



Mt. Pleasant Bible Institute

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

Dr. Joseph Speciale, Instructor

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Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church

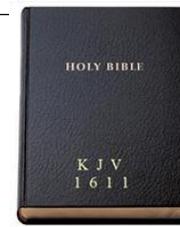
Lee Swor, Pastor



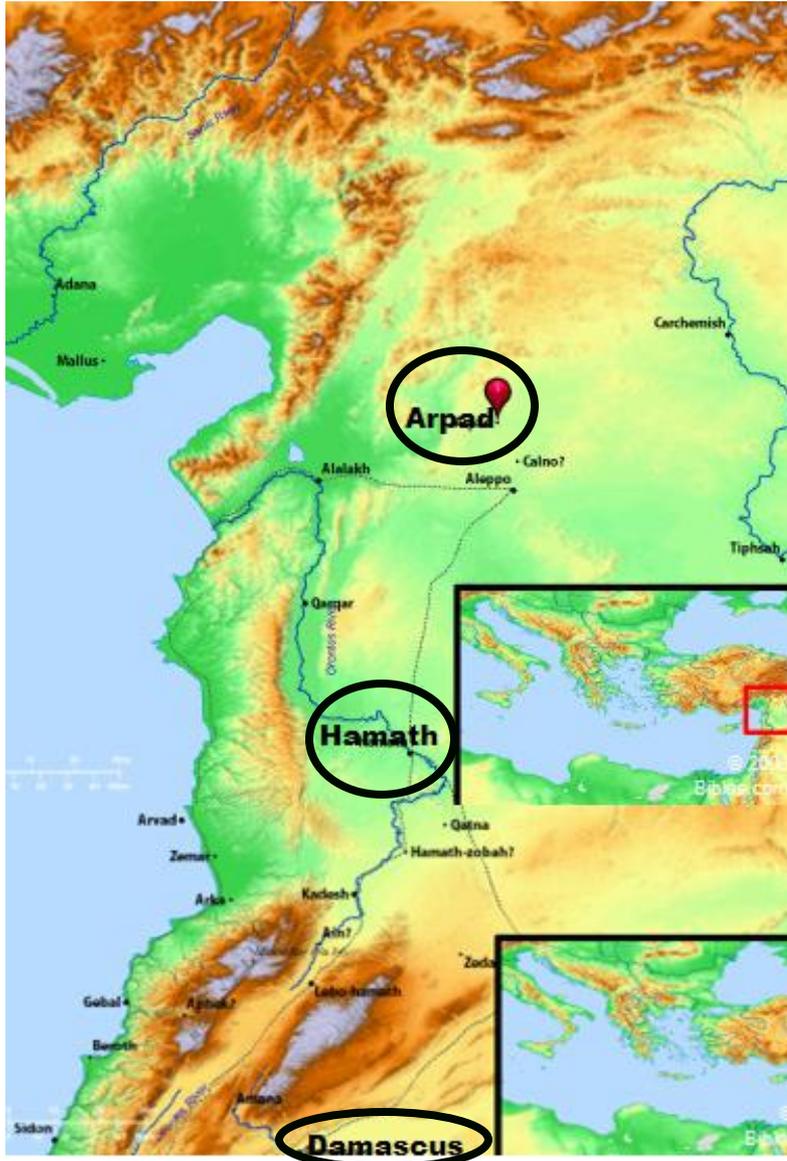
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Bible Prophecy

The Destruction Of Damascus



The Destruction Of Damascus

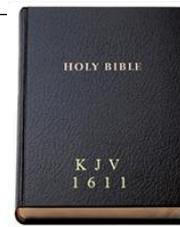


3. Jeremiah 49:23-27

Jer 49:23

Concerning Damascus. Hamath is confounded, and Arpad: for they have heard evil tidings: they are fainthearted; there is sorrow on the sea; it cannot be quiet.

- HAMATH= called *Hamah* today; the fourth largest city in Syria behind Aleppo, Damascus, and Homs
- ARPAD= ancient Syrian city located just north of Aleppo
- EVIL TIDINGS= may be news of an impending retaliatory attack by Israel upon Damascus or the actual destruction of Damascus (Isa 17:1)
- FAINTHEARTED= “yielding to fear; cowardly”; the news causes the people of Hamath and Arpad to fear they may meet a similar fate to that of Damascus



The Destruction Of Damascus

Jer 49:24

Damascus is waxed feeble, and turneth herself to flee, and fear hath seized on her: anguish and sorrows have taken her, as a woman in travail.

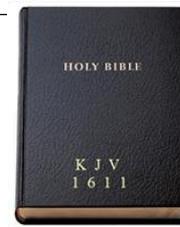
- WAXED FEEBLE= the city of Damascus is in a weakened state just before it's destruction (possibly as a result of the current civil war?)
- TURNETH HERSELF TO FLEE= the city may have a slight advanced warning of Israel's impending attack, possibly air raid sirens as Israeli Air Force (IAF) bombers approach the city
- People flee Damascus in droves out of fear

Jer 49:25-26

How is the city of praise not left, the city of my joy!

