Killing and War

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1. Introduction

Instructions to us from God tell us not to murder. This law applies specifically to our interaction with other people. This law is very different from killing. Fighting in a war is killing, protecting your family from danger is killing. One can end up killing another person in a car accident. Murder on the other hand is premeditated, it is planned, thought out in ones mind and then carried out as an intentional action of taking a specific person's life.

The following verse is from KJV and is one of the Ten Commandments.

Exo 20:13 Thou shalt not kill. (KJV)

The word kill in the above scripture is Strong's number H7523 and means to murder or put to death another person. Many older Bibles translated the word as Kill, however now days newer Bibles such as the NASB and many others translate that verse as follows.

Exo 20:13 "You shall not murder. (NASB)

Now days even the New King James Version , NKJV, translates the verse as murder instead of kill. This is one example of better word selection in the translation of Bibles today, now giving more accurate wording addressing the meaning of what was originally intended and missed by the original translators.

There is an important action that needs to be addressed with respect to murdering. First examine the following scriptures.

Isa 48:6 Thou hast heard, see all this; and will not ye declare *it?* I have shewed thee new things from this time, even hidden things, and thou didst not know them.

Isa 48:7 They are created now, and not from the beginning; even before the day when thou heardest them not; lest thou shouldest say, Behold, I knew them.

Isa 48:8 Yea, thou heardest not; yea, thou knewest not; yea, from that time *that* thine ear was not opened: for I knew that thou wouldest deal very treacherously, and wast called a transgressor from the womb.

Jer 1:4 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

Jer 1:5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, *and* I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

These scriptures above tell us that God knows all mankind while they are in the womb, before the time they come out of the womb. Yes, life is given by God to each person and starts when initially being formed in the womb. That means killing a baby in the womb is killing a person God has given life to. That is **murder**. Yes, **abortion is murder** and when it becomes acceptable by a nation, it shows the degree of lawlessness and evil that has grown in that nation.

A further understanding occurs when you step back and consider the trends that arise in a nation. When the nation grows in lawlessness and evil thoughts and action, the population grows in hatred to Christians, this is because Christians follow God's word and His laws. In today's time there is much more evil driving lawlessness in breaking God's laws than just that of abortion. Today evil is called good and good is called evil.

2. War

There are many examples of war throughout the Bible, examples of the Israelites or God's people fighting and killing people of other nations. Initially it was to stay alive as they trekked through the wilderness. When they came to the promised land God instructed the Israelites to fight and take over the land that He was giving them and taking it away from unrighteous nations. God gave instructions that none of the people whose land they were taking were to be left alive.

Deu 20:16 But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee *for* an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth:

Deu 20:17 But thou shalt utterly destroy them; *namely*, the Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee:

Deu 20:18 That they teach you not to do after all their abominations, which they have done unto their gods; so should ye sin against the LORD your God.

The reason why all should be killed is given above. Unfortunately the Israelites did not obey and were influenced and led astray by those they left alive. Recognize that the above instructions by God to the Israelites told them to kill men, women and children.

The lord fought for The Israelites in taking the land that He had given them. One of the most famous was action of the sun not going down for about a whole day until the Amorites were destroyed.

Jos 10:9 Joshua therefore came unto them suddenly, *and* went up from Gilgal all night. Jos 10:10 And the LORD discomfited them before Israel, and slew them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them along the way that goeth up to Bethhoron, and smote them to Azekah, and unto Makkedah.

Jos 10:11 And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel, *and* were in the going down to Bethhoron, that the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and

they died: *they were* more which died with hailstones than *they* whom the children of Israel slew with the sword.

Jos 10:12 Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.

Jos 10:13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. *Is* not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted **not to go down about a whole day**.

Jos 10:14 And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel.

Jos 10:15 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.

Not only did the sun no go down but God rained great stones down on the Amorites, thus taking a direct role in killing the enemy of the Israelites.

When David sent men to ask Nabal for food and was rejected, David was planning to go and slaughter all of Nabal's people. However Nabal's wife came to David bringing food and asked him to postpone coming against the people. God intervened and in the course of events Nabal was smote and died, this spared David from needing to carry out his plans and slaughter innocents in that tribe.

1Sa 25:35 So David received of her hand *that* which she had brought him, and said unto her, Go up in peace to thine house; see, I have hearkened to thy voice, and have accepted thy person.

1Sa 25:36 And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold, he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart *was* merry within him, for he *was* very drunken: wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light.

1Sa 25:37 But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became *as* a stone.

1Sa 25:38 And it came to pass about ten days *after*, that the LORD smote Nabal, that he died.

1Sa 25:39 And when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, Blessed *be* the LORD, that hath pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and hath kept his servant from evil: for the LORD hath returned the wickedness of Nabal upon his own head. And David sent and communed with Abigail, to take her to him to wife.

The saga that unfolded with Nabal and Abigail was God's intervention on behalf of David. The Israelites throughout the Bible were told to treat travelers and sojourners with kindness and extend to them water, food and shelter. Nabal had evil in his heart and was not going to help others.

