

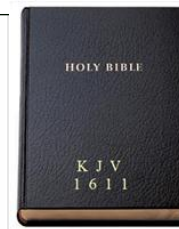
Mt. Pleasant Bible Institute

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations” (Matt 28:19)

Dr. Joseph Speciale, Instructor

A ministry of the
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church

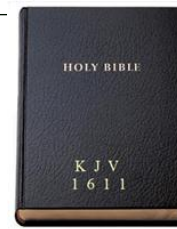
Lee Swor, Pastor



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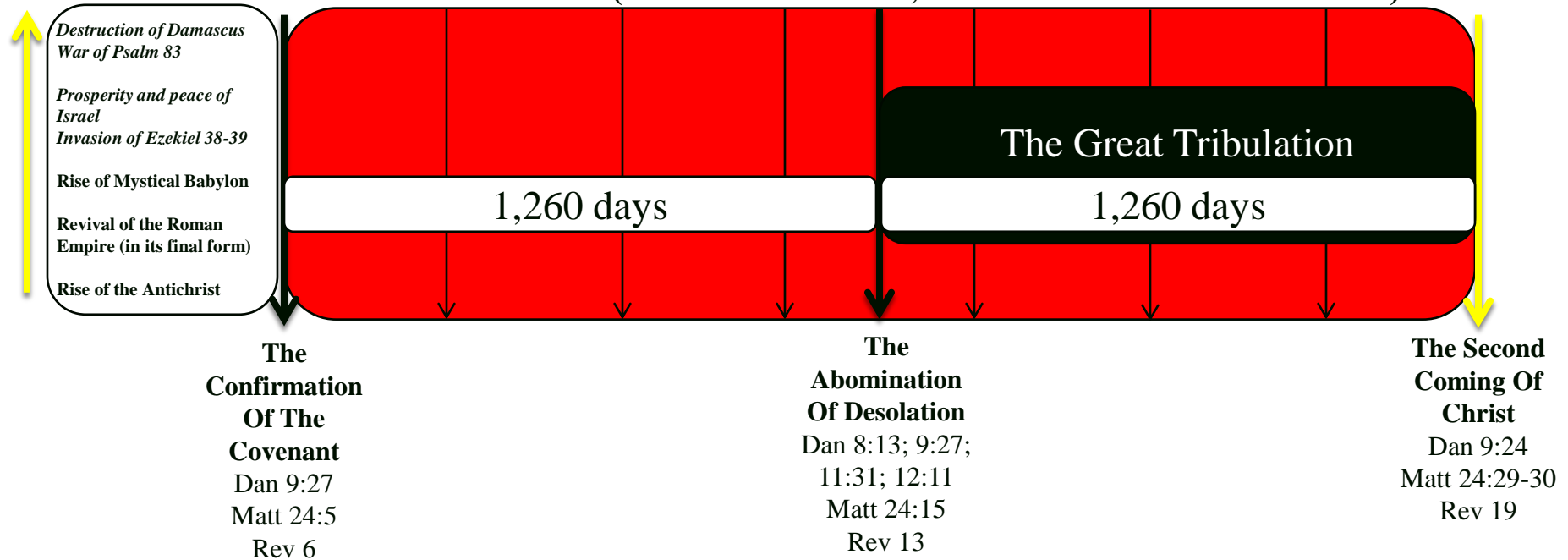
Bible Prophecy

The Destruction Of Damascus

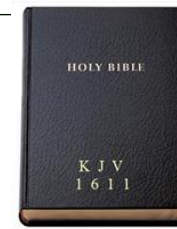


The Destruction Of Damascus

The Rapture



- *Italics* indicates events that may take place **before** the Rapture
- The fact any of these events **could** occur before the Rapture in no way undermines the doctrine of Imminency
- The same can be said of the prophecies related to the rebirth of Israel as a nation (Eze 37:7-8; Matt 24:32) fulfilled before the Rapture on May 14, 1948
- The Bible does not state any of these events **must** occur before the Rapture

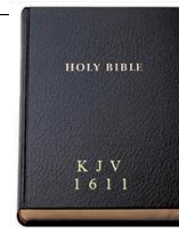


The Destruction Of Damascus

Current Nation	Psalm 83	Ezekiel 38
Syria	Not listed	Not listed
Egypt	<i>Hagarenes?</i>	Not listed
Jordan	<i>Edom, Moab, Ammon</i>	Not listed
Lebanon	<i>Gebal, Tyre</i>	Not listed
Palestinians	<i>Amalek, Philistines</i>	Not listed
Iraq	<i>Assur</i>	Not listed
Saudi Arabia	<i>Ishmaelites</i>	<i>Sheba and Dedan</i>

