 Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel. Gen 49:17 Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward. Gen 49:18 I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD.
- Gen 49:19 Gad, a troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last.
- Gen 49:20 Out of Asher his bread *shall be* fat, and he shall yield royal dainties.
- Gen 49:21 Naphtali *is* a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words.
- Gen 49:22 Joseph *is* a fruitful bough, *even* a fruitful bough by a well; *whose* branches run over the wall: Gen 49:23 The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot *at him*, and hated him: Gen 49:24 But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty *God* of Jacob; (from thence *is* the shepherd, the stone of Israel:) Gen 49:25 *Even* by the God of thy father, who shall help thee; and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb: Gen 49:26 The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren.

Europeans teach that because Yoseph is prophesied to be so fruitful, this must be referring to his two sons, as the nations of England and the U.S.

- Gen 49:27 Benjamin shall ravin *as* a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.

- Gen 49:28 All these *are* the twelve tribes of Israel: and this *is it* that their father spake unto them, and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them.

And so, here we read of Yisrael's prophecies of what will happen to the descendants of his 12 sons "in the last days". For the most part, we learn very little of when all of these prophesies of Yisrael's sons are to occur. And yet, what we do know is that all of them will occur during "the last days".

However, we do see that with Yehudah, there is a clear reference to SHILOH's entrance into Yerushalaim on the fold of a colt's ass, which was HIS first advent. Initially, I did not expound on this event. But as I did my final review, its importance was magnified.

- Mat 20:17 And Jesus going up to Jerusalem took the twelve disciples apart in the way, and said unto them, Mat 20:18 Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, Mat 20:19 And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify *him*: and the third day he shall rise again.

Here, YESHUA is prepared to make HIS final advent to Yerushalaim prior to HIS death, which the Household of Faith knows was the Passover.

- Mat 21:1 And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples, Mat 21:2 Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose *them*, and bring *them* unto me. Mat 21:3 And if any *man* say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them. Mat 21:4 All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying,

- Mat 21:5 Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.

Verses 4 and 5 quote the Prophet Zechariah (9:9). However, we saw this mentioned as a part of Yisrael's prophecy of his son Yehudah's offspring, as he said: "The sceptre shall not depart from Yehudah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him *shall* the gathering of the people *be*, binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes: His eyes *shall be* red with wine, and his teeth white with milk".

- Mat 21:6 And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them, Mat 21:7 And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set *him* thereon. Mat 21:8 And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed *them* in the way. Mat 21:9 And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed *is* he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest. Mat 21:10 And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? Mat 21:11 And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.

Obviously, the people were totally without an understanding of what they were witnessing. For us, with this we have a clear and direct record of an actual event that we know was prophesied to occur "in the last days". And let's also remember, Yisrael also referenced that "unto SHILOH shall be the coming and gathering the people". The duality is that we this happen at HE rode the ass into Yerushalaim, and, this will also happen on HIS second advent, still yet to come, but also "in the last days".

And, with these first prophesies, we see that "in the last days" clearly did not begin in 1948.

As we continue, we begin to see the words of two of YAHWEH's prophets about other events that will occur "in the last days".

- Isa 2:1 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. Isa 2:2 **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. Isa 2:3 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. Isa 2:4 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. Isa 2:5 O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Now this prophecy is specific to a future time, actually spoken of by other prophets. Yet, it is consistent with that part of Yisrael's prophecy about SHILOH and the coming and gathering of the people. It pictures a future time when YAHWEH's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, the kingdoms of the earth. Has this happened yet? We know that YAHWEH came in the flesh in the name of YESHUA. However, we also know that this prophecy is regarding the 1,000 years of peace during YESHUA's reign on this earth. So, this too will happen "in the last days. And there is one final prophecy regarding this time period.

- Mic 4:1 **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.



- Mic 4:2 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. Mic 4:3 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.

If someone read the words of both ISAIAH AND Micah's prophecies to an audience with closed eyes, the audience would think that both prophecies were written by the same prophet. Yet, here we have two prophets prophesying about the same events, which also occur "in the last days".

And, as we continue to read, we notice that these events also cross paths with another phrase we mentioned earlier. We know that these specific events also describe what will occur "in that day". This is the day, when the remnant of the COY shall be brought back to their lands and no longer live in oppression by the nations.

- Mic 4:4 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*. Mic 4:5 For all people will walk everyone in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever. Mic 4:6 **In that day**, saith the LORD, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted;

So, as the Prophet Micah writes of what will happen "in the last days", he teaches that what will happen "in that day" is an integral part of "in the last days".