Even in war there were some specific rules. Any person anointed by God was protected, no matter what. Therefore the person thinking that he was killing an enemy of David, thought that he would be rewarded.

2Sa 1:13 And David said unto the young man that told him, Whence *art* thou? And he answered, I *am* the son of a stranger, an Amalekite.

2Sa 1:14 And David said unto him, How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine hand to

destroy the LORD'S anointed?

2Sa 1:15 And David called one of the young men, and said, Go near, and fall upon him. And he smote him that he died.

2Sa 1:16 And David said unto him, Thy blood *be* upon thy head; for thy mouth hath testified against thee, saying, I have slain the LORD'S anointed.

Since the young man killed God's anointed, David had him killed instead of rewarding him. David was tempted to kill Saul at various times, and could have but could not do it even though Saul hunted David to kill him. David could not kill Saul as Saul had been anointed by God.

3. Understanding God's actions and directions of killing people

In Noah's time the earth was filled with so much evil that God destroyed or killed all people on the earth except Noah and his family. At other times God destroyed specific people when angered and when they were not obeying His commands.

Obedience to God was and is a serious thing and one of the first lessons was that of keeping the Sabbath, where a person breaking it was ordered by God to be stoned to death.

Num 15:32 And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day.

Num 15:33 And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation.

Num 15:34 And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him.

Num 15:35 And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp.

Num 15:36 And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Keeping God's laws including the Sabbath were serious laws to be kept, invoking death if they were broken.

Exo 31:14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it *is* holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth *any* work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people.

Exo 31:15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh *is* the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth *any* work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.

Exo 35:1 And Moses gathered all the congregation of the children of Israel together, and said unto them, These *are* the words which the LORD hath commanded, that *ye* should do them.

Exo 35:2 Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day there shall be to you an holy day, a

sabbath of rest to the LORD: whosoever doeth work therein shall be put to death.

Even other directions of maintaining a family line that comes from the man or family heads was to be followed. There was to be a continuance of the seed of the family that needed to be maintained. It is the duty of the younger brother to keep the older brothers line going as it is that line that controls the estate or land. The linage falls on the first born male. This would be classed as a special ordinance. Note also that God looks into the heart and if one is particularly evil, at times God will react by killing that person.

Gen 38:6 And Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, whose name was Tamar.

Gen 38:7 And Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD slew him.

Gen 38:8 And Judah said unto Onan, Go in unto thy brother's wife, and marry her, and raise up seed to thy brother.

Gen 38:9 And Onan knew that the seed should not be his; and it came to pass, when he went in unto his brother's wife, that he spilled *it* on the ground, lest that he should give seed to his brother.

Gen 38:10 And the thing which he did displeased the LORD: wherefore he slew him also.

This example gives us different insight into both our obligations to family and how God does not like evil. Recognize two things, God can do what He likes and does not need to give us a reason and also that God's ways are much higher than man's ways and that he know much more than man.

Other laws that have to do with killing and death are the following.

Exo 22:18 Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.

Exo 22:19 Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death.

Exo 22:20 He that sacrificeth unto *any* god, save unto the LORD only, he shall be utterly destroyed.

Deu 13:6 If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which *is* as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers;

Deu 13:7 Namely, of the gods of the people which are round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth;

Deu 13:8 Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him:

Deu 13:9 But thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people.

Deu 13:10 And thou shalt stone him with stones, that he die; because he hath sought to thrust thee away from the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

Deu 13:11 And all Israel shall hear, and fear, and shall do no more any such wickedness as this is among you.

We find that there are laws that when broken command death and a very serious one is that of being enticed to go and worship other gods, it calls for death of family and friends that instigate this. The Bible in multiple verses throughout reinforces the command to fear God. Unfortunately, especially today many even those in the churches have lost sight of this and look at God as all loving and not as one that punishes. This is generally because people today focus only on the New Testament, ignoring lessons from the Old Testament. There is one Bible and it contains both Old and New Testaments. The complete Bible applies today even as it did in the past and will continue to apply until the end of the Millennium.

The action of murder demands the person committing the act be put to death.

Num 35:21 Or in enmity smite him with his hand, that he die: he that smote *him* shall surely be put to death; *for* he *is* a murderer: the revenger of blood shall slay the murderer, when he meeteth him.

Another serious rebellion is cursing God or blasphemeth of God's name. That person is to be put to death.

Lev 24:15 And thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel, saying, Whosoever curseth his God shall bear his sin.

Lev 24:16 And he that blasphemeth the name of the LORD, he shall surely be put to death, *and* all the congregation shall certainly stone him: as well the stranger, as he that is born in the land, when he blasphemeth the name *of the LORD*, shall be put to death.

Lev 24:17 And he that killeth any man shall surely be put to death.

A serious event at Mount Sinai resulted in the destruction of many of the people rebelling against Moses including Korah and his family.

Num 16:28 And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works; for *I have* not *done them* of mine own mind.

Num 16:29 If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; *then* the LORD hath not sent me.

Num 16:30 But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that *appertain* unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD.

Num 16:31 And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that *was* under them:

Num 16:32 And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that *appertained* unto Korah, and all *their* goods.