- **Syria** and **Egypt** are the only nations directly bordering Israel that are not specifically mentioned by common name or tribal name (i.e.- **Aram** and **Mizraim** respectively) in either Psalm 83 or Ezekiel 38
- Conditions concerning their judgment (Eze 28:24-26) will preclude them from participating in either conflict

Current Nation	Psalm 83	Ezekiel 38
Russia	Not listed	<i>Magog</i>
Iran	Not listed	<i>Persia</i>
Turkmenistan	Not listed	<i>Persia</i>
Uzbekistan	Not listed	<i>Persia</i>
Afghanistan	Not listed	<i>Persia</i>
Ethiopia	Not listed	<i>Ethiopia</i>
Somalia	Not listed	<i>Ethiopia</i>
Eritrea	Not listed	<i>Ethiopia</i>
Sudan	Not listed	<i>Ethiopia</i>
Libya	Not listed	<i>Libya</i>
Tunisia	Not listed	<i>Libya</i>
Algeria	Not listed	<i>Libya</i>
Morocco	Not listed	<i>Libya</i>
Georgia	Not listed	<i>Gomer?</i>
Azerbaijan	Not listed	<i>Gomer?</i>
Turkey	Not listed	<i>Togarmah</i>
Armenia	Not listed	<i>Togarmah</i>



The Destruction Of Damascus

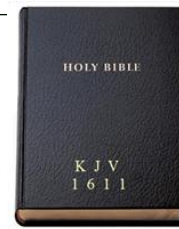
I. Biblical Names For Syria

1. Syria

1) Appears a total of 152x in it's various forms

- *Syria* appears 75x
- *Syrian* appears 12x
- *Syrians* appears 61x
- *Syria-Damascus* appears 1x
- *Syria-Maachah* appears 1x
- *Syriak* appears 1x
- *Syrophenician* appears 1x

2) First appearance is in reference to Bethuel (Rebekah's father) and Laban (Rebekah's brother)

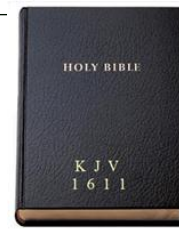


The Destruction Of Damascus

Gen 25:20

And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padanaram, the sister to Laban the Syrian.

- 3) SYRIA is not the same as ASSYRIA (Isa 7:1-2,17) in spite of some similarities
- Assyria was located in what is northern Iraq today, east of Syria
 - The height of the Assyrian empire in the 7th century BC, included Syria (Isa 10:5,9)
 - They both spoke the Syrian language (2 Kin 18:26)



The Destruction Of Damascus

2. Damascus

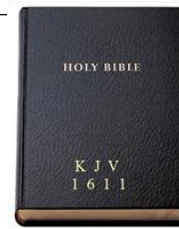
- *Damascus* appears 61x, more than any other Gentile city except *Babylon* (294x)
- It is the capital of Syria (1 Chr 18:6; Isa 7:8) and longest continuously inhabited city in the world, dating back to the days of Abraham (Gen 14:15; 15:2)

3. Aram

- *Aram* appears 10x but only four refer to Syria
- *Aram* (i.e.- Aramaic) is the tribal or patriarchal name for Syria (Gen 10:22)
- Balaam was from Aram (Num 23:7)

4. Uz

- Uz was one of the four children of Aram (Gen 10:23; 1 Chr 1:17)
- Job lived in the land of Uz (Job 1:1)



The Destruction Of Damascus

II. Biblical Geography Of Syria

1. Syria In 1000 BC (Psa 83)

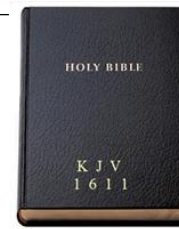
- David defeated Hadadezer, king of Zobah and set garrisons in Damascus, placing a significant portion of Syria under his control (1 Chr 18:1-6)
- David also defeated half of the 10 nations listed as participants in the Psalm 83 War

1 Chr 18:6,11

Then David put **garrisons in Syria-damascus**; and **the Syrians became David's servants**, and brought gifts. Thus the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.

