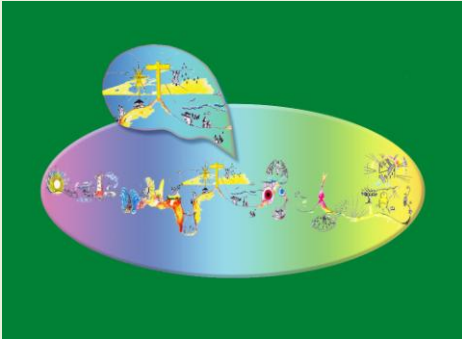


平成23年 6月 月報
フルダ・ミニストリー

—主に在る
とこしえの集い—

JUNE 2011

NO 188



Eternal Fellowship News Bulletin

We believe in one GOD, in three persons; FATHER, SON and HOLY SPIRIT. We regard the Bible (both Hebrew Bible and New Testament) as the only infallible authoritative WORD OF GOD.

HULDAH MINISTRY aims to return to the Word Of God, founded on Hebrew background and to interpret it from Hebraic perspective, acknowledging that Jesus is a Jew and the Jewish-ness of His teaching as a continuation from the Hebrew Bible. The Ministry also aims to put His teaching into practice, to have a closer relationship with the Lord, Jesus Christ, and to regularly have a Christian fellowship so that this-worldly kingdom of God will materialise in the midst of the followers of Jesus here and now, as well as earnestly seeking Christ's Return to establish the otherworldly Kingdom of God on earth.

All activities are free of charge and no obligation whatever. Just enjoy our fellowship!

www.huldahministry.com
information@huldahministry.com



HULDAH MINISTRY

LETTER TO THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST

【 GLORIOUS FUTURE OF ISRAEL 】

In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and peoples will stream to it.

Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war any more. Every man will sit under his own vine and under his own fig-tree, and no-one will make them afraid, for the LORD Almighty has spoken. All the nations may walk in the name of their gods; we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.....

Why do you now cry aloud—have you no king? Has your counsellor perished, that pain seizes you like that of a woman in labour? Writhe in agony, O Daughter of Zion, like a woman in labour, for now you must leave the city to camp in the open field. You will go to Babylon; there you will be rescued. There the LORD will redeem you out of the hand of your enemies.

But now many nations are gathered against you. They say, "Let her be defiled, let your eyes gloat over Zion!" But they do not know the thoughts of the LORD; they do not understand his plan, he who gathers them like sheaves to the threshing-floor.

Rise and thresh, O Daughter of Zion, for I will give you hoofs of bronze and you will break to pieces

many nations.

You will devote their ill-gotten gains to the LORD, their wealth to the Lord of all the earth. Marshal your troops, O city of troops, for a siege is laid against us. They will strike Israel's ruler on the cheek with a rod. **MICAH 4:1-5, :9-5:1.**

On 14th May '11, the State of Israel observed the 63rd anniversary of its independence. However, there is growing fear that if the proposals made by President Obama in his State Department speech are implemented, that such an observance could be its last. After Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah party reached a unity government deal with Hamas, a terrorist group on 27th April, shockwaves have hit Israel. A new threat has arisen that if Hamas was to seize control of Judea and Samaria, i.e., the West Bank as it seized control of the Gaza Strip, the interim unity government will be unable to take part in the peace process with Israel any longer. This Palestinian deal was reached under Egyptian mediation in Cairo, and the Palestinians are expected to seek recognition of a 'State of Palestina' to the United Nations (UN) this September. It was under this situation that Obama chose to issue a public demand that Israel should pre-emptively surrender to those who do not recognise Israel's right to exist and thus, who show no room for negotiation, by relinquishing all the disputed territories which Israel acquired in the Six-Day War, a defensive war against the Arabs in 1967.

President Obama gave a speech on the Middle East on 19th May. A columnist for '*The Jerusalem Post*' puts it: 'Obama's renunciation of the US national interests unfolded as follows: First, Obama mentioned a number of core US interests in the region. In his view these are: "Countering terrorism and stopping the spread of nuclear weapons; securing the free flow of commerce, and safe-guarding the security of the region; standing up for Israel's security and pursuing Arab-Israeli peace." Then he said, "Yet we must acknowledge that a strategy based solely upon the narrow pursuit of these interests will not fill an empty stomach or allow someone to speak their mind." While this is true enough, Obama went on to say that the Arabs have good reason to hate the US and that it is up to the US to put its national interests aside in the interest of making them like America. As he put it, "a failure to change our approach threatens a deepening spiral of division between the United States and Muslim communities." And you know what that means. If the US doesn't end the "spiral of division," (sounds sort of like "spiral of violence" doesn't it?), then the Muslims will come after America. So the US better straighten up and fly right. And how does it do that? Well, by courting the Muslim Brotherhood which spawned Al Qaeda, Hamas, Jamma Islamiya and a number of other terror groups and is allies with Hezbollah.....So US short term interests, like for instance preventing terrorist attacks against itself or its interests, will have to be sacrificed for the greater good of bringing the Muslim Brotherhood to power in democratic elections.....And he also said that the US will "support the governments that will be elected later this year" in Egypt and Tunisia. But why would the US support governments controlled by the Muslim Brotherhood?.....The US President just abandoned his responsibility to defend the country and its interests in the interest of coddling the US's worst enemies.