Num 16:33 They, and all that *appertained* to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.

Num 16:34 And all Israel that *were* round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, Lest the earth swallow us up *also*.

Num 16:35 And there came out a fire from the LORD, and consumed the two hundred and fifty

men that offered incense.

Num 16:36 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Num 16:37 Speak unto Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, that he take up the censers out of the burning, and scatter thou the fire yonder; for they are hallowed.

Num 16:38 The censers of these sinners against their own souls, let them make them broad plates *for* a covering of the altar: for they offered them before the LORD, therefore they are hallowed: and they shall be a sign unto the children of Israel.

Num 16:39 And Eleazar the priest took the brasen censers, wherewith they that were burnt had offered; and they were made broad *plates for* a covering of the altar:

Num 16:40 *To be* a memorial unto the children of Israel, that no stranger, which *is* not of the seed of Aaron, come near to offer incense before the LORD; that he be not as Korah, and as his company: as the LORD said to him by the hand of Moses.

Num 16:41 But on the morrow all the congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron, saying, Ye have killed the people of the LORD.

Num 16:42 And it came to pass, when the congregation was gathered against Moses and against Aaron, that they looked toward the tabernacle of the congregation: and, behold, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the LORD appeared.

Num 16:43 And Moses and Aaron came before the tabernacle of the congregation.

Num 16:44 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Num 16:45 Get you up from among this congregation, that I may consume them as in a moment. And they fell upon their faces.

Num 16:46 And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a censer, and put fire therein from off the altar, and put on incense, and go quickly unto the congregation, and make an atonement for them: for there is wrath gone out from the LORD; the plague is begun.

Num 16:47 And Aaron took as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the congregation; and, behold, the plague was begun among the people: and he put on incense, and made an atonement for the people.

Num 16:48 And he stood between the dead and the living; and the plague was stayed.

Num 16:49 Now they that died in the plague were fourteen thousand and seven hundred, beside them that died about the matter of Korah.

Num 16:50 And Aaron returned unto Moses unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: and the plague was stayed.

There were an extremely large number of people that were destroyed first by the earth opening and closing, then by fire and then the next day by a plague. This incident about Korah resulted in 250 and 14,700 people being killed in addition to Korah and his followers that were swallowed in the earth. A lesson to be learned from this is that we need to be grateful for everything that God provides and does for us including even the little things on a day by day basis and never to rebel against Him or His prophets. A major prophet is Yeshua.

Further we find that flagrant disregard of God's laws and directives to us invoke a strong response of anger and punishment as in the episode with Phinehas.

Num 25:6 And, behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who *were* weeping *before* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Num 25:7 And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw *it*, he rose up from among the congregation, and took a javelin in his hand;

Num 25:8 And he went after the man of Israel into the tent, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel.

Num 25:9 And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand.

Again the punishment was not minor, rather 24,000 people died in the plague before it was stopped.

Another directive that was not obeyed is where the Israelites did not kill all as they were ordered. Then when reporting to Moses they were then ordered to kill every male and male child as well as every women that was not a virgin amongst the Midianites.

Num 31:14 And Moses was wroth with the officers of the host, *with* the captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, which came from the battle.

Num 31:15 And Moses said unto them, Have ye saved all the women alive?

Num 31:16 Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD in the matter of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the LORD.

Num 31:17 Now therefore kill every male among the little ones, and kill every woman that hath known man by lying with him.

Num 31:18 But all the women children, that have not known a man by lying with him, keep alive for yourselves.

Other directives to destroy specific nations also at times included not only all the people including babies but also the animals.

1Sa 15:2 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember *that* which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid *wait* for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

1Sa 15:3 Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

There was the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah as well as Lot's wife.

Often throughout Bible history God used other Nations to make war and kill and enslave the Israelites due to their breaking the covenant that they made with Him

Those that did not follow orders in temple worship were killed such as Nadab and Abihu.

Lev 10:1 And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not.

Lev 10:2 And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the

LORD.

Aaron needed to hold his peace in seeing his two sons die suddenly at God's hand.

Even though Moses was a friend of God, God basically ended Moses life at the time the Israelites were ready to enter the promised land.

Deu 34:4 And the LORD said unto him, This *is* the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see *it* with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither.

Deu 34:5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD.

Deu 34:6 And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Bethpeor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

Deu 34:7 And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.

It was time for Moses to die as he had completed his role and the reigns of power were then transferred by God to Joshua. Moses was not allowed to enter the promised land due to his disobedience in not speaking to the rock for water to come forth.

Another death was Uzzah who touched the Arc of the Covenant, this happened suddenly as no person was to touch the Arc, it was to be moved by carrying with the use of poles.

2Sa 6:6 And when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth *his hand* to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook *it*.

2Sa 6:7 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for *his* error; and there he died by the ark of God.

2Sa 6:8 And David was displeased, because the LORD had made a breach upon Uzzah: and he called the name of the place Perezuzzah to this day.

