

World War Three

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As the world faces the growing threat of Islamic ideology and the Third World War, the Lord is revealing holy strategies to His people. The revelation of these heavenly ways is intensifying in us. How are we to bring heaven down to earth? How are we to tear down these strongholds (2 Cor. 10:4)? Avner continues to study these issues and we are aware that the Lord is putting the Islamic and Arab world before us in a new and deeper way. We believe that God is unfolding a plan for us regarding these things.

In late July, in the middle of the war, we wrote to you that "Israel is engaged on the front lines of a spiritual battle with dark forces opposed to Messiah Yeshua. Though for the most part Israel is still in unbelief, God is working through Israel to prepare the way for the coming King." Israel is being brought to the end of herself so that she will look up and see her King. In mid-August Israel emerged from the war shaken, confused and divided. In Israel, public recrimination and soul-searching have been mixed with the knowledge that the nation must prepare for more body blows.

Here and around the world many are aware that we are headed into a bigger battle, and that the "second Lebanon war" was just one more round in the brewing conflict which will eventually boil over into a wide-scale conflagration.

Dark clouds are gathering on the horizon. How are we to then live?

Here are some words of encouragement. Believers in Yeshua know that history is His story. We are God's partners on earth, fleshing out His will, facilitating the coming of His kingdom in power and glory. One of the most helpful, sustaining and encouraging elements of our lives is gathering together for worship and prayer with other saints. We have learned that getting into God's presence is essential in keeping one's balance and sanity, maintaining direction, receiving hope and vision for the future. In His presence we hear from Him and receive strategies for prayer and action. It's a place of being pro-active in the fight rather than reacting to the enemy's commotion. We are not wrestling with flesh and blood but with spiritual principalities and powers.

In one of our recent worship and prayer gatherings a word of revelation was shared. Steve and Jeanie Gelbart are Jewish believers who are part of the local worshipping community. During worship Jeanie shared a dream that she had several years ago. This dream is relevant to the situation in Israel today, speaks to Jewish believers who are the "remnant of Israel" (Romans 11:4-5), and brings encouragement to the Body of Messiah to continue to stand firm in God's purposes in these last days.

Jeanie's Dream—"The Basement of the House that is Israel"

"During worship the Lord reminded me of a dream that I had sometime in 2001, when I was still living in Kansas City. Here is the dream, and some interpretation will follow.

I looked across the street from where I lived, and I knew that the house across the street was Israel. It had a huge hole in the roof, as if a bomb or missile had fallen through it and destroyed part of it. I entered the house and saw a lot of guys in suits and ties running around chaotically, and I perceived that they were the politicians. I immediately felt out of place there. I wasn't at all savvy about Israeli politics, and I knew I was entirely out of my league in that environment. A woman was sitting there at a desk, a receptionist or secretary, and she noticed me, and led me down to the basement of the house.

The basement of the house was dark and somewhat dingy, with low ceilings and dim lights. It resembled a library, with large tables, and shelves of what appeared to be dusty, old, one-of-a-kind, very valuable books. They were over-sized leather-bound volumes measuring about 18 inches (50 cm) in length. No one else was down in the basement except a bearded guy wearing a *kippah* (head covering), white shirt, black trousers, and *tzitziot* (fringes). He seemed to be the keeper of the books, the librarian. He handed me a book, and I sat down and opened it up at one of the big tables. It was the book of the generations of my family.

I was given to understand that all the books in the basement were the books of the generations of the people of Israel. I understood that my job was to pray prayers of repentance on behalf of the sins of people in the generations of my family.

The following interpretations came to me in the aftermath of the dream, some immediately, and some over time. First of all, I saw that it didn't matter where I lived or what I was involved with, Israel was very close, as it were, right across the street. It wasn't something I could avoid or ignore, even though I was living in the Diaspora. The condition of the house and those in it is much like the state of the nation of Israel today. The threat of destruction was current, evidenced by the big hole in the roof. The politicians were agitated, and there was a sense of urgency and desperation. I understood that what was happening in the basement was critical and foundational to what was unfolding on the surface level of the house. I believe that what the Lord was communicating to me through the dream was that His purposes and plans for Israel could not be fulfilled apart from a massive movement of repentance for the sins of our people throughout the generations (not the least of which is the rejection of *Mashiach Yeshua*). This understanding was confirmed to me in Leviticus 26:40-42:

"But if they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers, with their unfaithfulness in which they were unfaithful to Me, and that they also have walked contrary to Me, and that I also have walked contrary to them and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if their uncircumcised hearts are humbled, and they accept their guilt – then I will remember My covenant with Jacob, and My covenant with Isaac, and my covenant with Abraham I will remember; I will remember the land."

As such, I felt that it was to be the responsibility of Jewish believers to begin the work of identificational repentance on behalf of the generations. It is incumbent upon us at this time because we have been given revelation of the scriptural principles. It is our job to break open the door of repentance, and make way for the revelation to come to the rest of the *Am Yisrael* (the people of Israel), in preparation for the fulfillment of Zechariah 12:10-13:1.

In conclusion, I'd like to note that the passage from Leviticus 26 specifically issues this call to repentance to the nation while still in the Diaspora (the Exile of Jewish people from the land of Israel), and I received this dream and interpretation while still living in Exile. I acted on it and repented before the Lord on behalf of the sins of my family through the generations, and afterward, the Lord called me to come home and dwell in the Land of Israel. Perhaps a move of repentance such as this amongst Messianic Jewish believers still living in Exile would open up the doors to a new wave of *aliyah* (returning to the land of Israel) for Jewish believers."

How Are We to Then Live?

We in the Body of Messiah are called to stand in repentance for our sins and the sins of our people. Jewish believers are to be like the prophet Daniel, repenting for the sins of Israel. Gentile believers are to stand in repentance for sins of their own nations. Gentile believers also are called upon by God to shore up the Jewish believers in their task of repentance, in their sometimes difficult calling of living for the Lord in the midst of their yet unredeemed nation. All of us must call on the name of the Lord for mercy, prophetic revelation and harvest of mankind into His kingdom.

Humbly Submitted,

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