Therefore her young men shall fall in her streets, and all the men of war shall be cut off in that day, saith the LORD of hosts.

- THE CITY...NOT LEFT= as indicated in Isaiah 17:1, Damascus is destroyed from being a city
- HER YOUNG MEN= the same as the MEN OF WAR



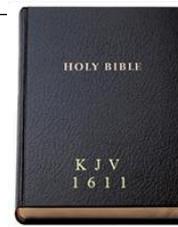
The Destruction Of Damascus

- ALL THE MEN OF WAR SHALL BE CUT OFF= 100% of Syrian armed forces are killed in the bombing (possibly because forces from both sides of the civil war are concentrated at Damascus at the time?)

Jer 49:27

And I will kindle a fire in the wall of Damascus, and it shall consume the palaces of Benhadad.

- A FIRE IN...DAMASCUS= the destruction of Damascus is by FIRE
- Coupled with the fact it is “**taken away from being a city**” and made “**a ruinous heap**” (Isa 17:1), the evidence heavily suggests the use of nuclear weapons (or a weapon of like destructive capability)
- PALACES OF BENHADAD= represents the destruction of government authority and buildings (Amo 1:4)



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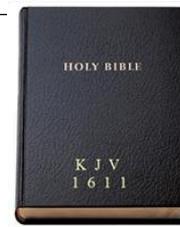
4. Amos 1:3-5

- Judgment is pronounced upon eight nations in Amos 1-2 (1:3-2:8), and Damascus is listed FIRST possibly because it is the first of all the nations round about Israel to be judged

Amo 1:3

Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away *the punishment* thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron:

- BECAUSE THEY HAVE THRESHED GILEAD= the judgment upon Damascus is for four transgressions but specifically, for threshing Gilead with instruments of iron
- The word *thresh* means, “to beat; to beat out grain from the husk”
- It is not clear if or when this prophecy had a near fulfillment, but the Jewish military did suffer greatly at the hands of the king of Syria in the days of Jehoahaz



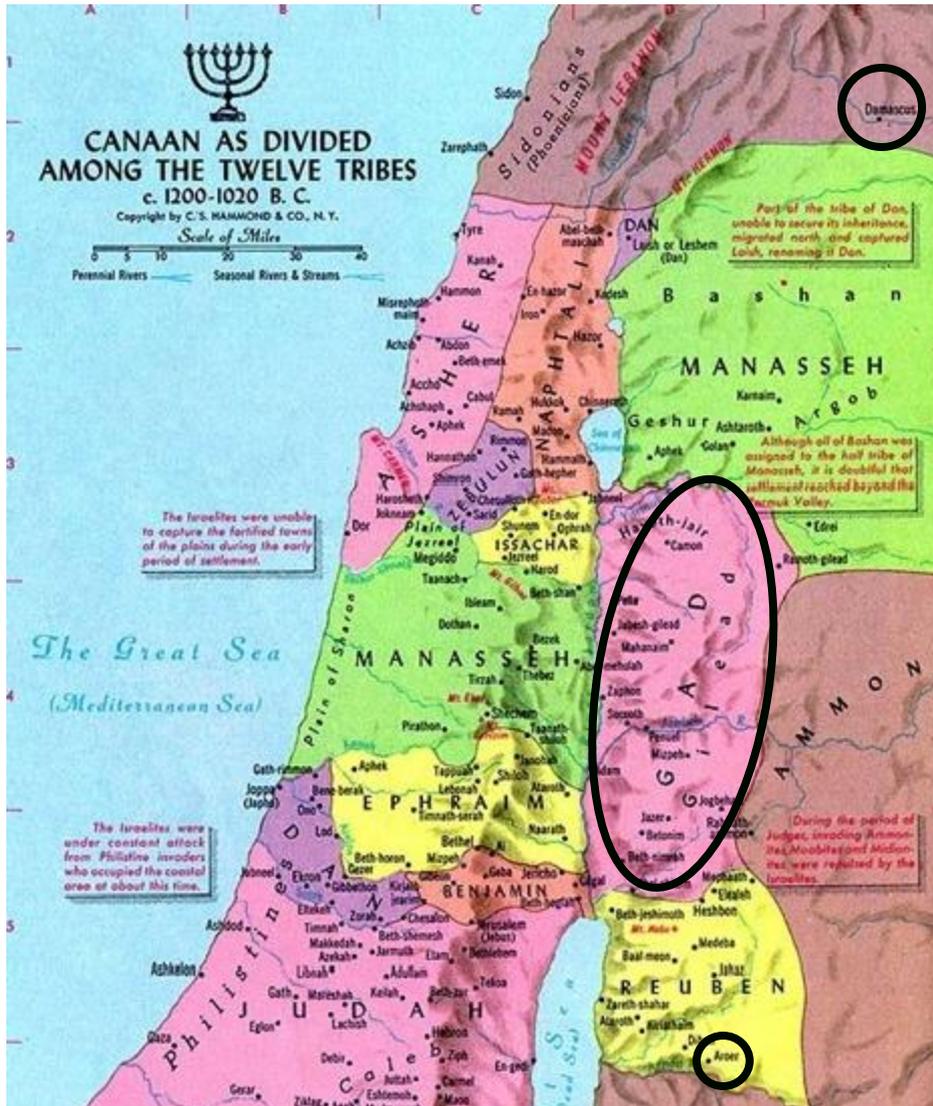
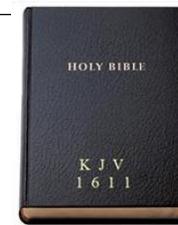
The Destruction Of Damascus