Likely Uzzah reacted instinctively then the oxen shook the cart, thinking it was going to fall. However this would not have happened if the Arc was moved properly by being carried on the poles by four people. God's instructions are to be followed, man does not know more than God and man needs to watch that he does not try and take short cuts and does not try to be creative in opposition to God's commands.

Another example was Herod dying suddenly by being devoured by worms for holding himself up as a god.

Act 12:21 And upon a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made an oration unto them.

Act 12:22 And the people gave a shout, *saying*, *It is* the voice of a god, and not of a man.

Act 12:23 And immediately the angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost.

On various occasions evil people are killed by God suddenly. Herod was responsible for trying to kill Yeshua and in the process he murdered many Israelite babies. In the end it was his portraying himself as a god that brought about his dramatic death.

God protected Jerusalem at a time it was under siege by the Assyrians by destroying 185,000 of them at night in their camp.

Isa 37:35 For I will defend this city to save it for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

Isa 37:36 Then the angel of the LORD went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

2Ki 19:34 For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

2Ki 19:35 And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they *were* all dead corpses.

2Ki 19:36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

At other times scripture shows us of evil that is known to be allowed to come about acting against God's people. Even the prophet Elisha could not do anything about the evil he was shown.

2Ki 8:7 And Elisha came to Damascus; and Benhadad the king of Syria was sick; and it was told him, saying, The man of God is come hither.

2Ki 8:8 And the king said unto Hazael, Take a present in thine hand, and go, meet the man of God, and enquire of the LORD by him, saying, Shall I recover of this disease?

2Ki 8:9 So Hazael went to meet him, and took a present with him, even of every good thing of Damascus, forty camels' burden, and came and stood before him, and said, Thy son Benhadad king of Syria hath sent me to thee, saying, Shall I recover of this disease?

2Ki 8:10 And Elisha said unto him, Go, say unto him, Thou mayest certainly recover: howbeit the LORD hath shewed me that he shall surely die.

2Ki 8:11 And he settled his countenance stedfastly, until he was ashamed: and the man of God wept.

2Ki 8:12 And Hazael said, Why weepeth my lord? And he answered, Because I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel: their strong holds wilt thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt dash their children, and rip up their women with child.

2Ki 8:13 And Hazael said, But what, *is* thy servant a dog, that he should do this great thing? And Elisha answered, The LORD hath shewed me that thou *shalt be* king over Syria.

2Ki 8:14 So he departed from Elisha, and came to his master; who said to him, What said Elisha to thee? And he answered, He told me *that* thou shouldest surely recover.

2Ki 8:15 And it came to pass on the morrow, that he took a thick cloth, and dipped it in water,

and spread it on his face, so that he died: and Hazael reigned in his stead.

So evil Hazael on the day after reporting to his king that the prophet said that he would recover from the sickness, he killed him by smothering him. Hazael then became king of Syria.

The Israelites were punished many times for not obeying and keeping the covenant. At times they were killed, other times they were dispersed and also served as slaves. God always wanted them to repent and come back to Him, He did not take pleasure in killing them.

Eze 18:29 Yet saith the house of Israel, The way of the Lord is not equal. O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? are not your ways unequal?

Eze 18:30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn *yourselves* from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin.

Eze 18:31 Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

Eze 18:32 For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn *yourselves*, and live ye.

Eze 33:10 Therefore, O thou son of man, speak unto the house of Israel; Thus ye speak, saying, If our transgressions and our sins *be* upon us, and we pine away in them, how should we then live?

Eze 33:11 Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

God always wanted the wicked to turn from their ways and walk forward in righteousness. When the Israelites rebelled against God or flaunted His laws, God became angry and destroyed them. God has both sudden anger and a slow build up of anger. Yes, normally He is merciful and slow to anger.

David's error in numbering the people by his own initiative raised God's anger, and David being responsible for the people brought the anger of God down upon the people.

2Sa 24:10 And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto the LORD, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

2Sa 24:11 For when David was up in the morning, the word of the LORD came unto the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying,

2Sa 24:12 Go and say unto David, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three *things*; choose thee one of them, that I may *do it* unto thee.

2Sa 24:13 So Gad came to David, and told him, and said unto him, Shall seven years of famine come unto thee in thy land? or wilt thou flee three months before thine enemies, while they pursue thee? or that there be three days' pestilence in thy land? now advise, and see what answer I shall return to him that sent me.

2Sa 24:14 And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let us fall now into the hand of the LORD; for his mercies *are* great: and let me not fall into the hand of man.

2Sa 24:15 So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed: and there died of the people from Dan even to Beersheba seventy thousand men. **2Sa 24:16** And when the angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, It is enough: stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD was by the threshingplace of Araunah the Jebusite. **2Sa 24:17** And David spake unto the LORD when he saw the angel that smote the people, and said, Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly: but these sheep, what have they done? let

1Ch 21:13 And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let me fall now into the hand of the LORD; for very great *are* his mercies: but let me not fall into the hand of man.

thine hand, I pray thee, be against me, and against my father's house.

1Ch 21:14 So the LORD sent pestilence upon Israel: and there fell of Israel seventy thousand men.

1Ch 21:15 And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as he was destroying, the LORD beheld, and he repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.