AS FOR ISRAEL.....By abandoning even a semblance of friendliness, he has told us that we have nothing whatsoever to gain by trying to make him like us. Obama didn't even say that he would oppose the Palestinians' plan to get the UN Security Council to pass a resolution in support for Palestinian independence.....Obama sided with Hamas against Israel by acting as though its partnership with Fatah is just a little problem that has to be sorted out to reassure the paranoid Jews.....Hamas is a jihadist movement dedicated to the annihilation of the Jewish people, and the establishment of a global caliphate. It's in their charter. And all Obama said of the movement that has now taken over the Palestinian Authority was, "Palestinian leaders will not achieve peace or prosperity if Hamas insists on a path of terror and rejection".....As for being untrue, Obama's speech makes clear that they have no reason to fear a loss of prosperity. After all, by failing to mention that US law bars the US government from funding an entity which includes Hamas, he made clear that the US will continue to bankroll the Hamas-controlled Palestinian Authority. So too, the EU will continue to join the US.....He said he was leaving Jerusalem out but actually brought it in by calling for an Israeli retreat to the 1949 lines.....Conceptually and substantively, Obama abandoned the US alliance with Israel. The rest of his words - security arrangements, demilitarized

Palestinian state and the rest of it - were nothing more than filler to please empty-headed liberal Jews in America so they can feel comfortable signing checks for him again.....But both in his speech to AIPAC and his address to Congress, he should very forthrightly tell the truth about the nature of the populist movements in the Middle East, the danger of a nuclear Iran, the Palestinians' commitment to Israel's destruction; the lie of the so-called peace process; the importance of standing by allies; and the critical importance of a strong Israel to US national security' (Caroline Glick on 20th May '11).

'*Israel today Magazine*' puts it on Thursday, 26th May: 'With country after country lining up to support the unilateral creation of a Palestinian Arab state in September, the Palestinian leadership is feeling increasingly confident in rewriting history. In an op-ed piece published by the *New York Times* last week, Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas claimed that after the UN decided to partition "Palestine" into Jewish and Arab states in 1947, the "Zionists" launched an unprovoked military offensive forcing surrounding Arab states to intervene. Abbas wants the world body to "right that historic wrong" by recognizing an independent Palestinian state on ancient Jewish lands later this year. It has been nothing short of astonishing to watch as respected international media outlets like the *Times* act as mouthpieces for these grotesque revisions of documented history. This phenomenon should leave little doubt that there is a spiritual battle taking place, and that its physical manifestation often defies logic'. Behind the scene is indeed a spiritual war. If we turn our eyes to Scripture it is a stern fact that nobody resists God's ordained plans concerning His people Israel and His land. In the 20th Century, it is recorded that over a hundred completely new independent states came into existence. Among them the creation of Israel alone can be called a miracle. Israel was literally born in a day exactly as Isaiah prophesied: ***"Before she goes into labour she gives birth; before the pains come upon her, she delivers a son. Who has ever heard of such a thing? Who has ever seen such things? Can a country be born in a day or a nation be brought forth in a moment? Yet no sooner is Zion in labour than she gives birth to her children. Do I bring to the moment of birth and not give delivery? says the LORD. "Do I close up the womb when I bring to delivery?" says your God' (Is.66:7-8)***. While a friend under false pretences can cause more damage than an enemy, there are supporters of Israel over the issue of Obama's speech: 'Israel found support in resisting US President Barack Obama's dangerous peace policies not only in the US Congress, but also in America's northern neighbor, Canada. On Monday, Canadian officials told Ottawa's *Globe and Mail* newspaper that Obama's adoption of the Arab position that peace must be based on the 1967 borders was out of place. "Both the Israelis and the Palestinians have to decide on their bottom lines, which the Israelis have said will not include a return to the 1967 border," one official said. Earlier this month, Canada reelected Stephen Harper as its prime minister. Harper has been a staunch supporter of Israel through his previous two terms. In a speech last year, he charged that anti-Israel political sentiment was just a thin guise for anti-Semitism. Israel was reportedly a major election issue this year in Canada, and Harper's unwavering friendship toward the Jewish state is believed to have helped him achieve his most heathly margin of victory yet' ('*israel today Magazine*' on Wednesday, 25th May '11).

