



The Zion Letter

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I See A Blood Moon Rising: Passover and the Blood Red Moons, Part II

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A "tetrad" is a consecutive series of four blood red moons occurring in sequence. In the last 523 years only four tetrad blood moons have occurred, and three of those tetrads have occurred in the last seventy years. We are currently in the middle of that third tetrad! On April 4th, 2015, which is the first day of Passover, we will again see the blood moon appear for the 3rd time. Since these blood moons coincide perfectly with Passover and Sukkot, it is clear that there is a connection to the message of Passover as well as Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles). Though there are different images and themes connected to the eight feasts God instituted through Moses (see Leviticus 23), they are all connected to the children of Israel being freed from slavery and bondage in Egypt, **the Exodus**. In fact, according to the Rabbis, all eight feasts of Leviticus 23 are reminders of the Exodus, but of course, none stands out more than Passover! Perhaps Passover is the feast most people think of when Exodus is mentioned because the story of Passover is all about the children of Israel being freed from slavery in Egypt and heading for the Promised Land!

Revelation of the End-Times:

In Part I of this article, we talked about the Blood Moons being connected to the last days as prophesied in the Bible and markers of the Jewish people returning to the land of Israel as prophesied, but what does Passover have to do with the end times? I have a question for you. What book of the Bible do most Christians study when they want to try and understand the end times? A. Matthew B. Revelation C. Daniel D. The Torah (The Five Books of Moses)

What did you answer? According to 1 Corinthians 10:1-11, the answer should be "D. The Torah." 1 Corinthians 10:11 says that all the events in the Torah (5 books of Moses) "Were written for our instruction upon whom the ends of the ages have come." In other words, if you want to understand the pattern, the plan and the template of the end-times, study Torah, study the five books of Moses! Where did Paul and the apostles get their understanding of end times? The Torah. Where did Daniel get his understanding of end times? From reading the Torah. Why did God

give John a revelation of the end times? Because he had a great foundation of understanding of the Torah! I tell you the truth, if you don't understand the Torah, you won't be able to make sense of the book of Daniel, the Gospels, the Epistles, or the book of Revelation. Furthermore, understanding of the story of the Exodus is crucial because it is the central and foundational story of the Torah.

One of the reasons God raised up Messianic Jewish congregations in these last days is to help Jewish believers and Christians join in the study of Torah in order to be prepared for the last days. The Messianic Jewish community is in my opinion the "John the Baptist" of this generation because God is giving them revelation concerning interpretation of end time scriptures through the eyes of Torah under the anointing of the office of the

Prophet. Has the Messianic community been given the mantle of the old Testament Prophet? God did not raise up Messianic Jewish congregations to bring Christians and Jewish believers in Yeshua/Jesus back under legalism. As a Messianic Jewish rabbi, I adamantly believe in salvation by grace. No one is saved through righteous works of their own, but rather only through the merits of God's only begotten Son Yeshua/Jesus. Only through Yeshua can a person have eternal life in heaven. This is how Abraham knew God, and this is

how we know God as well... through believing and trusting (faith) in the work of the eternal Messiah, whose name is revealed to all mankind as Yeshua/Jesus. Nevertheless, it is of utmost importance that Christians receive the message that God is sending through the Messianic Jewish voice today in order for them to be victorious in the difficult end time spiritual battle to come.

The Pattern of Exodus!

Jesus celebrated Passover with His talmidim or disciples in an upper room, which translated in Hebrew is "aliyah". Interestingly the word "aliyah" also means "Exodus," or "to return to



the land of Israel from exile among the nations". We Jews are commanded by the scriptures to return from exile among the nations and move back to our ancestral homeland in Israel.

We Jews are expected to make Aliyah spiritually as well.

In other words returning to the Lord with our heart is part of the process of returning to the land of Israel. Allow me to point out that Yeshua/Jesus took the 3rd cup of the Passover meal and said, **"This cup is the New Covenant in My blood, poured out for the forgiveness of sin."** Jewish people still drink that third cup taken after the meal in modern Passover Seder meals. It's called the "Cup of Redemption." Jesus also took the matzo taken after the meal (see Luke 22, beginning in verse 7). We Jews call it "Afikomen," meaning "that which



comes later". Jesus said of the Afikomen (which is unleavened bread), **"This is My body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of Me," Luke 22:19.** The third cup and the broken piece of matzo

(Afikomen) were taken together as an object lesson to the disciples that Yeshua's death on the cross would usher in the "New Covenant" predicted by Jeremiah over 500 years earlier (see Jeremiah 31:31)! He said that all who would believe would have their sins forgiven and receive the gift of eternal life! Do you want to have hope for the after-life? Ask God to reveal Yeshua/Jesus to you personally. Read the Bible, and if you are ready, ask Yeshua/Jesus to forgive your sins and come into your heart and God will bring you out of slavery to sin. Now that's exodus or Aliyah!