David seeing his error, quickly repented and asked that God's anger be directed at him and not the people. During the pestilence 70,000 people were killed. Just when Jerusalem was to be destroyed, God stopped further destruction. We see that the responsibility of the leaders of Israel and their actions result in God's punishment upon the entire Nation.

Jeroboam angered God by making images of other gods and therefore his seed was stopped and no further descendants would follow him. All the males in Jeroboam's house would die and when Jeroboam's wife asked the prophet if Jeoboam's son who was sick would live, she was told of the destruction that God was bringing against the house of Jeroboam, and that her son would die once she entered her home.

1Ki 14:9 But hast done evil above all that were before thee: for thou hast gone and made thee other gods, and molten images, to provoke me to anger, and hast cast me behind thy back:

1Ki 14:10 Therefore, behold, I will bring evil upon the house of Jeroboam, and will cut off from Jeroboam him that pisseth against the wall, *and* him that is shut up and left in Israel, and will take away the remnant of the house of Jeroboam, as a man taketh away dung, till it be all gone.

1Ki 14:11 Him that dieth of Jeroboam in the city shall the dogs eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat: for the LORD hath spoken *it*.

1Ki 14:12 Arise thou therefore, get thee to thine own house: *and* when thy feet enter into the city, the child shall die.

When the wife entered her home the child died. Again we see that a major action of worshipping other gods invokes strong anger in God. One needs to be very careful that God is in the

forefront of our mind, He is to be the most important person and object in our life. We are to love Him with all our strength, with all our might and with all our heart.

Further reinforcement of keeping God as the most important item in our life is found in the following with the death of Ezekiel's wife. Ezekiel was not to mourn or weep or allow to shed tears.

Eze 24:15 Also the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

Eze 24:16 Son of man, behold, I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke: yet neither shalt thou mourn nor weep, neither shall thy tears run down.

Eze 24:17 Forbear to cry, make no mourning for the dead, bind the tire of thine head upon thee, and put on thy shoes upon thy feet, and cover not *thy* lips, and eat not the bread of men.

Eze 24:18 So I spake unto the people in the morning: and at even my wife died; and I did in the morning as I was commanded

Ezekiel was to carry out God's commands. Ezekiel's wife was the desire of his life and God with a stroke took her from him. This also reverberates from Yeshua telling us that we must Love God more than anyone or anything in the world. Nothing is to be more important to us in our walk in this life than God Himself. This is major in our way of following Yeshua and going through life.

Again on the same topic, Job was allowed to be tested by Satan and in the process Satan took all that consisted of Job's life in the world, all his material wealth and especially it included the lives of Job's sons and daughters.

Job 1:11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

Job 1:12 And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath *is* in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

Job 1:13 And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

Job 1:14 And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them:

Job 1:15 And the Sabeans fell *upon them*, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Job 1:16 While he *was* yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Job 1:17 While he *was* yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Job 1:18 While he *was* yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters *were* eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

Job 1:19 And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Job 1:20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the

ground, and worshipped,

Job 1:21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.

Job 1:22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

Job did not blame, nor was angry at God. Job was focused in that God was the most important item or person in his life. He worshiped and blessed God after these catastrophes that had befallen upon him. This is an example of how we are to walk always praising and blessing God, being thankful for being God's sons and daughters, knowing we are to serve and worship God, to obey and to love Him, knowing that we will be with him forever in our future life. God gives and takes as He so pleases.

Jeremiah warned the Israelites of the punishment that was to come upon them for breaking the covenant, not obeying God's laws and worshipping other gods.

Jer 16:3 For thus saith the LORD concerning the sons and concerning the daughters that are born in this place, and concerning their mothers that bare them, and concerning their fathers that begat them in this land;

Jer 16:4 They shall die of grievous deaths; they shall not be lamented; neither shall they be buried; *but* they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth: and they shall be consumed by the sword, and by famine; and their carcases shall be meat for the fowls of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

Jer 16:5 For thus saith the LORD, Enter not into the house of mourning, neither go to lament nor bemoan them: for I have taken away my peace from this people, saith the LORD, *even* lovingkindness and mercies.

Jer 16:6 Both the great and the small shall die in this land: they shall not be buried, neither shall *men* lament for them, nor cut themselves, nor make themselves bald for them:

Jer 16:7 Neither shall *men* tear *themselves* for them in mourning, to comfort them for the dead; neither shall *men* give them the cup of consolation to drink for their father or for their mother.

Jer 16:8 Thou shalt not also go into the house of feasting, to sit with them to eat and to drink.

Jer 16:9 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will cause to cease out of this place in your eyes, and in your days, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride.

Jer 16:10 And it shall come to pass, when thou shalt shew this people all these words, and they shall say unto thee, Wherefore hath the LORD pronounced all this great evil against us? or what *is* our iniquity? or what *is* our sin that we have committed against the LORD our God?