- Mic 4:7 And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even forever. Mic 4:8 And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem. Mic 4:9 Now why dost thou cry out aloud? *is there* no king in thee? is thy counsellor perished? for pangs have taken thee as a woman in travail. Mic 4:10 Be in pain, and labour to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in travail: for now shalt thou go forth out of the city, and thou shalt dwell in the field, and thou shalt go *even* to Babylon; there shalt thou be delivered; there the LORD shall redeem thee from the hand of thine enemies. Mic 4:11 Now also many nations are gathered against thee, that say, Let her be defiled, and let our eye look upon Zion. Mic 4:12 But they know not the thoughts of the LORD, neither understand they his counsel: for he shall gather them as the sheaves into the floor. Mic 4:13 Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion: for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass: and thou shalt beat in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their gain unto the LORD, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.

The “Household of Faith” recognizes that this will happen “in that day”; a clear reference to the time when YAHWEH, as YESHUA, will return and rule this earth with HIS saints.

These are the first three instances of our title subject, “in the last days”; each written by the prophets of YAHWEH. Now, ELOHIM’s WORD shifts to the disciples/apostles of YESHUA.

Typically, when we hear today’s pastors mention “the last days”, it is typically based on the words of the apostles of YESHUA. Well, these words begin as we revisit what the Apostle Peter included in his great speech about “the last days”.

- Act 2:14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: Act 2:15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is *but* the third hour of the day. Act 2:16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; Act 2:17 **And it shall come to pass in the last days,** saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: Act 2:18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

Here again, the Apostle Peter is making his great speech on the first Appointed Time of Weeks under the New Covenant, which the world calls Pentecost. Through our continuous studying, we are confident that this day was when ELOHIM sent forth the Comforter, the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of Truth, to the servants of YESHUA, who was YAHWEH come in the flesh who died, was resurrected, and returned to the FATHER as the SON of ELOHIM. Peter talked about the words spoken by the Prophet Yoel. Well let's take a look at the prophet's words.

- Joe 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: Joe 2:29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

The Apostle Peter obviously was teaching that the events that occurred at the Appointed Time of Weeks was the fulfillment of verses 28 and 29. There, he and the other apostles spoke to the COY present that day from every nation under the heaven, in their native tongues. We read where the prophet stated in verse 28 “And it shall come to pass afterward”.

However, the apostle writes of this event as: “it shall come to pass in the last days”. What does the prophet mean by afterward? The Apostle Peter also spoke the following about the prophet’s words as he continued his testimony to the COY. Hold your place in Yoel 2.

- Act 2:19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: Act 2:20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: Act 2:21 And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

The prophet wrote it this way.

- Joe 2:30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. Joe 2:31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. Joe 2:32 And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

What we must remember is that the prophets spoke what they were told by YAHWEH. However, they were not provided with a lot of information about chronological flow or timetables. What is apparent is that these prophecies about these wonders in the heavens, the sun turning into darkness and the moon turning into blood, are yet to come. And yet, these are also referred to by the apostle as occurring “in the last days”.

YESHUA gave us a hint about these days when HE responded to HIS disciples’ questions about the sign of HIS coming and the end of the world. HE included this statement in the midst of HIS response.

- Mat 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

Here, YESHUA says that these signs of the sun and the moon will be immediately after the tribulation of those days. So, the question is whether or not this tribulation has occurred.

- Mat 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Mat 24:16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: Mat 24:17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Mat 24:18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. Mat 24:19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! Mat 24:20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: Mat 24:21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

When the abomination of desolation occurs, the people who will be in Yehudah are admonished to escape into the mountains, because great tribulation shall follow it.

- Mat 24:22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. Mat 24:23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here *is* Christ, or there; believe *it* not. Mat 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Mat 24:25 Behold, I have told you before. Mat 24:26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, *he is* in the secret chambers; believe *it* not.

- Mat 24:27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Mat 24:28 For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

This is when the sun shall turn dark and the moon red; after the great tribulation. Per YESHUA, it is after this tribulation that false christs and prophets with great signs and wonders shall arise. And then this.

- Mat 24:30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. Mat 24:31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Now remember as we read all of these scriptures, how that the Apostle Peter told us that Yoel's prophecy about the pouring out of ELOHIM's SPIRIT, which occurred on the first New Covenant Appointed Time of Weeks, was also "in the last days". Now we have two specific events that we know of that occurred "in the last days"; 1) YESHUA's advent into Yerushalaim prior to HIS death, and 2) the events of the appointed Time of Weeks as the Holy Spirit was given.