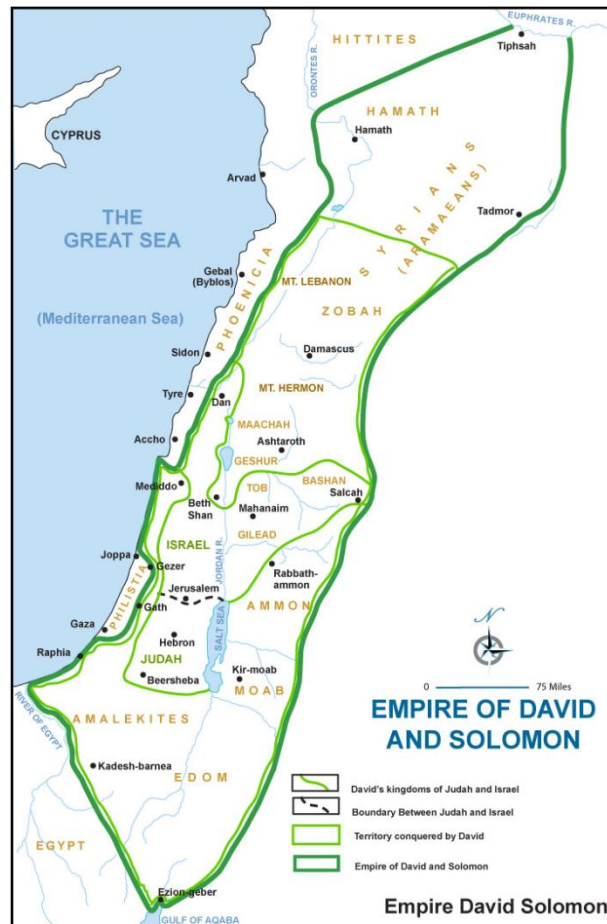
Them also king David dedicated unto the LORD, with the silver and the gold that he brought from all *these* nations; from **Edom**, and from **Moab**, and from the children of **Ammon**, and from **the Philistines**, and from **Amalek**.

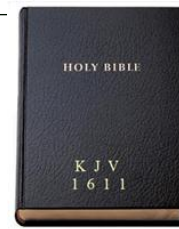
- David defeated the Syrians again when they helped Ammon in war against Israel (2 Sam 10:18-19)



The Destruction Of Damascus

- Solomon contended with Rezon all his days (1 Kin 11:23-25) but retained control over the portions of Syria David subjected
- This dominion included Damascus and extended to the Euphrates river





The Destruction Of Damascus

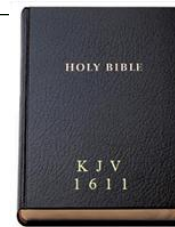
2. Syria In 600 BC (Eze 38)

- The Syrian army joined Nebuchadnezzar in his invasion of Judah
- Syria was conquered by Nebuchadnezzar and incorporated into the Babylonian empire before the invasion of Judah in 598 BC

Jer 35:11

But it came to pass, when Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came up into the land, that we said, Come, and let us go to Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans, and for fear of **the army of the Syrians**: so we dwell at Jerusalem.

The Destruction Of Damascus

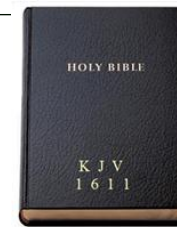


Exiles taken from Judah to
Babylon (597 & 586 BC)

THE BABYLONIAN EMPIRE c. 600 BC

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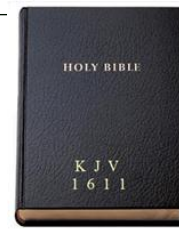
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3. Syria Today

- Syria is bordered by Lebanon and Israel to the west, Jordan to the south, Iraq to the east, and Turkey to the north





The Destruction Of Damascus

III. Prophecies Against Syria

1. Jeremiah 25:20

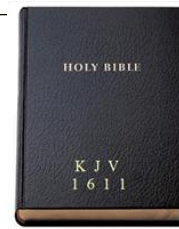
Jer 25:9,15,20

Behold, **I will send** and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and **Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon**, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and **against all these nations round about**, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations.

For thus saith the LORD God of Israel unto me; Take the wine cup of this fury at my hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send thee, to drink it.

And all the mingled people, and **all the kings of the land of Uz**, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon, and Azzah, and Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod,

- This prophecy was either partially or completely fulfilled with Nebuchadnezzar's conquest of Syria between 606-598 BC
- It may have a far fulfillment with the Second Coming of Christ (v.29-30)



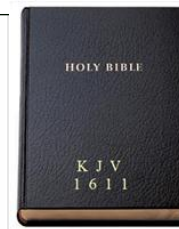
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2. Isaiah 17:1-14

Isa 17:1

The burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap.

- BURDEN= Heb. *Massa* appears 66x, including 10x in ISAIAH and 13x in the prophetic books and means, “that which is borne or carried; a load”
- *Massa* is translated “burden” 57x; “song” 3x; “prophecy” 2x; “set”, “exaction”, “tribute”, and “carry away” 1x each
- Although Damascus is the longest continuously inhabited city in the world, it is going to be completely destroyed and cease to be a city forever
- The phrase “**a ruinous heap**” entails it will be completely reduced to rubble; rubble that can never be reassembled, repaired, or rebuilt
- This kind of destruction could be the result of a nuclear weapon



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