Jer 16:11 Then shalt thou say unto them, Because your fathers have forsaken me, saith the LORD, and have walked after other gods, and have served them, and have worshipped them, and have forsaken me, and have not kept my law;

Jer 16:12 And ye have done worse than your fathers; for, behold, ye walk every one after the imagination of his evil heart, that they may not hearken unto me:

Jer 16:13 Therefore will I cast you out of this land into a land that ye know not, *neither* ye nor your fathers; and there shall ye serve other gods day and night; where I will not shew you favour.

Jer 21:3 Then said Jeremiah unto them, Thus shall ye say to Zedekiah:

Jer 21:4 Thus saith the LORD God of Israel; Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that *are* in your hands, wherewith ye fight against the king of Babylon, and *against* the Chaldeans, which besiege you without the walls, and I will assemble them into the midst of this city.

Jer 21:5 And I myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger, and in fury, and in great wrath.

Jer 21:6 And I will smite the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast: they shall die of a great pestilence.

Jer 21:7 And afterward, saith the LORD, I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence, from the sword, and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those that seek their life: and he shall smite them with the edge of the sword; he shall not spare them, neither have pity, nor have mercy.

Jer 21:8 And unto this people thou shalt say, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death.

Jer 21:9 He that abideth in this city shall die by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence: but he that goeth out, and falleth to the Chaldeans that besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be unto him for a prey.

Jer 21:10 For I have set my face against this city for evil, and not for good, saith the LORD: it shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.

The reason for God's wrath was the action of the Israelites worshipping other god's as well as the evil in their hearts. The Israelites were told if they wanted to live, to go out of Jerusalem to the Chaldeans, placing their fate in whatever comes. If they stay in Jerusalem they would be killed. They were being punished for their disobedience and the manner that they walked.

Later the remnant that were left to remain on the land asked Jeremiah if they could go into Egypt as they were afraid of the Nebuchadrezzar and that he might come back and destroy them. They were told not to go to Egypt, rather they were told to stay where they were.

Jer 42:15 And now therefore hear the word of the LORD, ye remnant of Judah; Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; If ye wholly set your faces to enter into Egypt, and go to sojourn there;

Jer 42:16 Then it shall come to pass, *that* the sword, which ye feared, shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt, and the famine, whereof ye were afraid, shall follow close after you there in Egypt; and there ye shall die.

Jer 42:17 So shall it be with all the men that set their faces to go into Egypt to sojourn there; they shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence: and none of them shall remain or escape from the evil that I will bring upon them.

Jer 42:18 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; As mine anger and my fury hath been poured forth upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem; so shall my fury be poured forth upon you, when ye shall enter into Egypt: and ye shall be an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach; and ye shall see this place no more.

Even though the remnant initially told the prophet they would do what God said, they did not and they went to Egypt and were destroyed.

We know that King David was a man after God's own heart and an everlasting covenant was made with him. However the following tells us of the problem David endured at the end of his life. He was always cold.

- 1Ki 1:1 Now king David was old *and* stricken in years; and they covered him with clothes, but he gat no heat.
- 1Ki 1:2 Wherefore his servants said unto him, Let there be sought for my lord the king a young virgin: and let her stand before the king, and let her cherish him, and let her lie in thy bosom, that my lord the king may get heat.
- 1Ki 1:3 So they sought for a fair damsel throughout all the coasts of Israel, and found Abishag a Shunammite, and brought her to the king.
- 1Ki 1:4 And the damsel was very fair, and cherished the king, and ministered to him: but the king knew her not.

What we see is that they used a maid to help him be warm by using her body heat. When one is very cold they shiver, if you cannot get warm but are cold as you are old, you in fact are undergoing a good degree of suffering. From this we can learn that in our old age many will suffer in various degrees and that is all part of our natural life process. We cannot expect God to step in and make us comfortable. Reflect even Yeshua suffered during His death. Some die peacefully, others die in extended agony. No matter what we will experience, we are to endure to the end.

We can always petition God and ask for things. Paul wanted Yeshua to heal a physical condition that he had. He was told no, rather to endure with it. We can ask but always with the caveat that we accept whatever is God's will.

We do know on occasion a person has been given more time or a longer life.

- 2Ki 20:1 In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.
- 2Ki 20:2 Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying,
- 2Ki 20:3 I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done *that which is* good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.
- 2Ki 20:4 And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,
- 2Ki 20:5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.
- 2Ki 20:6 And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.
- 2Ki 20:7 And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid *it* on the boil, and he recovered.
- 2Ki 20:8 And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What *shall be* the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the LORD the third day?
- 2Ki 20:9 And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees?

2Ki 20:10 And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

2Ki 20:11 And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.

Isa 38:1 In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live.

Isa 38:2 Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD,

Isa 38:3 And said, Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done *that which is* good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

Isa 38:4 Then came the word of the LORD to Isaiah, saying,

Isa 38:5 Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years.

Isa 38:6 And I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria: and I will defend this city.

Isa 38:7 And this *shall be* a sign unto thee from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing that he hath spoken;

Isa 38:8 Behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun dial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward. So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down.