The Exodus I just spoke of is spiritual, but there is also a natural/physical "aliyah" or "exodus" taking place right now. In fact there are over 700 scriptures about this subject and the prophets are very clear that aliyah is the major sign and precursor of the return of Yeshua! Hosea 11:10 says **"he (God) will roar like a lion. When He roars, Then His sons shall come trembling from the west; They shall come trembling like a bird from Egypt, Like a dove from Assyria, and I will settle them in their houses (in Israel) declares the Lord," Hosea 11:10-11.**

Due to widespread anti-Semitism in France some 3,500 Jewish people made Aliyah to Israel in 2013. This took place after a murderous shooting by Muslim extremists at a Jewish school in Marseilles. In 2014, the Wall Street Journal reported that 7000 Jews left France to make Aliyah, and that Israel is estimating 10,000 French Jews to do the same in 2015! In 2014 riots broke out in Ukraine. The Neo-Nazis were on the rise and Ukrainian Jews were being persecuted. Then Russia invaded part of Ukraine called the Crimea. This began a war with Russia that is going on even now. Back in the days when Russian President, Vladimir Putin worked for the KGB, Jews were not allowed to leave the former Soviet Union at will. Only after the Berlin Wall came down in 1989 were Soviet Jews set free to leave. In an e-mail last year I warned my fellow rabbis who had connections to Ukrainian Jews to tell them to get out immediately, or they would flee with little more than the shirts on their backs. Just recently, one year late, I received a letter from Joel Chernoff, CEO of the Messi-

anic Jewish Alliance of America (MJAA) saying that 50,000 Ukrainian Jews had made Aliyah this past year to Israel with little more than the shirts on their backs. Folks, it's just a matter of time before all this comes to the Americas, because it is clear in scripture that all the Jewish people must be in the land before the return of the Messiah. So what is it that gets Jews to want to go back to Israel? Unfortunately, the answer is plagues and persecution, just as it was in the Exodus. In fact, Israel sets immigration forecasts using an index known as the Feiglin Factor which formulates the amount of anti-Semitism in a population and gives a predictable outcome of immigration to Israel.

Revelation 12 describes John's vision of the dragon is who is thrown down to earth to persecute the woman who gave birth to the male child. The dragon of course represents Satan, and the woman in this story represents Israel. This vision is a very synoptic description of the spiritual battle the devil is waging against God for ultimate world domination. Satan's three main objectives are to kill the Messiah, to kill Israel, and to kill those who follow the Messiah. Many believers are martyred in this vision of the future, but the woman miraculously escapes the clutches of the devil, even from a diabolical scheme to destroy her with a flood. Sounds like Exodus, doesn't it? The Exodus theme continues here where she escapes this flood by the use of some huge bird. Verse 14 says, **"But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time," Revelation 12:14.** Two things come to mind. First as in the story of the Exodus, there is a place of safety prepared for the Israelites, a place called Goshen. In Goshen, the Israelites watched the plagues unfold without harm. Second, I believe the two wings of the great eagle are jet planes, and there is a sense that a mega-air lift operation is used to take the Jews out of harms way. In the Exodus, many came out with the Israelites that were not Jewish. It was a "mixed multitude". I see that same scenario playing out again in the end-times. Jews and those who want to join with Israel, will be included in the opportunity to find refuge in the midst of this enormous spiritual storm. The text says they will be taken into the wilderness to be nourished and protected from the wrath of the dragon. It is clear that the evil energy of anti-Semitism and Christian persecution is building. I believe that what we see today is just the tip of the iceberg for our future.



America's modern day pharaoh is hardening his heart to Israel, and I see plagues and judgments coming on the United States just

like in the book of Exodus and Revelation.

The Pattern of Pharaoh and the Plagues:

As I said before, Paul instructs us that the Torah is our pattern for the end-times. In the book of Exodus, Pharaoh hardened his heart numerous times against God and Moses, refusing to let the children of Israel leave Egypt. Every time Pharaoh hardened his heart and said "no", God brought terrible plagues on the land of Egypt.