2 Kin 13:7

Neither did he leave of the people to Jehoahaz but fifty horsemen, and ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen; for the king of Syria had destroyed them, and had made them like the dust by threshing.

- There is no indication that this threshing took place in Gilead so it may or may not have any relation to the “threshing” of Amos 1:3
- The king of Syria threshed Jewish MILITARY personnel in 2 Kings 13:7 and Damascus threshes GILEAD in Amos 1:3
- The relation between the texts could be that in the future, Damascus will be responsible for a large number of Jewish (military) casualties in the area of Gilead
- GILEAD= the territory east of and adjacent to the Jordan river, south of Bashan
- Gilead is currently within the kingdom of Jordan, just east of the Jordanian capital of Amman, so circumstances requiring an Israeli (military) presence there would be highly unusual

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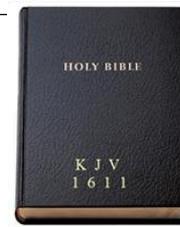


- The inheritance of the tribe of Gad was within the land of Gilead
- Gilead was also the location of a war between the Reubenites and the HAGARITES in the days of Saul

1 Chr 5:10

And in the days of Saul they made war with the Hagarites, who fell by their hand: and they dwelt in their tents throughout all the east land of Gilead.

- The HAGARITES are the same people as the HAGARENES, who are one of the 10 nations involved in the war of Psalm 83 (Psa 83:6)



The Destruction Of Damascus

- THRESHING INSTRUMENTS OF IRON= iron represents STRENGTH (Dan 2:41) so the weapon used for this “threshing” of Gilead could be a WMD
- If Syria used chemical weapons in an attack against Israel’s military, diplomats, people, or interests anywhere in the world, it could be the event that triggers Israel’s destruction of Damascus

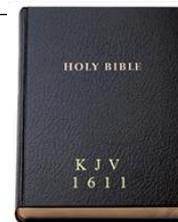
Amo 1:4-5

But I will send **a fire** into the house of Hazael, which shall devour **the palaces of Benhadad**.

I will break also the bar of Damascus, and cut off the inhabitant from **the plain of Aven**, and him that holdeth the sceptre from **the house of Eden**: and **the people of Syria shall go into captivity unto Kir**, saith the LORD.

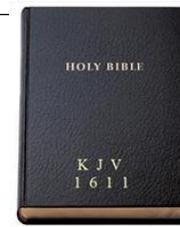
- A FIRE= Damascus will be destroyed by FIRE (Jer 49:27)
- The destruction reaches to Aven and Eden
- EDEN= not a reference to the Eden of Adam and Eve (Gen 2:8), but to a region of north central Syria (2 Kin 19:12)
- THE PLAIN OF AVEN= the valley of Coele-Syria between Lebanon and Anti-Libanus noted for the idolatrous worship of the sun at the temple of Baalbek (Heliopolis) *Source: Jewish Encyclopedia*

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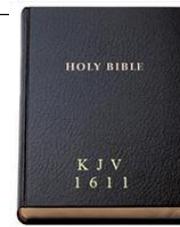
The Destruction Of Damascus



- This valley is now called the Beka'a Valley and is under control of Hezbollah
- This is further evidence that Hezbollah is somehow involved in the initial attack on Israel that triggers the destruction of Damascus
- The captivity of the people of Syria unto Kir (i.e.- Moab) had a near fulfillment when the Assyrians conquered Syria in 739 BC, but it is not clear if there will be a far fulfillment

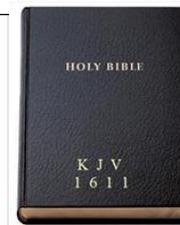
2 Kin 16:9

And the king of Assyria hearkened unto him: for **the king of Assyria** went up against Damascus, and took it, and **carried the people of it captive to Kir**, and slew Rezin.



The Destruction Of Damascus

- Syria does not participate in the invasion of Ezekiel 38 because the Lord executes judgment against it before that invasion takes place (Eze 28:24-26)
- Syria does not participate in the war of Psalm 83 because Damascus and its strong cities are destroyed by Israel before that war takes place
- The destruction of Damascus could be the trigger event for the war of Psalm 83



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