Isa 38:9 The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick, and was recovered of his sickness:

We see that king Hezekiah was given 15 more years of life when he petitioned God and he recovered from his illness from which he was about to die. We also know that God made the sun go backward for a shadow on the sun dial to move 10 degrees backwards as an indication of His granting Hezekiah his request.

Alternate to this action we also see the outcome of Jerohoam angering God with not doing everything he was told and also offering incense at the high places that he was to destroy. So even though Jeroboam did what was right on other things he was struck with leprosy for the rest of his life for not doing all that he was to do.

2Ki 15:1 In the twenty and seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel began Azariah son of Amaziah king of Judah to reign.

2Ki 15:2 Sixteen years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned two and fifty years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Jecholiah of Jerusalem.

2Ki 15:3 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah had done;

2Ki 15:4 Save that the high places were not removed: the people sacrificed and burnt incense still on the high places.

2Ki 15:5 And the LORD smote the king, so that he was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house. And Jotham the king's son *was* over the house, judging the people of

the land.

In a similar type of circumstance, King Uzziah thought it was his right to go into the temple and burn incense to God since he exalted himself. Only the priests are permitted to do this, so for this action Uzziah suddenly became a leper. He remained a leper for the rest of his life.

2Ch 26:16 But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to *his* destruction: for he transgressed against the LORD his God, and went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense.

2Ch 26:17 And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him fourscore priests of the LORD, *that were* valiant men:

2Ch 26:18 And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, *It appertaineth* not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the LORD, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither *shall it be* for thine honour from the LORD God.

2Ch 26:19 Then Uzziah was wroth, and *had* a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, from beside the incense altar.

2Ch 26:20 And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and, behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the LORD had smitten him.

2Ch 26:21 And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, *being* a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the LORD: and Jotham his son *was* over the king's house, judging the people of the land.

When we examine what happened to Miriam when she rebelled against Moses, she was made a leper by God and most likely would have remained one for the rest of her life. Except for Moses asking God to remove the plague from her, was it removed after a week, when she was healed and able to come back into the camp.

We find that Jehoram when he was king did evil in the sight of God in a number of different actions. So God destroyed his life removing his sons and wives, but left one son for King Davids sake. God also struck Jehoram with a bowel disease where after two years his bowels fell out and he died.

2Ch 21:4 Now when Jehoram was risen up to the kingdom of his father, he strengthened himself, and slew all his brethren with the sword, and *divers* also of the princes of Israel.

2Ch 21:5 Jehoram was thirty and two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

2Ch 21:6 And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, like as did the house of Ahab: for he had the daughter of Ahab to wife: and he wrought *that which was* evil in the eyes of the LORD.

2Ch 21:7 Howbeit the LORD would not destroy the house of David, because of the covenant that he had made with David, and as he promised to give a light to him and to his sons for ever.

2Ch 21:8 In his days the Edomites revolted from under the dominion of Judah, and made themselves a king.

2Ch 21:9 Then Jehoram went forth with his princes, and all his chariots with him: and he rose

up by night, and smote the Edomites which compassed him in, and the captains of the chariots. **2Ch 21:10** So the Edomites revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. The same time *also* did Libnah revolt from under his hand; because he had forsaken the LORD God of his fathers.

2Ch 21:11 Moreover he made high places in the mountains of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication, and compelled Judah *thereto*.

2Ch 21:12 And there came a writing to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, Thus saith the LORD God of David thy father, Because thou hast not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat thy father, nor in the ways of Asa king of Judah,

2Ch 21:13 But hast walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and hast made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to go a whoring, like to the whoredoms of the house of Ahab, and also hast slain thy brethren of thy father's house, *which were* better than thyself:

2Ch 21:14 Behold, with a great plague will the LORD smite thy people, and thy children, and thy wives, and all thy goods:

2Ch 21:15 And thou *shalt have* great sickness by disease of thy bowels, until thy bowels fall out by reason of the sickness day by day.

2Ch 21:16 Moreover the LORD stirred up against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines, and of the Arabians, that *were* near the Ethiopians:

2Ch 21:17 And they came up into Judah, and brake into it, and carried away all the substance that was found in the king's house, and his sons also, and his wives; so that there was never a son left him, save Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons.

2Ch 21:18 And after all this the LORD smote him in his bowels with an incurable disease.

2Ch 21:19 And it came to pass, that in process of time, after the end of two years, his bowels fell out by reason of his sickness: so he died of sore diseases. And his people made no burning for him, like the burning of his fathers.

2Ch 21:20 Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years, and departed without being desired. Howbeit they buried him in the city of David, but not in the sepulchres of the kings.

For the evil that Jehoram did in provoking God, he was punished physically by suffering for two years until his death.

The following verse sums up how we are to walk through this life. We are to take this to heart.

Ecc 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.

4. After Yeshua's First Coming

After Yeshua walked among us we are given some additional instructions in order that our heart will grow properly according to what God values. First with respect to retaliation we are given the following instruction.

Mat 5:38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

Mat 5:39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

Second with respect to forgiveness, we are not to hold a grudge or seek revenge, rather we are to clear our mind of hatred and leave only room for love of one another for we are all made in God's image.