Each plague mocked and revealed the impotency of the gods they worshiped. Egyptian civilization relied on these gods to bring them prosperity, health and eternal life. The plague of blood destroyed the Nile River, which was the life blood of Egypt's economy and gave them no water to drink. The frogs and lice, and boils attacked their homes and their health. The locusts, hail, and darkness devoured the vast crops of the Egyptian delta, and showed the powerlessness of the Sun god Amun. Lastly Pharaoh was said to be divine, but just as the Hebrew babies had been put to death, now the Egyptian firstborn babies were all put to death including the Pharaoh's son. The result was that God completely destroyed the great economy of Egypt! He made their silver and gold (their money) worthless, causing the Egyptians to give their gold and silver to the Israelites (See Exodus 12:35-36). This was not only to prosper the Israelites, but to be used to build God's Tabernacle in the wilderness.

Right now President Obama is hardening His heart toward Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu and ultimately God!

Early in his presidency, Obama snubbed the Israeli Prime Minister by leaving him alone in a room while he went to have dinner with his family. Soon, the Israeli Prime minister will be coming to the U.S. to speak to a joint session of congress about the threat of Iranian nuclear weapons. Once again Obama has refused to meet with

Prime Minister Netanyahu when he comes. Folks, we are in perilous times, and we are not in a position to be thumbing our nose at Israel, who represents the God of Moses. Blowing off meetings with the President of Israel, and ignoring the Iranian threat of missiles armed with nuclear intercontinental ballistic warheads aimed at the USA brings a high probability of getting us into trouble of Biblical proportions.

President Obama continues to matter-of-factly harden his heart to what I believe is God's plan for Israel. He is intent on undermining Israel's authority, and in favor of giving Jerusalem away, which will divide the Holy Land. If this happens, our nation will be severely judged by God (Joel 3:2). As if that wasn't enough, Obama is sending political operatives to Israel (paid for by your tax dollars) to try to help defeat Prime Minister Netanyahu in the coming March elections in Israel. Yes, our President is hardening his heart, just like Pharaoh did to Moses, and God is beginning to unleash plagues, natural disasters, and judgments on America. This will all result in a huge problem with our economy just as it did in Egypt. In this year of the Shemitah (the year of Jubilee), I believe that we are about to see tribulation like we've never seen before. The blood red moons are a harbinger of coming judgment and tribulation on America.



The very fact that we have witnessed three tetrads in seventy years is God's way of saying, "***The tribulation is coming, followed by The Blood Red Moon and the return of the Messiah!***" The prophet Joel said, "***The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord (i.e. the return of Jesus Christ). And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, as the Lord has said, Among the remnant whom the Lord calls. For behold, in those days and at that time, when I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; And I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; They have also divided up My land.***" Joel 2:31-3:2. According to Joel any Jewish people who are still

exiled among the nations will be immediately brought to Israel; then God says He is going to enter into judgment with the nations who scattered the Jewish people and divided His land, i.e. forced Israel to give up land for "Peace," (See also Matthew 25:31-46). Trust me friend, you don't want to be on the wrong side against God when He comes back to save Israel and the Jewish people!

Every description of the timeline of the end times says there is a time of tribulation followed by the final blood red moon, which heralds the return of the Messiah Yeshua/Jesus coming in the clouds with power and great glory! (Daniel 7:13, Matt 24:30, Revelation 6:12-17). Matthew 24:30 says, "***At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.***"

So after the tribulation spoken of by Matthew, The Blood Red Moon appears. Only **after** all of this does the Lord return, gathering people in a heavenly spiritual exodus or what is referred to as the rapture. According to the pattern in the Torah, the children of Israel were not spared the experience of the plagues, but they were hidden and protected from the plagues in the land of Goshen (see Exodus 8). Some of you will undoubtedly say, we are not appointed to endure God's wrath. I agree. God will hide us from wrath, but not necessarily take us out. This is the pattern of the Torah.

Conclusion:

The last two blood red moons of the tetrad are coming on April 4, 2015, the first day of Passover, and September 28, 2015, the first day of Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles). The blood red moons are "***signs in the sun and moon and stars***" as it says in Luke 21:25. They are signs of the coming of the 2nd Great Exodus of the Jewish people. They are signs of persecution by Satan on levels we have not imagined. They are signs that the last physical gathering or exodus of the Jewish people to Israel is around the corner. Included in this exodus will be those who decide to follow and par-

ticipate in this plan of escape. I believe they will be flown into the wilderness of Israel on jet planes in an unprecedented historic operation like that of the story of Exodus. Terrible judgments are coming upon the world, and all the nations who force Israel to divide their God-given land, especially the U.S. But take courage, ***“When these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near,” Luke 21:28. There is a way of escape, if you look to the Torah and to the people of the Torah.*** Are you ready for Passover? Are you ready for the blood red moons? Are you ready for your jet ride?

In Yeshua's love,

Rabbi Joe and Dawn