

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of November 28, 2021

THEME: "Obadiah's Oracles"

PROPHETIC WORD

Sunday **Read II Peter 1:17-21**

"The prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Those people with a knowledge of Biblical prophecy have a unique insight into world events. So many things prophesied in the Old Testament have occurred that validate the authenticity of God's prophetic Word! The details of the birth and crucifixion of the Messiah that came to pass leave no doubt about God's prophetic Word being history told beforehand. Now in our generation we are seeing a new surge of many prophecies detailing the end times being reported in the daily news. This modern day fulfillment gained impetus with the recognition of Israel by the United Nations in 1948 after so many Jews had returned to their homeland in the twentieth century just as the Bible said would happen. That decision caused many, many more to do the same, so today Israel may well be the most talked-about nation in the world. It certainly has the attention of the United Nations who have made many decisions regarding the opposition of the surrounding Arab nations. Another Bible prophecy that seems to have captured the headlines is the unprecedented lawlessness in our nation. That prophecy in II Thessalonians giving this telling detail about the Rapture leaves no doubt of the integrity of the Bible. When the chief law enforcement officer in our nation, the President, encourages law breakers to enter our country, lawlessness has peaked! God's Word is true. It is exciting to watch!

WORLDLY OPPOSITION

Monday **Read Obadiah 1:1-6**

"Behold, I have made you small among the nations." The prophet Obadiah spoke of how the nations of the world at the end of the age would become increasingly unfriendly and confrontational with God's chosen nation of Israel. Since the Jewish people failed to live up to their side of God's Old Covenant as mentioned by the prophet Obadiah, they are facing increasing opposition by not only surrounding Arab nations, but from others around the world. Were it not for the United States, the nation of Israel would have no allies. God has kept, and will keep His Word; a fact that prompted Him to establish the New Covenant that depends solely on God's integrity! It is an unconditional covenant based totally on God's mercy and God's grace. Jesus became the Savior of the world by personally satisfying God's law by paying the penalty of sin for all sinners with His blood on the cross of Calvary. Yes, Israel became rather insignificant in world history over the many centuries since the Birth of Christ, and the Jews have been a target of many world leaders. That was particularly true of Hitler in pre-WWII Germany and their concentration camp. But God used that adversity to bring to pass Bible prophecy resulting in the rebirth of the nation of Israel.

GOD'S PATIENCE

Tuesday **Read Proverbs 16:16-20**

"Pride goeth before destruction." This truth about pride is as true of nations as it is for individuals. God honors humility, a good lesson for all of us personally. And the pride of Germany that humbled the Jewish people was used by God to bring to pass the fall of Nazi Germany in WWII and to fulfill Biblical prophecy that calls for a return of the Jewish people back to Israel. Those in the free world had to watch the arrogance of Hitler in Germany and Stalin in Russia create international havoc. But God patiently allowed it to run its course and actually made good out of bad to accomplish His eternal purpose. The day is coming when God will finally place His Son on the throne of David in Jerusalem to rule the world, but He is patiently awaiting the completion of the Church by having Christians continue reaching lost

souls. When that occurs, God's patience will turn into God's wrath in the Great Tribulation setting the stage for the Lord Jesus to come and usher in His Millennial Reign on earth.

WORLDLY DECEPTION

Wednesday Read Obadiah 1:7-14

"The men that were at peace with thee hath deceived thee; and prevailed against thee." A lot of nations have entered into agreements with Israel with various details today just as they did in the days of the Old Testament. And a lot of those agreements are actually a Satanic plan to have the Jews put their faith in what was a set-up. Satan has always tried to come up with ways to destroy God's plan to have Jesus take the throne of David in Jerusalem. His original attempt was to replace God on His throne in heaven, and since his expulsion to earth, He wants the throne in Jerusalem for himself. All those who have ignored or rejected God's Word as inspired by the Spirit are blinded by the adversary of their souls. They are then easily deceived because they have rejected God's truth. What a privilege to have God's prophetic truth, a protection against Satanic deception.

GOD'S WARNING

Thursday Read Matthew 13:18-23

"When anyone heareth the word of the kingdom, and understands it not, then cometh the wicked one and catches away that which was sown his heart. This is the seed that was sown by the wayside." Jesus, during His time of earth, preached a lot of prophetic truth so His followers could be prepared for the plans of God. By listening to the words of Christ and becoming part of God's family by faith in Christ, we have an understanding of things to which the world-at-large is blinded. Biblical truth is important for many reasons, one of which is that it is protection against the deceptions of the devil. To know and apply Biblical truth is living in the light; not to do so is living in darkness blinded by the devil. Not only does ignorance of Scriptures prevent a person from knowing God's plans for His earth, it prevents a person from knowing the way to heaven, resulting in an eternity in the hell that has been prepared for the devil and his angels. This is the warning given to the people then, and because it is in the Bible, it serves as a warning to all people today.

WORLDLY DESTRUCTION

Friday Read Obadiah 1:15-16

"For the day of the Lord is near upon all the nations: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee." The prophet gives a solemn warning to the nations of the world about a coming destruction of the world. He calls it the "day of the Lord." It is a day of God's judgment, a time when God pours out His righteous indignation in reaction to the evil in the world. God has detailed that coming time of tribulation and God's righteous judgment in vivid detail in the book of Revelation. God is holy! God hates sin and will bring up sin into judgment. If He did not judge sin, He would cease to be holy. Sin must be destroyed for God to restore His perfect righteousness. Those who refuse to avail themselves of the righteousness that God has provided through His Son's provisionary work will be subjected to God's destruction of the world. That means an eternity of darkness, blinded to God's light.

GOD'S DELIVERANCE

Saturday Read Obadiah 1:17-21

"But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness: and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions." The prophet Obadiah closes his prophetic book with a message of deliverance. The Jewish nation will be vindicated in the end. A loving God who delivered His people from their bondage in Egypt thousands of years ago will again

deliver them for all eternity. Yes, the King of kings will take the throne of David in Jerusalem, and restore holiness, God's perfect righteousness. The return of the Jews will be complete. Jesus will have taken His Church off planet earth before the time of judgment during the seven year tribulation described in Revelation. They will return to earth after that seven year period with Jesus in the battle that Jesus appears to win for the nation of Israel. That victory is God's final act of deliverance for the house of Jacob, the Israelites! It ushers in the millennial reign of Christ. That will be a time of peace on earth and good will for men, the message the angels gave to the shepherds there in the fields outside Bethlehem at the time of the birth of Christ as a baby in the manger. The Savior of the world becomes the King of kings! There will be deliverance on the mount of Zion! Hallelujah, Praise the Lord!