To further understand this, let us not forget the Biblical principles and protocols that ELOHIM has taught us. We recall that the phrase "in that day", refers to the 1,000-year reign of YESHUA and HIS saints. We know the principle of a prophetic day being one thousand years. Now we appear to be seeing a rather wide range of events all occurring during the time ELOHIM calls "in the last days".

The Prophet Yoel and the Apostle Peter gave us a hint as we read earlier that YAHWEH would pour out HIS SPIRIT on all flesh. We must consider,

does this only happen during the one event, the first Appointed Time of Weeks under the New Covenant? Or, was that event simply in the beginning of “in the last days”? The both wrote “on all flesh”. This teaches us that there is a process, a timetable established to fulfill this prophecy. Why?

We know that on that first New Covenant Weeks, there were three thousand souls added to the Household of Faith. That clearly was not “all flesh”. It was a start that looks ahead to the end of all flesh; the ingathering we spoke of recently. We must remember that ELOHIM established HIS WORD based on another principle, duality.

- 2Ti 3:1 This know also, that **in the last days perilous times shall come**. 2Ti 3:2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 2Ti 3:3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, 2Ti 3:4 Traitors, heady, high minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 2Ti 3:5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. 2Ti 3:6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, 2Ti 3:7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

These verses have been quoted so often. Generally, they truly appear to picture the world of modernity in which we exist in today. It pictures a world that has increasingly ignored the teachings of YAHWEH. And while many in modernity claim a belief in Jesus Christ, the reality is that immediately after the times of the Apostles, there has been a steady and increasing growth in the belief in false Christs. Notice these examples.

- 2Co 11:13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 2Co 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

- 2Co 11:15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.
- Gal 2:1 Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with *me* also. Gal 2:2 And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain. Gal 2:3 But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised: Gal 2:4 And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage:
- 2Pe 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: 2Pe 2:10 But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous *are they*, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. 2Pe 2:11 Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord. 2Pe 2:12 But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption; 2Pe 2:13 And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, *as they* that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots *they are* and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; 2Pe 2:14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: 2Pe 2:15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam *the son* of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 2Pe 2:16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.



- 2Pe 2:17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. 2Pe 2:18 For when they speak great swelling *words* of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, *through much* wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. 2Pe 2:19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

The unrighteousness that the Apostle Paul described as the perilous times “in the last days”, existed in their time as well. What it appears the apostle is saying is that as these last days continue, these forms of unrighteousness will increase. And here is where it appears the duality of scripture presents us with understanding. The Prophet Yoel prophesied the pouring out of YAHWEH’s SPIRIT on all flesh. This began with the disciples of YESHUA on that eventful day of the first New Covenant Appointed Time of Weeks. It will not conclude until a time in the future. What more did the apostles say about these “last days”.

- Jas 5:1 Go to now, *ye* rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon *you*. Jas 5:2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. Jas 5:3 Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for **the last days**.

Isn’t this clear that the apostle is talking of people that existed during his time, and describing that this could and will occur throughout “the last days”?

- Jas 5:4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. Jas 5:5 Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.

- Jas 5:6 Ye have condemned *and* killed the just; *and* he doth not resist you.

Who are these just who have been condemned that resist not? Who has reaped the fields but profited not? Perhaps the target of this apostle's words gives a hint.

- Jas 1:1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

We know through study that the apostle is targeting the COY that were and are scattered throughout the nations of the world. Other scriptures describe how they will plow, but reap not. Yet, his primary audience amongst these COY are those being called and drawn to YESHUA. To them, he is offering words of encouragement and endurance during “the last days”.

- Jas 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Jas 5:8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for **the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.**

Verse 8 teaches us a lot. The coming of the Lord shall also occur “in the last days”. This also was clear as we read the words written by the prophets. There is one other New Covenant reference to “in the last days.

- 2Pe 3:1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: 2Pe 3:2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: 2Pe 3:3 Knowing this first, that there shall come **in the last days** scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

- 2Pe 3:4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation. 2Pe 3:5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: 2Pe 3:6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: 2Pe 3:7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

Again, if we can see it, this wickedness existed during the apostle's time. But it continues to grow in modernity. We all can testify on this. These are the words that lead into the following verse which we quote so often.