Mat 6:14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: Mat 6:15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Third we are to love all men, enemies included. That means we are to look out for their well being and help them when they are in need. This is directed at keeping hatred out of our mind and maturing as children of God.

Mat 5:43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

Mat 5:44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

Mat 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

The only thing we can hate is evil, but not the person that carried out evil. That person may repent at some point before he dies, we just do not know. If that happens, he then becomes one of our brothers and one of God's children, that same as us. We do not agree or accept the evil that the person did, it is just we are not to hate the person, only to hate the evil that is being done.

Now a difficult scripture.

Rev 13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

Rev 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Rev 13:9 If any man have an ear, let him hear.

Rev 13:10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. **Here is the patience and the faith of the saints**.

The above refers to the antichrist persecuting God's people in the last half of the Tribulation. It tells us that one must flee but not fight. If you fight you definitely will be killed. If you

flee and are captured you go forward with your trust in God, and with His spirit in you to help you endure no matter what comes.

When we combine the following scripture with the above it at first sight appears that we are not to fight back when oppressed.

Mat 5:38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

Mat 5:39 But I say unto you, That ye **resist** not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

The above in essentially all Bibles say **resist** not, but The Hebrew Gospel says **repay** and not the word **resist**. Yes we are to resist evil, but we are not to **retaliate**, or seek vengeance. When confronted with evil we are to resist and do our best to walk away. However if we can not walk away we have the right to fight. One needs to be careful on the degree of response required which will be determined by the circumstances.

When we are in the Tribulation period, we are told above, that Satan will make war with the Saints and overcome them. In this condition the saints are to have endurance and keep the faith. It will not do any good to fight back as it will result in either death or incarceration. One will need to flee as best as they can. The size of the evil forces will be so great that those few that are God's people will be overrun.

At the end of the Tribulation Jerusalem will be saved and the evil people coming against Jerusalem will be destroyed by a major plague brought down by Yeshua.

Zec 14:11 And *men* shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

Zec 14:12 And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.

After this occurs the Millennium then starts.

5. Summary

The scriptures examined in this study give us more depth understanding and insight into the nature of God and His view of the physical death of man. Remember God knows more than man, God's ways are higher than man's, God does not need to give man a reason for what he does, God

can give and take as He pleases. All the world and the Universe belongs to God, who is all powerful and above all. It is God that gave life, God can take back that life whenever He so desires.

Understand that God does not change, He is the same past, present and future. There is one Bible which includes both the Old and New Testaments. Do not forget to fear God as a reverent parental fear. Be careful, obey and do not do things that provoke God or make Him angry.

Man is wired to strive to live and not to die in this world, but man needs to rise above this and focus on keeping God for front in his mind being focused on God as the most important person in our walk forward. We are as His children and are to fear God who is our Father, to love Him with all our heart, all our soul and all our mind. This means to worship only Him, to be faithful to Him, to walk forward in total obedience and submission to His commands and His will. To have our heart grow in love and in values that God wishes us to develop. In other words our purpose and the time given to us for our walking forward in this life is to grow and mature as God's children. The way forward requires that we hear and obey Yeshua and follow what He showed us and told us. We are to walk with patience and endurance and be thankful to God always.

We know that God is merciful and slow to anger, however there are actions of disobedience that makes anger in God rise up quickly. The action of worshipping other gods, or having other people or items being valued above God invokes a major anger in God. If you truly love God, one will walk forward always wanting to please God. God has clearly told us what pleases Him. Walk forward always being thankful, that means for everything including the little things in each day, forgive others, be humble and serving and love all others, enemies included. Walk forward in righteousness and love and charity to all.

The following scriptures are extremely important. This is especially true in today's time as the end time quickly approaches. Those of God's people that are walking properly and those that have studied prophecy for the end time have a personal responsibility to warn and guide others. This is not a card blanc to go out an preach, rather it is to help guide others who come or are directed to you and ask questions on end time events and what is happening. Guidance must be given by directing those who ask to the specific scriptures that give the answers. Guidance should only be given to those who have opened their mind and are earnestly searching for the truth. We are not to have others death placed upon us, we must guide and Sheppard as best as we can when the occasion presents itself. Living at this time makes us watchmen and with it comes a heavy responsibility.

Eze 3:17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

Eze 3:18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

Eze 3:19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

Eze 3:20 Again, When a righteous *man* doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

When a person's time has come, a person may suffer terribly or pass peacefully. One is to walk forward in everything that life bestows upon one in patience and endurance. One is not to expect that because one walked forward as God requires, that God needs to act in helping us have a peaceful death. We can ask, but only if it is God's Will that it will come about. Never expect life to be all roses, in the end times many if not all of God's people will suffer.

There is a time for everything, both in the life cycle of man and in a harvest cycle of food. Both death and war play their part in the cycle of time.

Ecc 3:2 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up *that which is* planted;

Ecc 3:3 A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

God knows the end from the beginning, He looks into the heart and he hands out His Judgement according to His timing and as He so determines. As we grow in understanding of truth, we are to learn not only how to walk but also Justice and Judgment. Recognize, our walk in this world is one of being trained.

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