A dilemma over the issues of the existence of Israel and of the land never seems to leave Israel. For more than four thousand years of Jewish history they have been continually fighting to acquire what has been promised them by God. An article in '*Jewish World Review*' posted on 24th May '11, sarcastically casts a question: 'Why does anyone continue to believe that the unsuccessful "Land for Peace" formula can magically persuade Arab states and terrorist groups to lay down their arms and change their minds about a goal they have taught in their schools, preached in their mosques and reinforced in their media since 1948?' There are many verses in Scripture to answer this question, many of which we have examined in past letters. This month we will examine God's glorious promises about Israel beyond the present dilemma from Micah.

The first few verses of Micah chapter 4 are almost identical to Isaiah 2:2-4, whose passage will be consummated at the Second Coming of Christ and the preaching of the gospel under His reign on the earth. It is a prophecy regarding the Messianic era, when overwhelming peace and security will fill the world without the existence of war and fear. Jews and gentiles alike will love, obey and rely on the Lord and His Word alone. Thus, the kingdom of David will perfectly be restored under the Jewish Messiah, Jesus Christ. Having conveyed a glorious picture of what God intended as the future of Jerusalem in the Messianic period, Micah returns to the contemporary harsh realities of the people of Judah in verse 9 onwards, as quoted at the beginning of this letter. Here he foresees both an impending exile to Babylon and a restoration of Jerusalem after that, both of which the people of Judah still awaited the fulfilment in his days. He also foresees judgment against the enemies of Jerusalem, and a final redemption of God's people by the Messiah.

The people of Jerusalem, addressed as the *'Daughter of Zion'* are crying out like a woman having her contractions before giving birth. Because of the corrupted leadership of the city she is in such agony, and worse still, those pangs will last very long until the people of Jerusalem finally find new life back in their homeland. This prophecy contains the substantial hope that something new and better awaits. Ultimately the Lord is at her side as her king and counsellor. In the long persevering process, the *'Daughter of Zion'* is to suffer a lot because many nations will come to ravage the temple on Mount Zion and to defile the Holy of holies. Some of what the prophets unanimously predicted about the suffering of Zion have already taken place in Jewish history but there are still many that should be fulfilled in the last days. One of which that are about to take place now might be a conspiracy against Israel by the confederated world: *'With cunning they conspire against your people; they plot against those you cherish. "Come," they say, "let us destroy them as a nation, that the name of Israel be remembered no more' (Ps.83:3-4)*. Godless people fail to understand the Lord's plan that it is not Israel but they themselves that are to be gathered to be threshed as *'sheaves to the threshing-floor'* and to be destroyed, while God's people are to have a future and a hope. Contrary to the arrayed enemies' expectations, Israel will be effectively used like a heifer to thresh: *'Rise and thresh, O Daughter of Zion, for I will give you hoofs of bronze and you will break to pieces many nations.'*

In the past as the Lord commanded Israel to completely destroy the pagan nations who were involved in idolatrous worship in the land of Canaan, so a similar command is to be given to her in the last days, so that in the end, the wealth of the nations is to be brought into the city and the kingdom of God. This is the immutable purpose of God, and it must simply be fulfilled in the end. However, for the time-being, God's people have to undergo seemingly endless but rewarding travail. In fact, as predicted, Jerusalem was besieged and her kings were taken to Babylon. History proved that the last king of Judah, Zedekiah was humiliated and blinded as Micah implied in 5:1, *'Marshal your troops.....They will strike Israel's ruler on the cheek with a rod.'*

Israel's glorious past in the days of King David is alluded to in Micah: *'As for you, O watchtower of the flock, O stronghold of the Daughter of Zion, the former dominion will be restored to you; kingship will come to the Daughter of Jerusalem'(4:6)*, and in 5:2 Micah predicts a well-known prophecy of the coming Messiah, the appearance of *'one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times'*, where Micah stresses that the figure is 'of old', i.e., an eternal and divine origin as well as a link to King David. *'Bethlehem Ephrathah'* is the home of Jesse and the birthplace of David. This town was so small and insignificant that it was not even mentioned in a list of 115 place-names of Judah when Joshua divided the land. The coming ruler is distinct from any other leader and a supernatural figure and yet, He is of a lineage of David. Micah's prophecy of the Messiah changing the situation for God's people continues. But in the meantime, we will have to wait patiently for such glorious days.