- 2Pe 3:8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day *is* with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

We know that King David also spoke of this important revelation about ELOHIM and HIS WORD. Why is the apostle choosing to speak of it at this particular place in his testimony?

Isn't it because he is teaching us that the "last days" are in fact several prophetic days, i.e., several thousand years, just like the seven days of creation week were seven thousand years? As such, "the Household of Faith" is admonished to not be astonished by the evil that continues in modernity and remember that ELOHIM's desire is that "all should come to repentance" and not perish. This is why and how HE developed HIS plan of salvation.

However, it is a plan that includes vital intermittent steps “in the last days” that based on what we have read tonight, appears to have begun with YESHUA’s final advent in the flesh into Yerushalaim to die and became the FIRST FRUITS, pictured by the Appointed Time of Weeks; and finally, will be fulfilled at the Appointed Time of the Ingathering.

Notice how the apostle next flows into something we have discussed, and will continue to discuss.

- 2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 2Pe 3:11 *Seeing then that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness, 2Pe 3:12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of **the day of God**, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 2Pe 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Do you notice where the apostle refers to “the day of the Lord” and “the day of ELOHIM”. These are both one and the same. Just read the descriptions inverses 10 and 12 of both. Verse 13 speaks of how those of the “Household of Faith” “look for new heavens and a new earth”. Do we remember when this will occur? This is after the great white throne judgement when the Books are opened along with the Book of Life.

Why are these Books opened? It is the day of judgement when the SPIRIT of ELOHIM will be finally poured out unto all flesh. It is then and only then when all flesh will finally come to the knowledge of the truth to be able to come to repentance; when the Books are opened. That is when Yoel’s prophecy of YAHWEH’s Spirit being poured out on “all flesh” shall have the ultimate and final fulfillment.

We all know that YESHUA's words are spirit. HIS words began in the garden of Eden to Adam, and continue through the prophets and the apostles. They will be poured out on all flesh at this time.

Earlier, the Prophet Yoel said that the pouring out of YAHWEH's SPIRIT upon all flesh would follow some other events. Let's read about these. And as we read these, notice the consistencies between the prophets and the disciples, remembering that it is the disciples that bind the testimony.

- Joe 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and 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; Joe 2:2 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 and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, *even* to the years of many generations. Joe 2:3 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; yea, and nothing shall escape them. Joe 2:4 The appearance of them *is* as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. Joe 2:5 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. Joe 2:6 Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. Joe 2:7 They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march everyone on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: Joe 2:8 Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk everyone in his path: and *when* they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. Joe 2:9 They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. Joe 2:10 The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining:

- Joe 2:11 And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp *is* very great: for *he is* strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD *is* great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

Verse 11 refers to YAHWEH's army being very great. The Apostle Yochanan was told of this great army and its destructive path.

- Rev 9:13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Rev 9:14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. Rev 9:15 And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. Rev 9:16 And the number of the army of the horsemen *were* two hundred thousand: and I heard the number of them. Rev 9:17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses *were* as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. Rev 9:18 By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. Rev 9:19 For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails *were* like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt. Rev 9:20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Rev 9:21 Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

This is YAHWEH's army. We see over and over the consistency of the prophets and the apostles.

- Joe 2:12 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye *even* to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: Joe 2:13 And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he *is* gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. Joe 2:14 Who knoweth *if* he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; *even* a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God?

In our last study, we had a beautiful and lively discussion about the events prophesied on the Year of Yubilee. Our conclusions reminded us of the fact that each appointed time YAHWEH gave to the COY points to a greater past or future event. The apostles collectively wrote of the time of “in the last days” as including the events of the Appointed Time of Weeks, as well as other events that would follow. Notice what the Prophet Yoel next writes.

- Joe 2:15 Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:

Consider, when will the trumpet blow in Zion during a sanctified fast while a solemn assembly is also called? Last week’s lively and I believe fruitful discussion was on the events to occur in the future during the Year of Yubilee, as the trumpet will blow on the Day of Atonement, while the Household of Faith will be fasting. Aren’t we reading the same event spoken here by the Prophet Yoel?

- Joe 2:16 Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.

- Joe 2:17 Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where *is* their God? Joe 2:18 Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people. Joe 2:19 Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen: Joe 2:20 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 toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savour shall come up, because he hath done great things. Joe 2:21 Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things. Joe 2:22 Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. Joe 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first *month*. Joe 2:24 And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil. Joe 2:25 And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. Joe 2:26 And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. Joe 2:27 And ye shall know that I *am* in the midst of Israel, and *that I am* the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed.

The Prophet Yoel spoke these words after warning the COY about the Day of YAHWEH. This prophecy confirms that these events are to occur when YESHUA returns again. When HE returns, HE will first gather HIS saints, when the last trump blows. HE will change them from their tabernacles of



flesh into immortal beings. We know of the death and destruction that will occur on the earth at this time. We also know that while all of this occurs “in the last days”, the events of YESHUA’s second coming are specific to “in that day”, the final day of “the last days”. Remember how the Prophet Zechariah spoke of this day.

- Zec 14:1 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. Zec 14:2 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. Zec 14:3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. Zec 14:4 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. Zec 14:5 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.

These are resurrected saints, who are now in the likeness of YESHUA, spirit beings.

- Zec 14:6 And it shall come to pass **in that day**, *that* the light shall not be clear, *nor* dark: Zec 14:7 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. Zec 14:8 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.

- Zec 14:9 And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one. Zec 14:10 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. Zec 14:11 And *men* shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

We remember that Yisrael spoke that in SHILOH shall be the coming and gathering of the people “in the last days”. Just as we read last week in Leviticus 25 what happens after the trumpet blows on the Day of Atonement in the year of Yubilee, we see how that it pictures this great future time when the COY shall be gathered from the nations of their captivity back to their land. After the cleansing of the earth by YESHUA, they shall dwell in peace.

As the Apostle Peter continued his great speech given in the power of the Holy Spirit at the Appointed Time of Weeks, he spoke of these conclusions.

- Act 2:29 Men *and* brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. Act 2:30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;

We see again the consistencies of the disciples of YESHUA and the prophets of YAHWEH. Together, we are given this great understanding as we approach ELOHIM's WORD, precept upon precept, a little here, a little there, allowing ourselves to fall backwards, to be broken, snared and taken forward.

As we read through these seven sets of scriptures (3 by the prophets and 4 by the apostles), what have we learned. The disciples, who would bind the testimonies give the clearest evidence of when “the last days” truly began. Initially, I saw that it was with the first fulfillment of the words of the Prophet Yoel regarding YAHWEH pouring out HIS Spirit on all flesh. This Spirit that was first poured out came to the COY assembled at that first Appointed Time of Weeks of the New Covenant came in two forms; the ministering spirits representing the Comforter, and, the WORD of ELOHIM.

However, by staying with the program, precept upon precept, line upon line, a little here, a little there, the first verifiable event that is conclusively identified as occurring “in the last days”, was YESHUA’s advent into Yerushalaim just prior to HIS becoming our PASSOVER. This was the announcing of HIS entrance as King. It foreshadows the other prophecies we have read of which will mark the ending events of “the last days”.

Something else we see being testified here. In the last days we will see the wickedness on the earth continually increase until YESHUA will intervene to save the earth from mankind’s folly. In the last days we will see the great tribulation, a third of mankind killed, the sun darkened, the moon blood shot, all just before the return of YESHUA to the earth in great power and glory. In the last days, in fact, “in that day”, a day yet future, we will see the remnant of the COY finally returned to their lands. At the end these last days, the great white throne judgement will occur after the second resurrection.

We learned in 2 Timothy 3:7 that during the “last days” man will be “ever learning never able to come to the knowledge of the truth”. Well, it is at the end of this last day of the last days, Yoel’s prophecy of YAHWEH pouring out HIS Spirit upon all flesh will finally be fulfilled when the Books are opened after the 2<sup>nd</sup> resurrection and great white throne judgement. Then, the binding of the testimony will also be complete.

Let's close with the testimony.

- 1Ti 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; 1Ti 2:2 For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 1Ti 2:3 For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 1Ti 2:4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 1Ti 2:5 For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 1Ti 2:6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

This will be the final testimony to conclude this period we know as “in the last days”; the opportunity for all men to be saved. YESHUA gave HIS life as a ransom for all mankind. However, there is a process we must all follow. In the end, a great opportunity will be offered to all, most of whom will not understand the truth of this opportunity until completion of “the last days”, when YAHWEH’s Spirit, the WORD of ELOHIM, is opened to all flesh who were not previously given it.

What a wonderful plan perceived of by ELOHIM and given to the “Household of Faith” to bear fruit for the salvation of the world. However, if we are to be successful, let us humbly strive to resolve our differences, become as one, so that our lights shall truly shine “in these last days” of perilous times. We know the conclusion of these days. Halleluyah!!!

Shalom!!